

SERVICE ACCOUNT.

NOVEMBER.

RECEIPTS.

Offeratory: Average \$43 19.	\$215 93
" For Prison Chaplain	24 92
Balance, 30th November	21 55

\$262 40

EXPENDITURES.

Balance, 1st November	\$55 54
Clerical Stipend	75 00
Sexton's Salary	25 00
" Sundries	1 35
Choir: Music, repairing books, etc.	19 51
Repairing Prayer Books	8 82
Lighting	1 89
Fuel on Account	50 09
Repairs	9 49
Synod, for Prison Chaplain	24 92

\$262 40

The Bishop has appointed Mr. Herbert Thomas Archbold to be a Lay Reader in the Cathedral. He entered upon his duties on Advent Sunday, 30th November. Mr. Archbold is entering upon a course of study with a view to becoming a candidate for Holy Orders.

Sunday, 9th November, being the King's Birthday, was observed as a Day of Thanksgiving for the King's recovery from his illness, and for the conclusion of the late war and return of the troops from South Africa, a special service for the occasion having been prescribed. The anthem composed for such services was sung in St. Alban's, our Choir being, we are told, the only one in this Diocese which prepared it. The anthem was a very difficult one, and the Choir are deserving of all praise for undertaking, and admirably rendering, as they did, a special piece of difficult music, which was designed for, and only suitable for the one occasion.

The Queen's birthday falling on Monday, 1st December, was duly observed in St. Alban's on the previous day.

A meeting of the members of the congregation was held in the Library on 19th November, about eighteen being present, with Canon Macnab in the Chair.

A resolution was passed (Canon Macnab having left the Chair, and Mr. Greene presiding), recommending an increase in the clerical stipend. Also a resolution with regard to salary to be paid to Mr. Archbold.

It was also decided to carry out the change in the seating proposed last year, with a view to making the seats more comfortable, and to procure a motor and an oboe stop for the organ, all at an estimated cost of \$175.

For these purposes, and to provide for a debit balance of \$157, carried forward from last year, a circular letter was sent out to members of the congregation, asking for subscriptions towards making up the total of \$330. In response to this call, there has been received, up to the present, \$128.77; but many persons have not yet replied, so that when all are heard from we hope the amount required will be made up.

The regular Quarterly Meeting of the Chapter was held on 2nd November, when the usual financial reports were presented and considered. It was reported that a substantial guarantee towards the interest on the mortgage had been secured. The resolutions passed by the members of the congregation were presented and concurred in. A design for a stall plate was submitted and approved. An interesting ceremony was observed for the first time: On the Chapter having assembled, it was announced that the Choirmaster, acting for the Precentor, desired to present certain Choir scholars, in accordance with the provisions of the Cathedral Statutes, and the Chapter being prepared to receive them, Mr. Kemp brought in fifteen boys, who were formally presented to the Chapter by the Precentor, Rev. Canon Cayley. These boys will now be admitted as Choristers "after Evensong," on a day to be appointed by the Bishop. They are William Amsden, Lionel Amsden, John Barnes, Charles Flint, Clarence Gardner, Victor Gardner, Harvey Hamilton, Edward Porter, Beverley Robinson, Gordon Ricketts, Neville Ricketts, Arthur Stanger, Wilfred Still, Ralph Vanzant, and Bruce Williams.

A brief explanation regarding the Choir scholars may be desirable, in order to prevent any misapprehension arising. They are boys who are being educated in the Cathedral School, and are also choristers. So far as concerns their position, privileges, and duties in the Choir, and their relation to the Congregation, they have the same status as the other choristers, and are entitled to no preference or seniority over any others. It is rather as regards the other scholars in the School that they hold a distinguishing position, for on being admitted into the Choir they become entitled to certain privileges accorded to them by the School Corporation; and it is at the instance of the authorities of the School that they have been brought to the notice of the Cathedral Chapter, in order that they may be recognized as "Choir Scholars."

A "Sounding Board," consisting at present of open frame work, has been erected over the pulpit. It has been put up in its present seemingly unfinished form, in accordance with expert advice, as an experiment. It is a special gift from a generous member of the congregation.

A Special Service of Intercession on behalf of Missions was held on Wednesday evening, 3rd Dec., the Bishop being the preacher. The attendance was disappointing.

As Christmas is near at hand, we think it well to remind the Congregation that the custom has now been adopted in St. Alban's, of giving the Christmas offertory to the clergyman in charge. It is, perhaps, needless for us to say more than this simple reminder.