

The Committee on Religious Instruction, Mr. Whitcombe added, will also recommend that, while the ultimate object is the establishment of the church parochial day schools, in the meantime an effort be made to obtain the co-operation of other Christian bodies in this Province to some daily instruction to be given within the regular school hours in our Public Schools, the syllabus recommended being the apostles' creed, the Lord's prayer, the ten commandments and a simple Bible history. This communication was referred to the committee to which the consideration of the Manitoba school question had been committed.

A matter which occupied the Synod for some time was the question of the rearrangement of the Presbyteries of Orangeville and Saugeen in the Townships of Luther and Proton. After a careful discussion it was decided to transfer St. Andrew's Church in Proton from Orangeville to Saugeen Presbytery.

SOUTH PARKDALE.

In the afternoon sederunt, after the despatch of some routine business, the Synod took up the discussion of the appeal from the decision of the Toronto Presbytery to establish a new congregation in South Parkdale. It was the most important business before the Synod. The technical points prevented any real headway being made during the afternoon. For the appellants there appeared Rev. D. C. Hossack, Mr. John Winchester, Mr. James Hunter, Mr. T. T. Jack, and Rev. Robert Leask. For the new congregation, which is now meeting on Cowan avenue, there appeared Mr. Andrew Hendry, Mr. Joseph Norwich and Mr. John Douglas, and the Presbytery was represented by Rev. Dr. McLaren, Rev. Dr. Parsons, Rev. Dr. McTavish, Rev. J. A. Terrell and Mr. John Aiken. These parties came to the front and occupied seats close to the platform, and Rev. Dr. Torrance of Guelph read the documents in the case, close attention being paid to them by the whole court. The papers read, the members addressed themselves to the work in hand. A technicality sprang up, in that the appeal had not been formally lodged.

Rev. Dr. Milligan, Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, Rev. J. A. Grant and one or two other members of the Toronto Presbytery, who had dissented from the action of the Presbytery, wished to appear at the bar of the Synod as co-appellants with Rev. Mr. Hossack and the members of the Dunn Avenue congregation. They would thus have a chance to speak, which they would otherwise be unable to do as members of the Toronto Presbytery, being debarred from speaking or voting in the Presbytery. It was claimed that they had not regularly become appellants, and the point gave a great deal of trouble. Principal Caven pointed out that they were complainants, and not appellants, but the only way in which they could be formally placed in this position was by the Toronto Presbytery withdrawing and passing the necessary resolutions. They withdrew accordingly, but even in Presbytery found it very hard to untangle the various points at issue, and spent the rest of the afternoon, already far spent, upon it. Finally, five members, Rev. Dr. Milligan, Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, Rev. J. A. Grant, Rev. J. Young, and Mr. Joseph Gibson, signed the reasons for the appeal, as endorsing the first five of these.

In the evening sederunt the matter was taken up in earnest. Rev. D. C. Hossack spoke first, illustrating his argument by means of a map, which was hung up in view of the Synod. The Parkdale church was well filled, yet this had been exaggerated, and instead of there being 100 families in it unable to get sittings, there were 10 families that they had to visit, but of these not more than one-third had asked for sittings. Dunn Avenue Church has a debt of \$21,000 now, and will soon have to incur \$15,000 more to build a new school house, the present one being unsuitable. They had contributed a good deal in the

past to the schemes of the church, and he believed in having strong congregations who could do that rather than a greater number of weak ones. The Cowan Avenue Church is self-sustaining at present, but when it gets a minister of its own will not be. The petitioners took away about \$1,000 a year in actual cash from Dunn Avenue, and by their close proximity and rivalry would double or treble that actual loss. Mr. Hossack then argued strongly in favor of the amalgamation of the new congregation with Fern Avenue, suggesting that a new church could be built nearer Queen Street.

Mr. John Winchester, on behalf of the session of Dunn Avenue Church, followed on the same side, saying that the Presbytery had three times asked the petitioners to go to Fern Avenue. Whether the new congregation was formed or not he contended it should not be south of Queen Street.

Rev. Dr. Milligan held that the principle of districts should be recognized more than it is, and to avoid unseemly rivalry a wise arrangement of churches was necessary. He thought that it would be better for a number of the churches to unite. It was unfortunate for churches to be so burdened with debt as to be unable to pay sufficient attention to their spiritual interests. They should think twice before they took such an important step as the starting of new churches, and should build well. When Dr. Milligan concluded it was about half-past 10 o'clock, and it was decided to adjourn the discussion till next day when it was taken up at 9 o'clock.

The Finance Committee reported that, considering the expenses of the proposed Augmentation Committee, an assessment of not more than seven mills per member would be required to cover expense.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Rev. J. McP. Scott reported for Committee on the Synodical Conferences, stating that through the generosity of a friend the papers read upon Missions and Sabbath Observance by Messrs. Bethune, Turnbull, Mackay, Duncan, Burton, Paterson and Middlemiss will be printed and distributed. The committee recommended a continuance of the conferences.

The Committee on Sabbath Observance reported through Rev. R. J. Beattie, of Guelph, and recommended that the General Assembly be requested to again issue questions to Sessions on Sabbath Observance; that Presbyterians be asked to give their hearty support to the Ontario Lord's Day Alliance; that all the Presbyteries hold a conference on this subject in the early Spring, the deliverance of the General Assembly on the subject to be read from the pulpit, and that the General Assembly issue a pastoral letter on this subject at an early date. This was agreed to by the Synod.

The Committee on Systematic Benevolence reported through Rev. R. D. Fraser, showing a hopeful state of affairs in regard to the system observed in giving, and recommended that Presbyteries use urgency in giving proper instruction to the people in right methods and principles of giving.

The Synod agreed to meet next year at Collingwood on the second Tuesday of May.

At a meeting of the Saugeen Presbytery during the Synod's meeting Rev. D. M. Ramsay, M.A., B.D., of Mount Forest, was proposed by professor in Knox College.

The committee to consider the Manitoba school question, and the suggestion from the Church of England Synod of Niagara as to religious instruction in the public schools, is composed of Principal Caven, convener; Rev. S. Houston, M.A., Kingston; Rev. Dr. Torrance, Guelph; Rev. Dr. Jackson, Galt; Mr. H. Wissler, Mr. D. Ormiston, Whitby; Rev. W. Farquharson, Claude; Rev. D. M. Ramsay, Mount Forest; Rev. Dr. Middlemiss, Guelph; and Rev. Dr. Milligan, Toronto.

In the afternoon and after full discussion by a vote of thirty-two to eighteen the Synod dismissed the complaint brought by Rev. D. C. Hossack and the Session of Dunn Avenue Church, along with certain members of the Toronto Presbytery, against the action of that Presbytery in allowing the Cowan Avenue congregation to be organized, and for two years to occupy the old Methodist Church on Cowan Avenue. The matter is not settled yet, however, as Rev. D. C. Hossack has given notice of an appeal from the Synod's decision to the General Assembly. The complainants from the Toronto Presbytery signified their acquiescence in the decision.

In the discussion in addition to those already named the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell spoke first, on behalf of the complainants. He opposed the action of the Presbytery on the ground that there was no room in Parkdale at present for three healthy, vigorous and self-sustaining congregations, and that if there were to be two such churches it was rational to place them, not side by side, but one south and the other north of the Queen street line. Messrs. Douglas and Hendry spoke on behalf of the new congregation. Rev. Professor McLaren and Rev. J. A. Turnbull spoke on behalf of the Presbytery, the former dealing especially with Fern Avenue in its relation to this case, and the latter argued that the action of the Presbytery had been neither unconstitutional, in violation of its duty, nor swayed by local influences.

In a thinly-attended sederunt in the evening a resolution regarding the Manitoba school question, giving a hearty and vigorous endorsement of the action of the Manitoba Government, was brought in and carried by a vote of ten to eight, over a minority report brought in by Rev. Dr. Milligan, taking the ground that the matter was one which should be dealt with by members as citizens, not as clergymen.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

NOT EXCEEDING FOUR LINES 25 CENTS.

BIRTHS.

At the Manse, Sonya, on the 7th inst., to Rev. P. A. and Mrs. MacLeod, a daughter.

DEATHS.

In Guelph, on 9th May, Robert Beattie, father of the Rev. F. R. Beattie, D.D., Professor in the Theological Seminary of Louisville, Kentucky, in the 74th year of his age.

At her late residence, Puslinch, on the evening of the 12th inst., in the 82nd year of her age, Mary Blair, relict of the late Malcolm Currie.

The committee further recommended with reference to the Church of England Synod of Niagara as to the religious instruction in Public Schools that they felt that they could not co-operate in any movement in the direction proposed by the Synod of the Anglican Church.

The Orangeville Presbytery at a meeting held during the sitting of the Synod, nominated Rev. W. Farquharson, B.A., of Claude, as successor to the late Rev. R. V. Thompson in the chair of Apologetics and Old Testament Literature.

The temperance report, which was read by Rev. Wm. Frizzell, recommended that temperance be given a place on the programme of next year's Synodical conference. The Sunday School and the State of Religion Committee reported through Rev. Mr. Rae and Rev. John Hay, of Cobourg.

Rev. Wm. Burns, the Secretary of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, spoke briefly, urging increased liberality to that fund.

Rev. Dr. Robertson, Superintendent of Home Missions in the Northwest, spoke, giving a graphic and stirring account of the needs of and opportunities offered by his huge field.

Rev. Dr. McLaren, seconded by Rev. Dr. Milligan, moved a hearty resolution of sympathy with the work in the Northwest, which was passed with acclamation.

The usual votes of thanks were then passed and the Synod closed with a few well-expressed words from the Moderator, Rev. J. B. Mullan, who officiated throughout with dignity and success.

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Or Not to Dye

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Town Hall, Waterloo, Ont.,

ON

Thursday, May 23rd, '95.

at one of the clock, p.m.

WM. HENDRY, Manager.

April 22nd, 1895.

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