

times they were free. In this way \$30 was raised and paid on the church debt. Another form of service undertaken by the girls was the making of useful articles and the doing of fancy work of all kinds. These, when all collected and sold, will net another snug little sum for some good cause.

Another opportunity for securing funds for missionary and church purposes has been the making and selling of home-made candy at such functions as picnics, entertainments, etc. But it is not only in such forms of service that these girls are ready to do their share. They are being trained to assist in the social welfare of the congregation by being allowed to act as waitresses in connection with various church socials, thus relieving their mothers of many a weary step. They have also accepted the responsibility of taking care of the Cradle Roll and Home Department literature in the Sunday School, and, best of all, they have taken up the Teacher Training Course and are thus preparing themselves to be qualified teachers. Their motto is "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do," and I think that the boys and girls who read this will agree with me that they are worthy of their name and that they are living up to their motto.

Toronto

### How Our Church is Governed

Our church is self-governing. No other church, much less any power of the state, can interfere. We hold that Christ is the only king and head of the church, and that the church in spiritual things is answerable to Him alone.

The *Congregation* is, under Christ, the sole source of authority. All its members are on an equality: all have a vote. In this respect our church is democratic.

The congregation elects from its membership a body of elders, who, along with the minister, constitute the *Session*. The session has the general oversight, and especially the spiritual oversight, of the congregation. It is by the authority of the session that baptism is administered and the Lord's Supper is observed. It is the session that admits members into full communion. It is its

duty to see that Sunday Schools, Young People's Societies, Missionary Societies or Committees, etc., are formed and are working according to the best methods. Side by side with the session, are the *Managers*, who look after the finances and other business affairs of the congregation.

Next above the session is the *Presbytery*, which is made up of the ministers within a certain district and a corresponding number of elders. There are seventy-three presbyteries in our church. The presbytery has the oversight of congregations and mission fields within its bounds. It ordains men to the ministry, settles them in congregations or appoints them to home mission fields. It sees that each congregation and mission field does its share in the support of the great "Schemes" of the church. Each presbytery has a committee on each of the Schemes, and these conveners are largely responsible for the amount of "push" which the presbytery puts into those great enterprises.

The *Synod* is a gathering of the ministers and elders belonging to several contiguous presbyteries. There are eight synods, some of them of vast extent, such as those of the Western provinces. The synods discuss the church's great enterprises, and stimulate the presbyteries in promoting these. The Maritime Synod has certain separate powers in the administration of its Theological College and its missions.

The highest governing body of our church is the *General Assembly*. This is made up of representatives called "commissioners" appointed by the presbyteries. These number one-sixth of all the ministers and an equal number of elders. The Assembly meets once a year in June. It is a great and most influential body. Only the General Assembly can make laws for the church. To the Assembly, also, all the Boards and Committees in charge of the church's Schemes report their work done through the year, and from the Assembly they receive their instructions for the work of the coming year. The Assembly also decides all questions of doctrine, and it is under its authority that such matters as the present negotiations for union with other churches are conducted.