

## Principal Gordon Replies.

Principal Gordon said he had hoped not to have to make remarks at this stage of the proceedings. The assembly had appointed a wisely chosen committee that had dealt with the whole of the arguments that had been advanced by the three previous speakers. The Rev. Dr. Campbell had described this committee as a "hole and corner" meeting. He thought the ex-moderator might be more careful in his choice of words. Whether the Carnegie fund was considered as the gift of an American millionaire or an unexampled endowment for professors, unparalleled, so far as he was aware, in the history of education, the fact remained that the fund had made a change in the conditions of the universities of the United States and Canada. If they did not accept the fund the church would have to assume financial responsibility, which it had not since 1875. Toronto University was placed beyond the bounds of financial anxiety by the Government endowments and this had changed the position of Queen's. Queen's must be able to give her students something like the education that could be enjoyed at Toronto. He likened the case to that of Canada and Britain. The old colonial ties had been severed, but there remained an indissoluble bond of sentiment that provided Canada with men and money to undertake her development and gave a freedom that made it possible to effect foreign treaties with other powers and so increase her trade. Could not the connection between the church and the university be the same?

The Rev. Dr. Campbell moved the following amendment: "That the general assembly, having heard the memorial of the board of trustees of Queen's University and the report of the special committee there anent, remit the whole matter to the trustees to report at the next general assembly." He understood that the committee was to deal with the matter and then submit it to the assembly. Only two on each side had been summoned; why had the committee tied themselves down? It was 56 years since he graduated and his father was one of the original contributors to the fund, and he claimed he knew as much about the subject as anybody, and he ought to have been called. He persisted in terming it a hole and corner business and was not afraid to take the principal's censure.

## Dr. Patrick Closes Debate.

After a number of speeches, pro and con, Principal Patrick rose to close the discussion. He said the debate must have strengthened the opinion of all thinking men that the worst possible body to settle this question was the house as a corporate body. They had heard all these statements before the committee, and had had the advantage of challenging all debatable statements by cross-examination. The great value of the report was that it refused to commit the general assembly to anything. The body primarily responsible was Queen's university. It would be disastrous to the General Assembly's reputation if it was to take part in the controversy being waged could they act as a supreme tribunal. They tried to in the committee. The more he listened to the statements made the more he was satisfied of the wisdom of the advice the committee offered. The assembly would act unadvisedly in attempting to come to a conclusion on a matter foreign to itself. Did anyone dispute that? (Cries of "yes.") He contended that in 1903 the Church's decision altered the whole policy followed from 1874, and which the committee now advised the assembly to return to. What was proposed was to allow Queen's men to settle this matter for themselves and not have it made a bone of contention on the floor of the house. They desired to be scrupulous-

ly just to both parties, hence the non-use of stronger language in the resolution. Had they lost faith in the wisdom of the supreme body of Queen's? (Cries of "no", and cries of "yes. It has been practically saved.")

The moderator appealed for order.

Dr. Patrick concluded by saying he did not object to the castigation of the committee. He asked if Professor Dyde in his charge against the committee of unstatesmanlike judgment would have made that charge had the finding been in the line of his wishes.

Dr. Patrick, continuing, said the assembly had never assumed the financial responsibility of Queen's. If the relations were to be continued, were they prepared to discuss what was an adequate and satisfactory provision for Queen's? Why should they do this for Queen's any more than for Manitoba or any other college? They had no control over the arts course of Queen's. They were only responsible for its theological course. The Presbyterianism of Queen's was not dependent on the terms of its charter. It drew its inspiration from its men. Under the committee's proposal the connection between the church and the theological faculty of Queen's would be closer than ever. If adopted by the house it was an instruction to the commission that this was to be part of the arrangement. If it were not that the matter were urgent he would have been in favor of a longer period for deliberation, but Queen's was face to face with great difficulties, and the person responsible for their solution came to the assembly and asked the house for a change of the conditions which was in their opinion necessary to meet those financial conditions. Did any person in that house believe that if the trustees come to an ultimate decision that a change in the charter is necessary, would the house refuse to make such change? It was because they foresaw contingencies that the committee unanimously came to the conclusion they did. He was persuaded the alternative suggestion settled nothing. It merely raised a host of questions which would be brought immediately before succeeding assemblies. All that the report said was they referred the matter to the persons with the ultimate responsibility asking them to retain the connection with the church if possible, but trusting the decision to them in the full assurance that they would act wisely, and that what they did would meet with the approval of the assembly.

The moderator called for a calm and deliberate vote, made with a pure conscience.

The amendment was put, and on a show of hands 65 voted for it, and 47 against. The amendment then put as a substitute motion was put and resulted 67 to 53.

## Augmentation Committee.

"Not much startling or new—the same fidelity to duty on the part of the men on the augmented list, and the same sad story of underpay of those on the fighting line and enduring hardness for Christ and for Canada," was the report of the Augmentation Committee, western section, presented by Rev. S. Lyle, D.D., Hamilton, Convener. It was able to pay the minimum of \$800, but, owing to business depression, partial crop failure in some districts, and lack of interest in some quarters, was unable to raise it to \$900, as aimed at by last Assembly. Growing interest in the fund in the west and substantial increase in the givings of the newer synods were pleasing features of the reports from Dr. Carmichael, Dr. Findlay and Rev. G. A. Wilson.

Rev. J. H. Edmison of Cheltenham, has been appointed by the committee

to do what Dr. Somerville did for augmentation prior to his appointment as Treasurer.

The year was begun with a balance on hand of \$1,070.35, the receipts from all sources were \$39,102.60, and expenditures \$37,340.02. It is estimated that \$46,000 will be needed for augmentation this year.

Dr. Lyle urged the necessity of supporting the fund liberally. A short discussion ensued, and the report was adopted.

Rev. S. J. McArthur, Newcastle, N.B., presented the report of the Augmentation Committee (eastern section).

## Eastern Section.

"A year of prosperity, reflecting the general progress of the Church and the deepest interest in this scheme, notable increase in receipts, advance in minimum stipend, large number of congregations reaching self-support," are the bright features in the report of the Augmentation Committee, eastern section, of which Rev. J. M. Tufts, D.D., of Stellarton, N.S., is the Convener. The report proceeded:—

"The income from all sources amounted to \$10,978, the expenditure reached the sum of \$8,410, leaving on hand the large balance of \$2,461. We have thus been able to meet all our engagements in full to our ministers in the augmented fields and to face a new year in a strong financial condition. The report says in conclusion:—"Our greatest need is not money, as the Church has liberally responded to our appeal for support. We need consecrated men who will take up the burden of the Lord in these difficult fields of operation." Adopted. A special committee was appointed to arrange for religious services by the Presbyterian Church connection with the Quebec centenary celebration in July.

The report of the Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian Church was presented by Mr. Robert Kilgour, Chairman. It showed total contributions to the various schemes amounting to \$509,347.91, as against \$490,428.52 last year.

## Widows and Orphans.

The committee on the fund for ministers' widows and orphans, western section, Mr. Joseph Henderson, Toronto, Convener, reported congregational contributions and donations, \$11,413.18, and other items of receipts making a total of \$23,669.08; the disbursements included annuities, \$21,098.30, balance at debit paid off, \$1,033.80, and other items, leaving a balance at credit of \$213.11. Legacies amounting to \$1,572 and loans repaid \$8,629.35, brought up the capital income awaiting investment to \$11,239.95. The capital account had at credit February 28, 1907, \$178,200.13. Mortgages are held amounting to \$80,469, debentures \$86,423.18, and stock \$1,640.

The committee presented a number of suggestions for amendments to the rules for the fund.

The committee for the Synod of the Maritime Provinces, Rev. Robert Laing, Halifax, Convener, showed receipts totalling \$10,116.12, and expenditures, \$4,463.66, the balance being added to capital. The assets are \$171,709.94, an increase over last year of \$925.42. The number of annuitants is twenty-four widows and seven orphans. The results of an actuary's examination show net assets of \$156,192, an excess over net liabilities of \$9,560. The committee submits some amendments to the constitution, and report the resignation of Mr. George Mitchell as Treasurer, and the appointment of his son, Mr. George MacGregor Mitchell of Halifax.