

Mission Boards report was referred. According to the amendment clause the Board assumes the responsibility of sending back to the field this autumn the following named missionaries home on furlough; Mr. and Mrs. Churchill, Mrs. Sanford and Miss Gray, and with these Miss Helena Blackadar, an addition to the staff.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

A resolution having reference to bribery and corruption in connection with political elections was moved by Rev. E. J. Grant and referred to the committee on resolutions.

The report of the committee in charge of Home Mission work in New Brunswick was presented by Rev. G. O. Gates, D. D. The report showed that the committee had organized for work in October, and had held monthly meetings since, at which careful and prayerful attention had been given to the work. The following are the fields which have been aided during the year. The Newcastle group, Northumberland Co., Port Elgin and adjacent places, Westmorland Co., Clinch's Mills, Dipper Harbor and Mace Bay, Charlotte, and St. John Counties; The Upper Queensbury group, York Co.; The Aberdeen group, Carleton Co.; Wakefield, Carleton Co.; Beaver Harbor, Charlotte Co.; Blackville, Northumberland Co.; Lakeville, St. John Co.; Tobique Valley, Victoria Co.; Germantown, Albert Co. At the last meeting grants were made to Baillie and adjacent places, Charlotte Co.; and to St. Francis and St. Leonard's, Madawaska Co. A grant was made to Evangelist J. W. S. Young for the winter months in Carleton Co.; and also a grant for the summer to Mr. Glendenning, a resident in that County. On all these fields faithful labor has been performed with encouraging results. Rev. E. C. Baker reports conversions in Derby and Whitneyville. Rev. J. D. Wetmore reported for Lakeside six baptized. Rev. A. Rutledge reported 12 baptized at Upper Queensbury and three received on experience. Evangelist Young reported during five months 839 visits, 110 sermons, 131 social meetings, 36 baptisms, and 32 baptized by pastors with whom he labored. Bro. Blackburn baptized two at Underhill, Bro. Millin, Tobique Valley, baptized two in May. All these missionary pastors report the outlook upon their fields as quite hopeful.

Following is the Committee's financial statement:

FINANCIAL STATEMENT TREASURER N. B. COMMITTEE MARITIME CONVENTION.

RECEIPTS.	
Mrs. Mary Smith, Treasurer "W. B. M. U."	\$72.51
Rev. A. Cohoon, Treasurer H. M. B.	296.26
Rev. J. W. Manning, Treasurer N. B. & P. E. I.	671.99
	\$1040.76

EXPENDITURE.	
1/4 Grant to Port Elgin Field	\$150.00
Grant to Beaver Harbor Field, Rev. T. M. Munro, pastor	50.00
1/4 Grant to Newcastle	75.00
1/4 Grant to Clinch's Mills & Dipper Harbor	37.50
Rev. J. W. Young, Evangelist	50.00
1/4 Grant to Upper Queensbury	50.00
Rev. C. B. Blackburn, Blissville	12.50
1/4 Grant to Aberdeen Group	25.00
1/4 Grant to Loch Lomond Church	12.50
1/4 Grant to Germantown Church	12.50
1/4 Grant to Tobique Group	25.00
Grant Florenceville field for Asst., to Rev. A. H. Hayward	50.00
P. O. Orders, Exchange & postage.	1.06
Cash on hand to balance	489.70
	\$1040.76

LIABILITIES TO MATURE.	
1/4 Grant Elgin to November 1st, '99	\$50.00
1/4 " Newcastle to November 1st, '99	25.00
1/4 " Clinch's Mills & Dipper Harbor to Feb. 1st, 1900	37.50
1/4 Grant Upper Queensbury to February 1st, next	50.00
1/4 " Aberdeen to April next	75.00
1/4 " Loch Lomond to November 1st, '99	12.50
1/4 " Germantown May 1900	37.50
1/4 " Tobique Group to November next	25.00
1/4 " St. Francis Field from August 1st, '99	160.00
1/4 " Baillie Field from August 1st, '99	100.00
	\$572.50
	489.70
	\$92.80

The committee appointed to consider the question of the incorporation of the Baptist churches in New Brunswick recommended that a bill be prepared for enactment by the Legislature, said bill to be submitted to the three associations in New Brunswick at their next meetings and afterwards to the Convention.—Report adopted and Rev. R. Barry Smith, F. W. Emmerson and H. C. Creed were appointed a committee to prepare the bill.

The reports of the Treasurers of Denominational Funds—presented here—are necessarily held over to another issue.

The report of the committee on reducing the delegations to the Convention was presented by Rev. D. H. Simpson. The report involved the substitution of "\$50" for "\$20" in Art III, Sec. 3, of the constitution. Of this proposed change notice had been given last year. After some discussion the report was adopted. Accordingly, as the constitution will now stand, each church contributing to the objects of the Association can send one delegate and an additional delegate for each additional \$50 so contributed. But no church can send more than five delegates.

At this point the report on Temperance which had been referred to an enlarged committee for amendment was brought up. Mr. Adams, the chairman stated that there was a majority and a minority report. The majority report was read, and there was some question as to whether it was in order to present the minority report also. The president ruled that only one report could be received, but intimated plainly that this ruling did not prevent anyone embodying in an amendment the substance of the minority report or anything else that was really of the nature of an amendment. No amendment was moved however and the report was carried without discussion and with little opposition. It seems that to the Convention that the facts in this matter should be thus distinctly stated, because there

has been widely circulated a report of the proceeding of the meeting, from which it would naturally be inferred that the ruling of the presiding officer was such as to prevent the minority report coming before the Convention in any form.

The amended report is appended:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The history of the struggle for prohibition is so fresh in our minds that it seems unnecessary to place it in review on this occasion. But we must give full attention to its hard learnt lessons among which we may name the readiness shown by political parties to interpose some course of expediency for postponing definite action on the main issue. We look upon the appointment of a royal commission and passing the plebiscite law as instances of expedients calculated, if not intended, to delay the progress of our cause. At the same time we are free to recognize the good that has come out of both these steps. The commission accumulated valuable data and the result of the plebiscite though not as strong for prohibition as we could wish, yet shows to all concerned that the tide of the prohibition movement is in the right direction. In view of the past, what is the duty of the hour? To go forward with redoubled zeal, to permeate the great mass of our people with an adequate appreciation of the terrible evils of the liquor traffic and with the principle that national prohibition—nothing short of that—is the only practical remedy in the way of legislation. Let us not forget that a vast expenditure of effort is yet necessary in the matter of promoting temperance sentiment among all our people; and that prohibition as the best remedy has still to fight its way for more general acceptance. Let us be buoyed up against all discouragements by the grandness of the consummation we place before us. To save our nation from the vast waste and the terrible iniquity and mission of the liquor traffic, is a purpose so noble and humanitarian and patriotic that no discouragements should be allowed to daunt us or slacken our pace in the great struggle—victory will come if, and so soon as we deserve it. As a practical step we advise the pledging of Candidates for the Federal Parliament and the utmost endeavor to bring out at least one candidate in each constituency squarely committed to the earliest possible enactment of national prohibition. Let us use our best endeavors to promote harmony of effort among all temperance forces so as more speedily to win our way to the desired end. As churches let us pray and work with all our might to accomplish the great aim of prohibition. God reigneth, let us trust in him and do our whole duty.

The committee to provide for the expense of publishing the Year Book reported in favor of apportioning such expense between the Boards of Home and Foreign Missions, Acadia University, Ministerial Education, Ministerial Aid and Relief, Northwest Mission and Grand Ligne Mission ratably, according to the accounts received by these several boards respectively.—This was adopted.

Rev. J. A. Gordon now rose to report for the Committee appointed last year to consider and report upon the matter of carrying on Home Mission work in New Brunswick. It was known that during the day there had been conference between members of this committee and members of the Board of the New Brunswick Convention with a view to reaching a basis for united effort, and there was a rumor to the effect that encouraging progress was being made in that direction. A feeling of expectancy and hope had thus been inspired in many minds and the words that were to fall from Mr. Gordon's lips were eagerly anticipated. The speaker soon made it apparent that he had tidings of peace and good will to announce as he proceeded to outline a plan which a number of brethren prominently connected with the New Brunswick Convention had declared themselves ready to accept, and the acceptance of which the committee which Mr. Gordon represented was prepared to advise. The plan advised is briefly as follows: That there shall be in New Brunswick for the carrying on of Home Mission work, instead of a Convention; a Board of Home Missions, to consist of 18 members, six of whom shall be named by each association. If this were acceptable to the Convention the committee for Home Missions in New Brunswick would enter upon no new work until after the meeting of the New Brunswick Convention in September, and if it were endorsed by that body, as there was good assurance that it would be, the committee of the Maritime Convention would co-operate with the Board of the New Brunswick Convention for the carrying on of Home Mission work during the coming year, with the understanding that legislation would be secured in the meantime to provide for organization upon the new basis indicated above. If however the plan should be rejected by the New Brunswick Convention, the Maritime Committee for Home Missions would proceed with its work as last year. In order to prepare the way for carrying this plan into effect, Rev. A. Cohoon moved the adoption of the change in Article VI of the constitution, of which he had given notice last year, the effect of which change would be to provide for the appointment of a Home Mission Board for New Brunswick in connection with the Maritime Convention. To this an amendment was moved by Rev. J. A. Gordon, seconded by Rev. W. E. McIntyre, the effect of which is to take Home Missions out of the Maritime Convention. There was some doubt expressed by one or two delegates as to whether the amendment were in harmony with the constitution but the president ruled that the amendment was in order.

Senator King spoke strongly in favor of the plan of union which had been outlined by Mr. Gordon and which had been arrived at after prolonged consultation between brethren representing both sides of the matter. He felt that in order to union there must be compromise, and though he would have liked to retain the N. B. Convention, yet he felt that it was best to concede that point so long as provision was made for the churches of the province to control their own home mission work. He believed that the plan presented for home mission work was quite feasible and the interests of the denomination demanded that we should be united in its support.

Rev. C. W. Corey spoke in opposition to the action proposed. Revs. Dr. Gates, J. H. Hughes, J. A. Gordon, A. Cohoon, S. McC. Black and J. D. Freeman expressed their gratification at the disposition that now appeared to prevail, to sink differences and personal preferences and

unite in the spirit of Christian fellowship for the promotion of the Lord's work. When the question on the amendment was put it was carried almost unanimously and with great enthusiasm.

TUESDAY EVENING.

The committee appointed to consider the clause of the F. M. report relating to a forward movement reported through Rev. J. W. Manning, recommending (1) That the clause be dropped. (2) That the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces undertake to raise as a 20th century fund the sum of \$50,000, to be divided equally between Home and Foreign Missions; it being understood that 50 per cent. of the amount raised in Nova Scotia and P. E. Island shall be given to the Board of Home Missions working in those provinces, and 50 per cent. of the amount raised in New Brunswick to the Board working in that province. (3) That the maturing of methods and prosecution of the movement be left to the joint action of the Boards interested.

On recommendation of the Committee on Resolutions, resolutions of thanks were adopted to the Steamboat and Railway Companies for favors; To the Fredericton church and people for kindly and generous entertainment; To the choir for excellent music; To Rev. W. H. Robinson for the convention sermon, with request that he furnish a copy of it for publication in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR; To President Emmerson for the genial and able manner in which he had presided over the meetings of the convention; To the secretaries of the Convention for the painstaking and faithful discharge of their duties.

The Committee on Resolutions also reported the following: That we send to our missionaries on the Telugu field our words of greeting with assurance of our confidence in the successful issue of missionary work; That we send to Brother and Sister Archibald an expression of sympathy in this hour of weakness and disappointment; That we bid our missionaries—now soon to sail for India—Godspeed, with the promise of loving remembrance in prayer for future success.

Resolved that we express to our brother, Rev. J. A. Gordon, pastor elect of the First Baptist church, Montreal, our regrets that he goes from us, but at the same time our best wishes for him in his new field of labor.

Resolved that our Secretary express in a letter to our dear aged brother, J. W. Bars, our thankfulness that God has spared him through so many eventful years of our denominational history and has enabled him not only in the past to take an active interest in our church work, but has given him the heart to so nobly aid our Home and Foreign Mission work at this time.

THE PLATFORM MEETING.

The platform meetings of Saturday and Monday evenings had been meetings of remarkable interest, and that of Tuesday evening suffered nothing by comparison with them.

Dr. Keirstead has seldom spoken with great eloquence and power than he did in discussing "The growth of the denomination, what it is and how to secure it." The following notes given can give but a poor idea of the address. With skilful strokes, as of an artist's pencil, the speaker pictured a boy whose life wakens to consciousness in some humble home of some quiet country village, showing how the religious life of the community lays hold upon his own, how, through gracious influences, he comes into spiritual fellowship with God and with his people worshipping there in humble places and in simple ways, how he thus comes to feel himself a part of the spiritual life and fellowship represented in a Baptist church, and the denomination begins to get hold upon him. How as he goes out into the world the field of religious knowledge, experience and fellowship enlarges, and more and more the denomination strengthens its hold upon him and he feels himself a part of its life. So the boy grows into the denomination, grows with it, and it with him. And the growth, if it is true and faithful to its ideal, is growth in the apprehension and expression of the truth as it is in Christ. He is the same yesterday, today and forever, but there is growth in our apprehension of him. No need to fear the results of honest search for truth. There has been, and there will be, progress. Never fear that any theory of light will dim the shining of the sun. Further, the speaker showed that the denomination will have healthful growth as it cultivates high ideals, a spirit of self-renunciation, and as it gives the truth which it has received, to others. This growth is to be attained (1) By planting and nourishing as many well-organized churches as possible. There is nothing like a Christian church to develop men. It is the greatest moral as well as the best religious force the world has ever seen in organized form. (2) By developing the individual character. (3) By developing co-operative force. The Christian needs a conscience to co-operate with his brethren as well as a conscience to hold his own views. Christ is ever the centre of the denomination's life. Where the Lord is, there is the home. As regards organizations Baptists may have "successive incarnations." We may bury, if necessary, the Associations or Conventions in which our denominational life has found expression without sacrificing that life, so long as in love and faith we are united to the one Lord.

Rev. E. Bosworth, representing the Grande Ligne mission was the next speaker. He said that in respect to Quebec it might be said "There remains much land to be possessed." The province has 1,500,000 people, seven-eighths of whom are Roman Catholics. The French of Quebec are multiplying rapidly crowding out the English Protestants of the Eastern townships, crowding eastward into New Brunswick, westward into Ontario, and colonizing in the Northwest. This means the spread of the Roman Catholicism of Quebec with its illiteracy, superstitions and priestly domination. The remedy for this threatened domination of French Roman Catholicism in Canada is to give the French people the light of a purer gospel than that which they now possess. Mr. Bosworth spoke of what was being done through the Institute at Grande Ligne and mission work. The school last year had 123 students of whom several were converted and in the last 7 years not less than 240 students have been led to Christ. Some of the graduates enter McGill and McMaster Universities. Evangelistic work, including missionary work, colportage, Bible and Rescue work, is being carried on in connection with the mission which only needs more funds to make it more abundantly successful.

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