

Reports and Proceedings

OF THE VARIOUS BRANCHES OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND TEMPERANCE SOCIETY THROUGHOUT CANADA.

ONTARIO.—DIOCESE OF TORONTO.

ST. PHILIP'S BRANCH, TORONTO.

Officers.—Rev. Mr. Sweeny, President; Rev. W. A. Baily Jones, Vice-President; Mr. John Wilson, Treasurer; and Mr. H. Mortimer, Jun., Secretary.

Thursday, April 15.—A meeting in connection with this Branch was held this evening, Rev. W. A. Baily Jones in the chair. Rev. J. M. Wrong, of Wycliffe College, Toronto, addressed quite a large number of members and their friends, on the subject of "Self-denial." He brought this subject before the members with the intention of impressing upon them the meaning of these most important words, as it referred to a work in which the people of Canada and elsewhere had become deeply interested, namely, Temperance; it was also a subject, he thought, that was suitable for the Lenten season. After a short and eloquent speech, the programme was continued by a duet, with music by Miss Middleton and song by Miss Greene, with a few selections from "Tecumseh" by Mr. George Evans. Refreshments were distributed during the evening, and quite a pleasant and enjoyable time was spent. The Branch has been steadily progressing, and has now between 125 and 150 members, quite a number of them having become members during the past year.

We regret to observe that the President, Rev. Mr. Sweeny, has been ill for some time past, and has been requested by his physicians to abstain from further duties for the present. He will consequently have to take some rest. We hope that he may soon recover, and be restored to his work in the Branch, in which he has always taken so much interest.

The annual meeting of the Branch will take place on April 29, when the election of officers for the ensuing year will take place.

ST. PETER'S BRANCH, TORONTO.

Officers.—Archdeacon Boddy, President; S. Caldecott and E. P. Pearson, Vice-Presidents; W. R. Smallpiece, Treasurer; F. W. Mason, Secretary.

During the past season the meetings of this Branch have been held on the second Monday in each month. All meetings, particularly the last one, have been unusually well attended, and since its organization over 300 members have signed the roll. From one of its worthy Vice-Presidents we gathered much information in regard to the work being done by St. Peter's Branch. Several cases had been brought within the ordinances of the Church, in whose lives a very marked reformation had taken place as regards the use of intoxicants. These have since become regular communicants. There has also been great interest manifested by the members of St. Matthews and St. Bartholomew, who have taken part in the meetings, and have done much to assist the Branch in its labours. Throughout the past season some very earnest addresses have been given by various speakers, together with music, songs, readings, recitations, etc. These entertainments have proved attractive to the poorer members of St. Bartholomew and other parishes. One of the interesting sights of these meetings is to see so many mothers, accompanied by their children, and the expression is frequently used by them that these meetings are the only places where they are sure to have a really good time. Much of the effects and success of these meetings are attendant upon the efforts and good work of Miss Boddy and Miss Richardson, and they have been ably assisted by many of the members, who have always come forward when required. Next season it is proposed to organize a Rescue Union, an institution

by which a house-to-house visitation will be undertaken. Meanwhile, a large amount of educational and practical information has been acquired by the members of the Branch, and many, we are glad to say, have been by these means led to become deeply interested in the temperance work, many indeed who have never before thought seriously upon the subject.

ST. ANNE'S BRANCH, TORONTO.

Officers.—Rev. J. McLean-Ballard, President; Mr. Alfred Wright, Secretary-Treasurer.

During the past season meetings have been regularly held in connection with this Branch, on every Friday evening of each week. A new feature, and one which has not been brought as often as it should be before other Branches, is the introduction of debates, when such subjects as the Scott Act, the Crooks Act, the high license system, and the dual basis of the Branch have been brought forward and thoroughly discussed. Much good has resulted from this system, which has instilled into the minds of the members a thorough knowledge and acquaintance with the subjects, and they are matters in which every member of the Society should become interested. The Branch, we are glad to hear, is steadily progressing, many new members having taken the pledge, and, as Mr. Ballard says, there is no doubt that we are exercising a considerable influence for good over many of our members. Much of the success of the Branch is due to Mr. Ballard and Mr. Wright, for their energetic zeal and work, as well as to several ladies and gentlemen who have kindly offered their services when called upon to assist in the programmes.

ST. MATTHIAS'S BRANCH.

The officers of this Branch are as follow: Rev. Richard Harrison, M.A., President; Rev. C. B. Darling, B.A., Wm. Wedd, Wm. Butler, Vice-Presidents; John C. Wedd, Secretary; R. Hall, Treasurer.

The regular meetings of this Branch have unfortunately been interfered with, owing to the alterations which have taken place in the enlargement of the school room. Several very successful meetings, however, have been held. The programmes on all occasions have been well arranged and successfully carried out. Much of the success of the Branch is undoubtedly due to the untiring zeal and energy of Rev. Mr. Darling, who has always taken special interest in the good work. Mrs. Wm. Butler we may also mention as one who has shown her devotedness to the cause by always cheerfully volunteering her assistance to the Branch. The next meeting of the Branch will take place on May 6, when Professor Richardson will exhibit his stereopticon views. A selection of music, songs, readings, etc., will also be provided. The Band of Hope in connection with the Branch, which has only lately been reorganized under the superintendence of Mr. Langley, has been increasing rapidly. The average attendance at the meetings is about eighty, and over ninety have taken the pledge during the past year. Its next public meeting will take place on April 29.

ST. STEPHEN'S BRANCH.

The officers of this Branch are as follow: Rev. A. J. Broughall, President; N. W. Hoyles, Vice-President; C. H. Wethey, Secretary; John Booth, Treasurer.

The public meetings of this Branch are held on every alternate Monday throughout the year, except during the months of July and August. They are usually well attended, and are sure to have good programmes. The next meeting will take place on Monday, May 3, when Mr. H. C. Dixon will give an address. One of the principal