

RETURNS.—Let every pastor or church-secretary (generally it needs both) carefully and promptly make statistical returns to the proper Secretary this month. Statistics are very valuable when full, correct and punctual. Of no value at all if not full and general. Immediately after the first Sunday of May—so as to include any additions to membership on that day—let the returns come in.

IN EARNEST.—A man can get very earnest in politics and no criticism is made about it. I know a man who was running for office who was so earnest that he could never see me but he would button-hole me for my vote. He would even stop me when I was with my wife. That was all right, but how about the preacher? Did he button-hole the politician and ask him if he knew Christ? No! I am sorry to say he did not. But I should have done it.—*Ferdinand Schiverea.*

REV. S. F. FITCH.—At the Western Association, at Woodstock, the members felt that the officers had done wisely and thoughtfully, in inviting Rev. Frank S. Fitch, pastor of the First Congregational church, Buffalo, to visit them. Mr. Fitch's readiness to make the visit, his geniality and brotherliness, and his clear and straightforward enunciation of principles, were all refreshing and cheering to the members and friends. We all hope to see more of Mr. Fitch in the future.

THE late Nova Scotia prohibition plebiscite reports are now all in. The total vote cast was nearly 85 per cent. of the entire electorate of the province, which is a large percentage in any election. The total vote for prohibition amounted to 41,459, and against it 11,419, or nearly four to one. The Liberal party majority given on the same day was only one-half as large as that; and yet, in political estimation, "it swept the province."—*Home Guard.*

"MOODY'S CHURCH."—When Rev. T. B. Hyde accepted the invitation of the Northern church, Toronto, it left the society popularly known as "Moody's Church," in Chicago, without a pastor. They had plenty of able workers—it was like Napoleon's army, where "every soldier carried a marshal's baton in his knapsack;" but still they wanted a titular head, and one who could give all his time to

the work. The church has now called Rev. R. A. Torrey, who has been the superintendent of Moody's "Bible Institute." He will probably accept the call.

A SPIRITUAL REVIVING is very apt to appear in any church that really wants it. Some churches actually dread the thought of any downright heart-searching revival. Such a revival seems to them a kind of anticipatory "section of the day of judgment." So in fact it is, only each individual in this case opens his own "book of life," to see if it contain the kind of record he knows and now feels, that he ought to be making. But why should not the spiritual reviving be welcomed, and be eagerly longed for, prayed for, worked for, until it come!—*Advance.*

THE P. P. A. came in for a good deal of attention at the meeting of the Western Association. Mr. Madill answered, in a very kind and conciliatory manner, the criticisms offered. We proscribe no man for his affiliations, if his affiliations are not immoral. This society is, properly speaking, a political organization, and if any brother among us believes he can serve the best interests of his country by thus allying himself, he must have liberty to do so. Only the Association thought it necessary to define its own official position, as a Congregational body, regarding it.

THE following is Joseph Cook's personal creed: 1. That to be happy in heaven we must be free from the love of sin, and that this truth is strictly self-evident; 2. That to be happy in heaven we must be free from the guilt of sin, and that this also is a strictly self-evident truth; 3. That we are not free from the guilt when we are free from the love of sin; 4. That only Christ's atonement provides for our escape from the guilt of sin; 5. That contemplation of this atonement is the most effectual means of freeing us from the love of sin; 6. That the atonement consists, according to the Scriptures, in Christ's sacrificial chastisement substituted for men's punishment.

THE UNION.—We are glad the Northern church, Toronto, has invited and secured the Union. To help any organization along, is the way to increase our interest in it. And we hope that the brethren of the "Northern,"