

Church News

[All communications to this column ought to be sent to the Editor immediately after the occurrences to which they refer have taken place.]

MONTREAL NOTES.

The opening exercises of the Presbyterian College were held on Wednesday evening, the 6th inst., when an able and interesting lecture was given by the Principal on the "Apologetic Outlook." There was a fair attendance and the indications point to a prosperous session. There are already sixteen new students enrolled.

In connection with the opening of the College there has been throughout the week since Monday evening a Graduates' Reunion and Institute, which has attracted back to the college halls a considerable number of former students and others. A large number of carefully prepared papers have been read by the professors and others who had been invited by the Committee of the Alumni Association. The subjects have been varied, some theological, some missionary and some practical. In all cases they have been followed by full, free and sometimes lengthened discussions. The evening meetings were attended by considerable numbers from the city and were much enjoyed. The success of this meeting was so encouraging that it was decided to hold a similar one next year during the corresponding week. Some, perhaps all, of the papers read are likely to be published either in whole or in part. The graduates especially have found the meetings helpful and their devotion to the institution has been deepened by their participation in the Conference.

The meetings held by the Kenwick delegates in Knox church, during the opening days of the week were all well attended and felt to be profitable. Even those most disposed to take alarm at any novel doctrine seem to have been satisfied that there was nothing said which was deserving of criticism on that score. The spirit of the meetings from beginning to end was most admirable, being free from anything like carping censoriousness and the assumption of spiritual superiority.

The Rev. T. A. Mitchell, late of Avonmore, was inducted into the pastoral charge of Côte des Neiges on Thursday evening, the 7th inst. The sermon was preached on the occasion by the Rev. I. L. George, of Calvin church. Mr. Hemo presided, Dr. Scrimger addressed the minister and the Rev. T. Bennett the people. There was a fair representation of the congregation present.

GENERAL.

Rev. Mr. Burns, Secretary Aged Ministers' Fund desires to acknowledge the following contributions to the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund:

Sapperton, B. C., Y. P. S. C. E.\$2.00
St. Andrew's, Vancouver, Y. P. S. C. E. 5.00

Rev. A. V. Morash, of Caledonia, has received a call from Elmsdale and Nine Mile River congregations.

Rev. W. H. Spence, pastor of the Grand Forks, Man., Presbyterian Church, formerly of Kildonan Church, has received a unanimous call from the Presbyterian Church of Galesburg, Ill.

Thieves broke into St. John Presbyterian church, Hamilton, Sunday night, Oct. 3rd, and carried off four small pieces of Communion service, besides thirteen pieces of the regular church set. The silverware was valued at about \$100.

The Rev. W. G. Hanna, B. A., was inducted into the pastoral charge of Mount Forest on the 7th inst. in presence of a large congregation. Mr. Edmiston, Moderator of Presbytery presided, Mr. T. C. preached, Mr. Young addressed the minister and Mr. Munro, the people. There was a meeting in the evening to welcome Mr. Hanna, at which addresses were given by the resident ministers, members of Presbytery, members of the congregation and Mr. Hanna. The congregations of Arthur and Gordonville have called Mr. J. J. Paterson, B. A., a recent graduate of Knox College.

The C. E. Society of the Presbyterian Church, Ridgelytown, held their semi-annual election of officers. The officers are: Hon. Pres. Mr. Charles Grant, Sr.; Pres. Mrs. Rev. Hunter; Vice Pres. Miss Grace

Lagan; Sec. Miss Todd; Treas. Miss Jennie Livingston. The Society held a social evening at which the Collegiate Institute pupils were entertained. About two hundred were present.

Rev. Dr. James occupied the pulpit of the Central Church, Galt, on October 3rd, the occasion being the 40th anniversary of his induction into the pastorate of the Second Presbyterian Church in that town, subsequently known as the Melville Church and latterly as the Central.

The third annual meeting of the young people of the Presbytery of Paris was held Oct. 5th, in the Presbyterian Church, Innerkip. There were two sessions—an afternoon and an evening one. In the afternoon Rev. John S. Hardy, of Ayr, occupied the chair. The following questions were discussed: "Are conventions of young people worth the cost?" "What are our young people doing for Christ and the church especially in the matter of Sabbath school work, missions and temperance?" "Is the Scriptural proof for Presbyterianism sufficient?" The following, amongst others, took part: Rev. P. Straith, M. A., of Innerkip; Rev. W. K. Shearer, B. A., of Drumbo; Rev. A. Leslie, M. A., of East Oxford; Rev. G. C. Patterson, of Embro; Miss J. Robertson, of Raths. In the evening the Rev. J. Tomson, M. A., of Ayr, gave an interesting address advocating the adoption of the new Presbyterian Book of Praise in all young peoples' meetings. Hindrances to the fuller consecration of our young people was the subject of an address by Rev. Mr. Leslie and also of a well written paper by Miss Mackay, of Woodstock. The question drawer was conducted by Rev. Dr. Mackay, and short, pointed replies given to the following questions: "What would you do with young men who stay outside?" "How can we make C. E. prayer meetings more profitable?" "How can we help our pastor?" "May Christians dance?" "What should be the relation of the church to the political parties and to the liquor traffic?" "What can young people do for the coming plebeians?"

PRESBYTERY OF MAITLAND.

This Presbytery met at Wingham, Sept. 21st., Rev. Anderson, Moderator.

A suitable minute regarding the removal by death of John Gordon, elder, St. Helen's and a member of this Court was adopted.

The Presbytery recommends its ministers to mark the 25th Anniversary of the completion of the Confession of Faith and Catechisms on the 24th Oct. by preaching to their people the value and importance of those historic works.

Messrs. Hector Mackay and Finlay MacInnes were certified to the Senate of Montreal Presbyterian College and Mr. John MacNamara to that of Knox College, Toronto.

Rev. John Ross, Brussels, was nominated as the Presbytery's representative on the Synodical Committee on Augmentation.

An adjourned meeting will be held in Knox church, Ripley, Oct. 5th at 1 p.m.—John MacNam, Clerk.

GUELPH PRESBYTERY.

This Presbytery met in Chalmers church, Guelph, on the 21st September, Mr. P. J. McLaren, B. A., Belwood, Moderator.

After sustaining the minutes of last meeting, receiving commissions from Kirk Sessions to Representative Elders, giving reasons for the absence of some members, and inviting ministers present who were not in charge, or resided beyond the bounds, the Clerk reported the names of Sessions that had not sent in their records for examination, three of which now placed theirs on the table. Committees were appointed to examine these and report in the afternoon. The Clerk was instructed to write to those in default and remind them of their omission.

The Committee on Finance reported an estimate of expenses for the ensuing year, and a recommendation that a rate of twelve cent per family be struck to meet the same, was adopted.

Mr. Glassford reported from the Committee on evangelistic services, recommending that a series of meetings be held in the course of the season. The report was received, and the plan approved.

Mr. MacVicar reported from the Committee on annual missionary meetings and sermons, recommending that the first Sabbath of November be observed as a missionary Sabbath, when the claims of the different schemes shall be presented; and that authority be given to the Committee to secure the services of a returned missionary at an early date to make a systematic tour through the Presbytery. The report was adopted.

Dr. Torrance reported from the Committee appointed to suggest some appropriate way of observing the 250th anniversary of the Westminster Assembly of Divines, recommending that an evening *sestern* at the stated meeting in November be devoted for the purpose, and that papers be read on suitable topics.

Leave was given for moderations in Call to Rockwood, and the station at Eden Mills; to Hespeler, and to Hawkesville and Linwood.

It was reported that the pastoral charges of Rockwood and Eden Mills and Hespeler had been declared vacant according to appointments at last meeting.

The Presbytery having been informed that the faculty of Morrin College, 11-132, had conferred upon the Rev. J. C. Smith, of St. Andrew's Church, Guelph, the degree of D.D., it was unanimously agreed to express cordial gratification at the honor thus bestowed, the Presbytery's sense of Mr. Smith's desert of it and its desire that he may be long spared to enjoy it. There being reason to believe that the people under his charge had it in contemplation to express their appreciation of the distinction, Dr. Torrance was appointed to convey the congratulations of the Presbytery to both Dr. Smith and them.

Dr. Dickson reported a draft minute on the resignation of Mr. Donald Strachan, and Mr. Atkinson one on the translation of Mr. Daniel Strachan.

Mr. Atkinson reported that he had visited Baden congregation, and it was agreed to apply to the Home Mission Committee for a continuance of the present grant.

Mr. Hamilton reported that he had conferred with the people at Hawkesville and Linwood. It was resolved that these congregations be transferred from the list of mission stations to that of augmented congregations, and that application be made through the Synod's Augmentation Committee for a grant of \$150 a year, and, further, that Mr. Hamilton be authorized to moderate in a call which they wished to give on as early a day as convenient, and report at an adjourned meeting now appointed to be held in Chalmers Church, Guelph, three weeks from to day at 10.30 o'clock forenoon.

A circular was read urging the claims of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, and ministers were directed to bring them before their congregations in connection with the other schemes on the first Sabbath of November, as per report of the committee previously adopted on Missionary Meetings and Sermons.

Next regular meeting was appointed to be held in Chalmers church, Guelph, on Tuesday, 16th November, at 10.30 o'clock forenoon.

PRESBYTERY OF BRUCE.

The Presbytery met at Chesley on the 14th Sept., at 1.30 p.m. The first business taken up was the resignation of Mr. Tolmie, of Southampton, which was laid on the table at last meeting. Mr. Tolmie stated that it was his earnest desire that the Presbytery should accept his resignation. On motion of Mr. McLennan this was done, and the first Sabbath of Oct. fixed as the day on which the pulpit shall be declared vacant. Rev. Mr. Nowat, of Ayr, was appointed Moderator of Session during the vacancy. Mr. McLennan and the clerk were appointed a committee to prepare a minute with reference to Mr. Tolmie's resignation.

Mr. Guthrie presented the report of the commission appointed at last meeting to visit Inverhuron and Inverton. The report stated that the Inverhuron people were willing to carry out the proposition of last meeting of Presbytery that service should be given at the school house there by the minister in charge of Inverton, and that they should contribute a proportionate amount of the stipend. The Inverton sec-