

shall be given only on the committee being furnished with satisfactory evidence that the congregation has promptly and fully complied with all the conditions laid down by the committee, amongst which conditions should be the previous payment of all it has promised in order to enjoy the help of the committee.

5. That all existing arrears having, as is hoped will be the case, been wholly wiped away by the action of this committee, Presbyteries be enjoined to use diligence to prevent the accumulation of arrears for the future, that they make themselves acquainted with the financial state of the congregations under their charge, by calling for exact returns from them within the year, at such intervals as they think best, that when congregations are falling behind in the payment of salary, they deal with them at once, and take measures to have these arrears immediately paid up by them, or have the aid which may be required to stimulate them furnished them from the Home Mission Fund.

6. That Presbyteries be further enjoined, in the case of all defaulting congregations with which they have to deal, to satisfy themselves in the most particular manner regarding them, that they have each a regular and efficient congregational management, that their financial affairs are faithfully and diligently attended to, that the terms for payment of salary be definitely settled, and promptly attended to, and that payment be made as frequently as possible, when the salary is not paid in advance.

7. With reference to means to be devised for the better support of the ministry amongst us, the committee beyond what they have already advanced, do not consider themselves in a position to make any further recommendations. They consider that any further regulations on this subject properly belong to arrangements connected with the Home Mission Committee; and they would content themselves with urging, that the supplementing of weak congregations shall always be made a special and very prominent work of the Home Mission committee, and that this committee make the most strenuous efforts to raise every salary to at least the minimum already fixed by the Synod as the lowest that can be thought of with any tolerance, viz., \$600 per annum.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. STEVENSON, *Convener*.

## ABSTRACT REPORT OF THE FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The last year has been one of progress. The new church, a comfortable, commodious building, was opened for public worship in December last. Between two and three hundred dollars were realized in connexion with the opening services, including a soiree. The church cost \$3,500, and is \$500 in debt. Considering their numbers, the people have done well. At the first week-day meeting held in their new church, they unanimously resolved, while cordially thanking our church for the timely aid received, to endeavour, during the present year, to raise at least \$400 of the minister's salary. It is of importance that steps be taken, as soon as practicable, to have a Session formed at New Westminster. To set in order the things that are wanting, a British Columbian Presbytery should speedily be formed. Repeated testimonies have reached your Committee, of the efficiency and acceptability of Mr. Jamieson's labors. It is cause of thankfulness that the