

CHURCH
WORK

Ministers and Churches

NEWS
LETTERS

OTTAWA.

In Erskine church next Sunday morning Rev. C. W. Nicol's subject will be "Breaking the Seals," being the third of the series on "Peeps into Revelations."

Officers elected for the ensuing year at the annual meeting of the Ladies' Aid Society of St. Paul's church are: President, Mrs. W. D. Armstrong; vice-presidents, Mrs. J. A. McKinley, Mrs. H. Waters and Mrs. W. J. Irvine; treasurer, Mrs. C. H. Thorburn; secretary, Miss J. Lindsay; executive committee, Mrs. Jas. Lindeay, Mrs. E. S. McPhail, Mrs. Wm. Smith, Miss L. Ross, Mrs. W. McGiffin and Mrs. W. H. Taylor. A free will offering for the year of \$112.50 was reported.

The annual meeting of the Ladies' Aid of the Glebe church was held last week at the home of Mrs. E. M. Engrem, 112 Fourth avenue, and a happy time was enjoyed by the large number of members present. By the treasurer's report it was shown that the organ fund has now reached the sum of \$750. During the year a quantity of linen and tableware was purchased for use in the church parlors. The Union Rescue Mission and other philanthropic institutions have received assistance, while contributions were made to several needy families. Regular visits were also made to the several hospitals. Officers elected: President, Mrs. Gordon F. Wadsworth; vice-presidents, Mrs. J. W. H. Milne, Mrs. Edwin Daubney, Mrs. McAdam, Mrs. J. Johnson, Mrs. R. Calhoun; treasurer, Mrs. E. M. Engrem; secretary, Mrs. A. S. Robertson; hospital visiting committee, Mrs. Doran, Miss Bentley, Mrs. J. Johnson.

A pleasing feature of the annual meeting of Erskine Church was the conferring of the title of pastor emeritus on Rev. Joseph White, first pastor of the church 32 years ago, and now a zealous member of the congregation. The session report indicated a membership of 743. The attendance at Sunday school totalled 1,888 for the year, with collections amounting to \$666.62. Mr. H. MacGillivray, treasurer for the mission schemes, reported larger receipts than in any previous year. Altogether \$1,309.16 had been raised. The receipts of the year, including a balance of \$1,035.27 from 1907, amounted to \$7,643.99. The expenditure for the year was \$7,236.04, including \$2,000 expended on reducing the principal on church debt. The treasurer commences 1909 with a balance of \$407.93. There were also satisfactory reports from the W.F.M.S., Young People's Society, and Men's Association. On the recommendation of the Board of Management a self-denial week was decided on, when every wage earner in the congregation will be asked to give one week's wages during the year in reduction of the church debt, which amounts to \$25,500.

At the annual meeting of Bank street congregation the session reported a total membership of 655. The report of the Sunday school indicated a roll of 375, an increase of 50 members. The collections amounted to \$361.71, to which should be added \$72.73 from the Chinese school. The Y. P. Association reported receipts of \$623.26. The W.F.M.S., Mrs. J. H. Turnbull president and Mrs. T. S. Kirby secretary, sent during the year a box containing \$44 worth of clothing to the Regina Industrial School. The contributions amounted to \$145. The Girls' Foreign Missionary Society,

a new but flourishing association, gave a report, read by Miss Jessie Dewar. This association has helped considerably in preparing the boxes of clothing. The M. M. Society of the congregation undertakes to raise, during the year, the sum of \$2,700 towards the Layman's Missionary Movement. The expenditure of the year amounted to \$7,126.76, showing a deficit of \$425.06, which was covered by a loan. The Board of Management for the ensuing year: T. Sydney Kirby, G. M. Hutchison, T. K. Brown, D. T. Maeson, W. A. Fraser, Sam Stewart, Wm. Hardie, J. M. Young, R. S. Simpson, W. H. Noble and F. O. C. Hutchison. The auditors are: J. D. McGregor and R. Tanner.

At the annual meeting of Knox church the reports presented indicated a prosperous year for the congregation. The membership is now 406, and the ordinary receipts amounted to \$6,223.45. Last year the salary of Dr. Ramsay was increased; this year additions were made to the salaries of the organist and caretaker, the former getting an advance of \$200, and the latter \$100. The total amount raised for missions was \$4,553.77, which was \$1,600 in advance of any previous year. Of this, the general missionary contributions amounted to \$2,643; the Sunday school raised \$100, the Women's Foreign Missionary Society, \$214. For the Bible Society \$108.25 was raised; for the Lord's Day Alliance, \$27; for the Montreal College, \$100; for the Ottawa Ladies' College, \$133.34, besides the large amount of \$466.78 raised for the Men's Rescue Mission. The Ladies' Aid reported receipts of \$377.93; and the collections at the Chinese classes amounted to \$39.91. A motion was passed asking the Temporal Committee to consider the question of increased accommodation for the Sunday school; and in this connection one speaker advocated the sale of the present site and securing elsewhere property for a new church.

The reports presented at the 18th annual meeting of Stewarson Church showed healthy progress in every department of the work. The membership is now 688, and the total receipts from all quarters amounted to \$9,904.85. During the past year the debt on building was reduced by \$2,000. What is aimed at is to pay at least \$1,000 per year for reduction of debt on the church property. There is an average school attendance of 305, and the receipts from the scholars were \$396.96. There was an attendance of 15 at the Chinese classes. This branch of the work is in charge of Miss Jean McConnell, the efficient superintendent, who urgently asks for more teachers. During the year the Ladies' Aid had raised the handsome sum of \$716.80, of which \$690 had been paid in on building fund account. The W.F.M. Auxiliary reported receipts for the year of \$152.25, and the thank offering amounted to \$36.65. The pastor, Rev. W. A. McIlroy, presided, and the proceedings throughout were most harmonious.

N. Y. Observer:—"Hear ye the word of the Lord!" How much there is of that sort of admonition in the Bible! The warning indeed needs to be repeated over and over again. The last thing that many men care or dare to hear is the word of the Lord their Maker. And yet that word, when heard and obeyed, secures their best peace and guarantees their highest welfare and development for ever more.

TORONTO.

Cooke's church raised \$7,788.59 during last year. Out of this \$1,000 was paid off the church debt and \$793 forwarded to missions.

Dovercourt road church has increased from 785 to 920 in membership and raised nearly \$10,000. The sum of \$1,579 was paid off the church debt and \$1,800 on the new organ.

Mr. W. Gordon Mills, organist and choirmaster of Cooke's church, has resigned that position owing to ill-health.

Rev. J. W. Gordon, of Maple, was the preacher in Wyehwood church on the 10th inst.

The Board of Managers of Victoria church, on the eve of his departure to Winnipeg, presented Mr. John McEachern with a beautifully engrossed address, expressive of the high esteem entertained for him by his fellow members. The loss sustained by Victoria church in Mr. McEachern's removal will be the gain of the congregation he joins in the Capital of the prairie province.

The cradle roll of the Wyehwood church, of which Mrs. (Rev.) W. A. Macataggart is president, gave a unique entertainment to the babies yesterday afternoon. The cradle roll has about 100 children under four years of age on the list. About 35 mothers with their babies were present. Each of the little tots was presented with a Christmas card, a grab bag and candy toys. Supper and a social hour followed.

With a membership of over 1,000, West church, Rev. Dr. Turnbull, pastor, will move to a new site on College street, in the vicinity of Grace street, if the neighboring congregations of College street, corner of Bathurst; Chalmers, corner Dundas and Dovercourt, and Dovercourt, on Dovercourt road, do not feel that it would interfere with their work.

Having conducted a mission in the district for over 20 years, West church would appear to have established a claim to the new site.

The dedicatory services in the new Knox church on 10th inst. were not only very largely attended, but were peculiarly impressive. The handsome building was comfortably filled long before time for service in the morning, and by 11 o'clock a number of persons were standing, although there was seating accommodation for about 1,200 people. In the evening the audience was still larger. Rev. Francis L. Patton, president of the theological seminary, Princeton, N.J., and formerly president of Princeton University, was the preacher of the day and the dedication prayer and address at the morning service was delivered by Rev. A. B. Winchester, minister of the church, while Rev. J. G. Miller, assistant, read the lesson and Rev. Dr. Parsons, for twenty years minister of the old church, but now retired, led in prayer. On the platform besides those mentioned were Rev. Dr. McLaren, Rev. Dr. Somerville, and Rev. Dr. McMillan, father of the young organist of the church. The new edifice, which is situated on Spadina avenue, near Harbord street, is a very handsome building of Credit Valley stone, with Indiana limestone decorations. It is of the modernized gothic style of architecture. The cost of the whole property, including the grounds and Sunday school, is \$225,000.

Rev. E. H. Kellogg, son of the late Rev. L. Kellogg, at present in Canada from India, has been preaching in the Rosedale church.