

## Bishop Richardson's Charge to The 51st Diocesan Synod Today

**His Lordship's Charge Was Read in Place of Sermon at the Communion Service at Christchurch Cathedral This Morning Which Opened the Synod--Many Important Matters Discussed--More Than \$200,000 Required to Rebuilding King's College at Windsor N. S. But the Diocese of Nova Scotia Must Assume the Chief Responsibility, His Lordship Says.**

The 51st Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Nova Scotia opened here this morning with a celebration of the Holy Communion at Christchurch Cathedral.

His Lordship Bishop Richardson acted as the celebrant at the service and was assisted by Very Rev. Dean Neales and the three archdeacons of the Diocese, Archdeacon Forsythe, Newnam and Crowfoot. In addition to the clergy there were many lay delegates in attendance from various parts of the province as well as a large number of church people from this city.

The Bishop's Charge to the Synod was read by His Lordship in place of a sermon at the service and was in part as follows:

My Dear Brethren of the Clergy and Laity—

It is a great pleasure to welcome you once more as a Synod to the Cathedral City, and to assure you of our earnest desire in Fredericton to make your stay among us as happy and comfortable as we can. Let us pray that the good hand of God may rest upon us in all our deliberations, so that no single step may be taken contrary to His will, but that all we undertake may be for the upbuilding and strengthening of that part of the Church that has been committed to our care. I need hardly remind you that the grave importance of our official duties demands from each of us punctuality and regularity in attendance and an earnest effort to further the business of the Synod to the utmost of his power. We are here, not as private individuals, but as the accredited representatives of our respective parishes. It is our duty, therefore, to give ourselves without stint and without reserve to the business that lies before us.

So far as I have been able to ascertain, the Synod has suffered the loss of one member only by death since last we met—one who, although he had retired from active work, and suffered to some extent from the infirmities of age, never ceased to take the liveliest interest in the proceedings of Synod, and was assiduous in his attendance. I refer to the Rev. Leopold Augustus Hoyt, Honorary Canon of Christ Church Cathedral. The Chairman of the Committee of Deceased Members has sent me so fitting a record of this good man's life and work that I am taking the liberty of giving it to you as it stands.

### Changes in the Staff.

We have suffered once more, I am sorry to say, the loss by removal from the Diocese of a number of valuable missionaries, although not so many as in previous years. Thus the Rev. J. H. Barnes has become Rector of Trinity Church in the City of Quebec; the Rev. R. M. Fenton has taken charge of a parish in Portland, Maine; the Rev. G. E. Tobin has gone to the Diocese of Rhode Island; whilst the Rev. A. S. Haze has returned to England. All of these clergymen had done splendid work in the Diocese, and it was with much regret that I parted with them.

As against these losses, however, there have been some compensations gained. The Rev. H. P. Rigby, who, after a long and serious illness, has returned to the Diocese as Rector of Woodstock;—Rev. Percy Coulthart, after serving with distinction as a Chaplain overseas, has become Rector of the Parish of Campbellton;—Rev. J. Sidney Harrington has accepted the Parish of Addington.

### PUBLIC AUCTION.

Public notice is hereby given that there will be sold at public auction on the premises of the late James W. Jewett on Monday, the 26th day of April, instant, at the hour of one o'clock in the afternoon, the following lots of land and real estate, viz.:

1. The homestead premises of the late James W. Jewett at Kewick Ridge, aforesaid, said to contain 30 acres, more or less, together with the house, barn and improvements thereon.

2. A lot of woodland situated on the west bank of Macmillan Stream in the Parish of Bright, said to contain 44 acres, more or less.

3. A lot on Kewick Island, said to contain six acres, more or less, and a quantity of household furniture and farm machinery, including mowing machine, wagons and harness.

Dated the 17th day of April, 1920.

(Sgd) ALEX. EIDER, BREWER.

Committee of Estate of James W. Jewett.

SLIPP & HANSON, Solicitors, etc.

BUY HERE AND SAVE THE DIFFERENCE

98 lb. Bag La Tour Flour	\$7.10
24 lb. Bag Purity Flour	\$2.00
5 lbs. Granulated Sugar	\$1.00
5 1/2 lbs. Brown Sugar	\$1.00
2 lb. Tin Corn Syrup	25c
3 1/2 lbs. Rolled Oats	25c
1 1/2 lbs. Buckwheat Flour	25c
Good Brooms, each	65c
2 Pkgs. Lux	25c
3 Pkgs. Pearlina	25c
2 Snowflake Ammonia	25c
1 Old Dutch	10c
3 Cakes Laundry Soap	25c
2 Boxes Matches	25c
2 Tins Pumpkin	25c
2 Tins Peas	25c
1 Peck White Beans	75c

**Yerxa's**

cepted the Parish of Addington.—Rev. S. C. Gray has become Rector of Burton and Margerville.—Rev. Joseph McAleer has been placed in charge of the Mission of Greenwich.

—Rev. G. E. Trueman is in charge of the Mission of Prince William and Hamlets.—Rev. R. H. Bullock is curate at the Cathedral and missionary in Chipman and Canning.—Rev. Edward P. Wright is curate in the Parish of Portland—and the Rev. H. Hamilton Brown, who has also returned from service overseas, is serving the Parish of Grand Manan. It is a pleasure to have with us in the Diocese once more the Rev. E. B. Hooper, although still on military duty.

are at the present time as follows: New Bedford, Hammond River, St. Martins, Edmundston, Grand Falls, Richmond, Musquash and Lepreau. I hope, however, to be able to fill two of these fields within the next few weeks. Edmundston is at present being cared for by the Rev. F. W. M. Bacon, whom the Diocese has temporarily set free for that purpose. It will be seen from the above that, whilst we are in a stronger position than we were a year ago, there is still urgent need of more missionaries. I hope to secure some recruits whilst in England for the Lambeth Conference, but the shortage of men is so great there that I may be disappointed.

### Finances.

From the financial standpoint, the past year has been by far the best, I think, in the history of the Diocese, and our funds are in excellent condition. This is particularly true, I am happy to say, of the Diocesan Mission Fund,—the most important fund of all. Starting the year with a credit balance of \$1,235.65, the account was closed for 1919 with a balance to the good of \$7,764.67, thus marking a clear gain for the twelve months of \$6,529.02. In view of the fact that the expenditure upon missionary stipend account was \$7,353.54 more than in the previous year, this is a remarkable showing. It is very gratifying, too, to know that the gain has been almost entirely due to a marked increase in missionary offerings all through the Diocese. Thus the contributions from the Aided Missions on stipend account amounted to \$15,708.25, as against \$10,825.51 in the year 1918. The total paid in by way of apportionment for diocesan missions was \$15,492.93, as against \$11,029.77 in the previous twelve months. The total increase, therefore, in offerings for this purpose was \$4,529.02, a gain of rather more than 43 per cent.

In congratulating the Diocese upon this fine result, I desire to acknowledge very gratefully the effective work done by the special committee of laymen appointed at the last session of Synod. Under the enthusiastic and able leadership of Mr. Horace A. Porter, the influence of the committee was felt in every Parish in the Diocese, and I have no doubt that the happy condition of the fund is in no small degree due to the committee's efforts. The work done was just the kind of work that is most needed,—a campaign of education and appeal. It is a striking illustration of the power of the laymen to deal with the financial problems of the Diocese when they set themselves to do it.

The standing of the Diocese in relation to the M.S.C.C. is better than it has ever been before, I am glad to say. We were asked to give upon general apportionment for outside missionary work \$5,400.00, and we sent in \$6,256.14. In view of the fact that there was a considerable surplus on the Diocesan Mission Fund, it is a pity that the discrepancy could not have been adjusted by the Treasurer. There is, of course, no reason why, under similar circumstances in the future, this should not be done. The great majority of parishes, I think, are accustomed to send in their total offerings undesignated, leaving it to the Treasurer, under standing instruction from the Diocese, to make the apportionment between the two funds. It would be wise, I think, to authorize the Treasurer,—perhaps after consultation with the Bishop—to vary the proportion a little in case of need.

The strong financial position of the Diocesan Mission Fund encourages me to express the earnest hope that the Synod will once more take a step forward in the matter of missionary stipends, and I do so with more confidence as I remember the magnificent response of the Diocese to the recent appeal in connection with the Forward Movement. The members of a Church which subscribed at the rate of \$65,000.00 a year for two years in answer to that appeal will not lightly turn away from this that I now make on behalf of their own missionary clergy. I am confident of that. At the last session of the Synod, as you will remember, I dealt with this subject at considerable length, with the happy result that the minimum stipend for priests of five years' experience was raised to \$1,200.00 and a house. There were those in Synod to whom that proposal was at first sight somewhat of a shock. It was pointed out—and it was a counsel of prudence, and not the expression of any want of sympathy—that such an increase would add very materially to the financial burden, but the Synod rightly ruled that to refuse to do an act of common justice for fear of failure would be utterly wrong. So we went forward in faith, and you have at ready hand the signal that our faith has been rewarded. My fellow-workers, it is more than thirteen years now since I was called to preside over the deliberations of this Synod, and as I look back upon that period, I can see that every time we have gone forward

in faith God has given us the answer that He always gives to those who trust Him. It has been so in the past, and I am sure that it will be so in the future.

I come to you once more, then, with an earnest invitation to make a fresh advance in this regard—to take such steps as may be needed to relieve the distress in which so many of the clergy find themselves. You will not need to be reminded that since we made the last advance the cost of living has steadily increased, so that the position of the clergy of today is very much what it was before. There is still the same wearing struggle to make ends meet. There is still the same hopelessness in the task of supporting a family without straw. There is still the same financial strain—the same threatened disaster of almost inevitable debt. You will not think that I am stating the case too strongly. There is not a layman in this assembly who does not know how hardly the present economic conditions are pressing upon the clergy, and particularly upon those who are in receipt of the lowest stipends. And there is not a layman who is not sure, who is not honestly anxious to do all in his power to afford them some measure of relief.

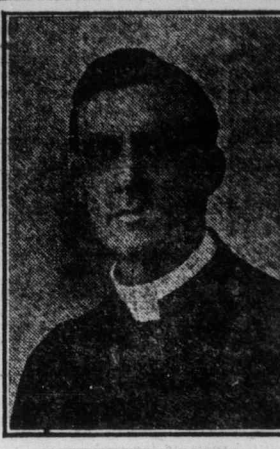
It needs no argument to show that the present standard of stipend is absolutely inadequate and unjust. I do not mean to say that the occasional call for the plainest kind of speaking is simply unjust to ask a clergyman—with all the calls that come to a clergyman—live upon \$1,200.00 and a house. With even the most rigid economy, such a stipend is not large enough to enable him to meet all his just demands. Under such circumstances, no clergyman can afford to buy the books that he ought to have if he is to keep in touch with modern thought and scholarship. Yet not to do that is an almost fatal handicap in his office as a preacher. Gentlemen of the laity, you expect your clergyman to be cultured and well-informed. Then do not deny him the means by which he can keep abreast of the door to the treasure-house of learning. You can do so at the cost to the Church of a weak and ineffective

But take the standard of stipend apart from considerations such as these. Look at it in the light of standards that obtain in other callings. Compare it with the wages paid to railway workers, for example, and mechanics. Measure it with the demands that are almost everywhere being made today, and in many cases for labor of a common and unskilled character. I can think of one calling only by comparison with which in this regard the ministry does not suffer—the calling of the teacher. Permit me to pass on to you in this connection a story which was told me some time ago. I will not vouch for its truth, but they are clearly in keeping with conditions as they are. On one side of a certain road there was a fox-farm, and on the other a country school. On the farm there were fifty foxes, and in the school fifty boys and girls. The manager of the farm was paid a salary of \$2,000.00 and a house, whilst the teacher received a stipend of \$500.00, yet the output of the one establishment was far less than that of the other national character. I commend the story to the thoughtful attention of the educational authorities, and, by way of parallel, to the members of this Synod.

But consider again. We speak of a stipend of \$1,200.00. But that is not all. It is nominally the missionary's stipend, for out of it he has to meet all the expenses incidental to his life. He has to keep a house, or to be remembered, that the missionary himself has had to purchase, and which in course of time he will have to replace at his own expense. Two years ago I estimated that the cost of keeping a horse was not less than \$200.00 annually, that the cost of a pair of horses was not less than \$400.00, and that estimate requires revision. I have discussed the question with a number of practical farmers, and they give it as their opinion that it would be a very optimistic man who would expect to keep a horse in fit condition to do the arduous work of a country missionary at less than \$250.00 a year. If this estimate is accurate—and it cannot be very far astray—more than 90 per cent. of the country clergyman's entire income is absorbed by the expense of keeping a horse in order that he may minister effectively to the people committed to his care. Think of it, you who come from the country parishes! From each dollar of the stipend that is paid your clergyman, at least twenty cents must be deducted for the upkeep of his driving outfit. Is that right? Is it a condition with which we ought to be content? I am sure that not one of you will say so.

I come, then, to this conclusion—the stipend of every clergyman, who, in the interests of his work, is compelled to keep a horse or in lieu thereof an automobile, ought to be substantially increased. In the case of those parishes which require much railway travelling instead of driving there should be, of course, some proportionate allowance. It is for you to say what ought to be the amount of this increase, but I do not think that it should be less than \$200.00 annually.

The adoption of any such policy as I have suggested would necessarily entail a heavy additional expenditure, and it will be asked where the money will be found. Well, there is no doubt in my own mind that we ought to look to the parishes immediately concerned for by far the greater part of



BISHOP RICHARDSON.

I am impressed with the fact that, while the whole Province is prosperous beyond all experience, by no class in the community is that prosperity so generally shared as by the farmers. Never has money been so plentiful in the country parishes. Never have the farmers been so well off as they are today. No thoughtful person will grudge them their prosperity. It is easy to look back upon years when agriculture was not a lucrative occupation, when, as the saying used to be, "there was not much money in farming." For the good of the whole Province, the change has not come too soon. Yet the fact remains as I have stated it—the farmers of the Province are enjoying an extraordinary measure of prosperity.

In saying this, I do not forget that the farmers—like other people—are compelled to pay abnormal prices for every article they have to buy, but—unlike many other people—the farmers are fortunate in being able to offset in great measure the increased cost of living by the equally abnormal price of everything they have to sell. I hope that I shall not be misunderstood in this. I do not suggest that the farmers are profiteering. Nothing of the kind. The swollen prices of all farm produce simply illustrate the operation of the law of supply and demand, and probably with greater accuracy than do the excessive prices of many other things, for no producer's prices are more intimately and exactly related to the condition of the wholesale market of the world than are those of the farmer. Here and there in local markets there may be some disproportion, but, generally speaking, the law is as I have stated it—the prices of farm produce stand in direct relation to the wholesale market of the world. There is, then, no question of profiteering in what I have said. I am merely laying stress upon the indisputable fact that, as producers of food—the basal commodity of all—farmers are in a peculiarly favorable position to escape at least one tremendous economic pressure.

(Continued on page eight.)

## A CHALMERS

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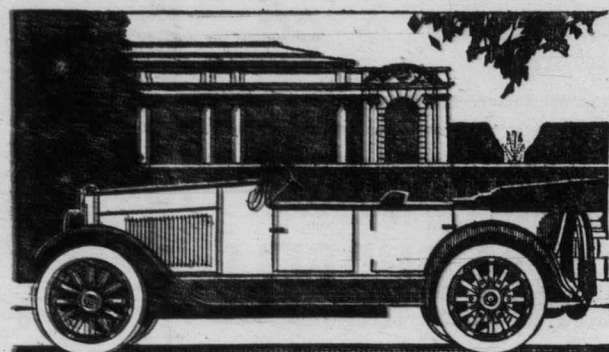
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