



The Synod of the Diocese of Montreal met on Jan. 18 and 19, under the presidency of the Bishop. There was a larger attendance than usual of both clergy and laity at the opening services in Christ Church cathedral. In his annual address, Bishop Bond made reference to the jubilee celebrations of June of last year, and to the meetings of the Lambeth Conference in August.

As a result of that conference the Bishops had issued an encyclical letter dealing with Church and social problems of a very wide reaching character. Such topics as temperance, the relations of employer and employee, and international peace had been touched upon therein, and the encyclical contained much useful information and some excellent advice on these questions.

One of the most important topics discussed in the encyclical was that which approved of establishment of religious communities in the church. And in dealing with the subject as they had done, His Lordship said that the Bishops' action had his warmest approval and commendation. He was gratified to note the return of the church to primitive custom in this respect, and was especially pleased at the revival of the ancient order of deaconesses.

Alluding to the Diocesan Theological college, His Lordship said, that the institution was becoming better known as the years advanced, and that its graduates were now to be found in mission fields, in the several dioceses of the Dominion, and throughout the United States. The past year has been one of prosperity and an effort would now be made to raise the clerical standard of general attainments. This could be done by a critical study of the Bible and he would recommend that the first few years of the students' theological course should be spent in acquiring a fundamental knowledge of the Holy Scriptures. The Bible and the Book of Common prayer were, after all, the right text books for the student.

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With regard to the Principalship, His Lordship said that the delay in appointing a successor to the late Dr. Henderson had been caused by a desire on the part of the Governors to make no mistake in the matter of selection. A great scholar, as well as a good man was wanted, and for the advent of such a man, very earnest prayers should be made, by all having the interest of the college at heart.

Continuing, His Lordship referred to the bi-centenary celebration of the formation of the S. P. C. K., a missionary society which had greatly assisted the Diocese of Montreal in days gone by. He hoped that the celebration in March next would be fittingly observed by every pastor in the Diocese. While speaking in this connection, His Lordship expressed the hope that the day was not far distant when the church in Canada would have a foreign missionary society of its own.

His Lordship, proceeding, drew attention to a clause of the Lambeth encyclical, which defined the attitude to be taken by church missionaries to their Nonconformist brethren engaged in similar work. The unity of Christ, said the right reverend gentleman, must begin with the charity of Christ. Differences of religious opinion and belief could only be healed by love.

His Lordship then reviewed in order, the work of the Women's Auxiliary, and similar societies within the church.

He also submitted statistics relative to the work accomplished during the year by the St. Andrews' Home, the Church Home, the Robert Jones Convalescent Home and the Prisoners' Aid Association.

The condition of French mission work in the diocese, he said, was discouraging, and it was just possible that the schools and colleges would have to be closed. Such would not be done, however, without the sanction and knowledge of the Synod.

In conclusion, His Lordship said that he had inspected almost all the parish records in the diocese during the year. A number of these had been well kept, but there were others that were in a deplorable condition. Some registers had been so badly kept that the ministers responsible therefor should be brought before the Synod that they might be reprimanded for their neglect to conform to the law respecting registration.

During the year he had visited one hundred congregations, had held 76 confirmations, had confirmed 771 candidates and had ordained six deacons and four priests.

The Bishop of Montreal held an ordination in the cathedral, Montreal, when one was ordained to the diaconate and four to the priesthood. A solemn *Te Deum* was sung at the choral Celebration on the first Sunday in the New Year, in the church of St. John the Evangelist, Montreal, as an act of thanksgiving for the past year's blessings, and to ask God's benediction on the new. A special service for the opening of the year was held at St. George's church on New Year's Eve, beginning at 11 p.m., and closing at midnight. Dean Carmichael and a number of the city clergy gave addresses. The rector and church wardens of St. Thomas' church, have taken an important step in open-