

WESTERN ONTARIO.

The ladies of the Fesserton church have fixed their annual Sunday school entertainment for the 20th of December.

A special effort and one likely to prove quite successful, is being made to reduce the indebtedness upon the Chalmers' Church, London, Ont.

Rev. A. H. MacGillivray, of Chatham, preached anniversary sermons in St. James Church, Thamesville, last Sunday week.

The Rev. Mr. Wilson, of Dovercourt Church, Toronto, preached the annual sermon to the Guelph St. Andrew's Society, in St. Andrew's church, Guelph.

Next regular meeting of Guelph Presbytery will be held in Knox Church, Guelph, on Tuesday, the 21st January, at half-past ten o'clock in the forenoon.

By the will of the late Mrs. W. C. MacLeod, recently deceased, Chalmers' Church, Woodstock, receives \$1,000.00, and the General Hospital in the same town, \$3,000.

Rev. Mr. Wilson, of Acton, has been appointed interim moderator of session of Beckwood and Eden Mills, with authority to moderate on a call when the people are ready.

Rev. Professor Kilpatrick, of Knox College, one of the popular preachers of the church, preached the annual sermon to the Sons of Scotland, in the Orillia Presbyterian Church last Sunday.

The congregation of Chalmers Church on the Mountain, (Hamilton), has extended a call to M. G. Melvin, a student at Knox College. An effort is being made to unite Barton and Chalmers Churches.

The anniversary services in connection with the Woodbridge Presbyterian Church were most successful. Rev. A. MacGillivray of Bonar Church, Toronto, preached morning and evening to large congregations. On the following evening the ladies of the congregation provided a fowl supper, after which an excellent program was given, consisting of an address by the Rev. Mr. Macpherson of Chalmers Church, Toronto, who is one of the best speakers ever heard in Woodbridge. The church was packed to the doors and the receipts amount ed to \$200.

At the last meeting of Guelph Presbytery Mr. Blair reported from the Committee on Beneficence and the Schemes of the church in reply to a question remitted to them for consideration, namely: How to procure an increase of the givings of the people to the mission schemes, and to formulate some plan of visitation and of personal canvass of all our congregations. The reply to the question was embodied in the following recommendations:—(1) In reference to increasing the gifts of the people, ministers endeavor to instruct their congregations in regard to the schemes; such as their purpose, scripturalness the moral necessity upon the church to support them. (2) That in respect to a plan of personal visitation and canvass of all the congregations if Presbytery so decides two or three of our ministers be appointed to answer calls from sessions wishing to avail themselves of their services. (3) That sessions be urged to co-operate with the ministers in securing ways and means best suited to call forth the liberality of their people and enlisting all the members of the congregation as far as possible in support of the schemes. (4) That ministers more earnestly endeavor in their preaching to inculcate the way of liberality as a vital and necessary principle of spiritual life in all the churches. By the blessing of the spirit our efforts will not be in vain in bringing about increased liberality. The report was received and the recommendations adopted.

TORONTO.

The students of Knox college have subscribed one hundred dollars for the purpose of installing a pulpit and chair in the Jamieson Memorial Church at French River. This church is being erected in memory of the late Rev. C. R. Jamieson, who was drowned near French River last September while attempting to save the lives of two ladies.

In making mention of the seventieth anniversary of Erskine church last week the intelligent compositor made us say "Methodist anniversary." During its long existence, this church has only had four pastors—Rev. Dr. Jennings, thirty-five years; Dr. John Smith, ten years; Rev. W. A. Hunter, ten years, and Rev. James Murray, the present incumbent. The present congregation consists of 750 members, and the church is entirely free from debt. Sir William P. Howland for many years was a prominent member.

Rosedale, that beautiful residential suburb of this city is to have a Presbyterian church. At a meeting last week it was decided, with the sanction of Presbytery, to organize a congregation and an interim session was constituted, consisting of Rev. Dr. Wallace as Moderator, with Mr. W. P. Rodger and Mr. George Keith. Twenty-nine certificates were at once handed in, and a dozen more signified their intention of joining. A building committee was appointed, and a Provisional Board of Managers was elected to act till the annual meeting in January, as follows:—A. Laird, R. Greig, A. Y. Blain, Robt. Rennie, Henry Wright, A. F. Rodger. A Pulpit Supply Committee was chosen, consisting of Dr. A. S. Grant, Capt. Duncan Donald, Messrs. Jas. Strachan and A. Laird. It was decided to hold services on Sabbath mornings and afternoons, commencing next Sabbath, in the school house.

The new and handsome church just completed for the Avenue Road congregation, was dedicated on the 20th ult., when Rev. Dr. Kilpatrick preached in the morning, Rev. Dr. Bruce Macdonald, Principal of St. Andrew's College, in the afternoon, and Rev. A. Logan Giegie in the evening. All the services were well attended. In point of architecture and seating and acoustic properties, Avenue Road Presbyterian church is undoubtedly one of the finest in the city. The following historical notes will be of general interest: The genesis of the new church was a Sabbath school, started in 1868 by Mrs. Egmond Gunther, assisted by Mrs. G. Allan Arthurs and the late Rev. Wm. Reid, D.D. The present district was then the village of Yorkville, and Bloor street was the northern boundary of the city of Toronto. Twenty-seven children were present. In 1871 the late Hon. William McMaster donated a piece of land on Davenport road, upon which was erected a building for the Sunday school class, and was known as the Davenport Road Mission. But the work soon outgrew these quarters, and in 1885 the present lot, corner of Avenue road and Roxborough avenue, was purchased. May 12th, 1897, the first sod was turned, and on July 29th, 1897, the corner-stone of the present Sabbath school building was laid by Mrs. Egmond Gunther and Mrs. Arthurs. Then about two years ago work was commenced on the present church building, and the membership of the congregation now numbers 321, with a regular attendance at the Sunday school services which frequently taxes the accommodation afforded by that building.

The pulpit of Alexandra church, Brantford, is to be declared vacant next Sabbath by the Rev. F. J. Maxwell, moderator of the vacancy. This church has made very rapid progress since its organization and is now considered to be the most rapidly-growing charge of our denomination in that city.

MEETING OF F. M. COMMITTEE.

The executive of the Foreign Mission committee of the Canadian Presbyterian Church met last week, the convener, Rev. W. A. J. Martin of Brantford, in the chair.

It was announced that the congregation of St. Paul's church, Brandon, has undertaken to support as their own foreign missionary, Rev. D. McLeod, who went out this fall to North Formosa.

It was stated that the Vancouver congregation has intimated a desire to undertake the support of Rev. T. A. Broadfoot, who has gone to the mission field in South China.

The estimates for the work at the South China mission, near Canton, for next year were passed upon. It was determined to purchase a property at Kongmun, a city with 100,000 inhabitants, in the Canton district, as it was decided to establish the mission permanently in that region.

The transfer of the work, which has hitherto been energetically carried on by the American Presbyterian Church in the Santo district, near Canton, to the Canadian Presbyterian Church was sanctioned. The estimates for the Macow mission in South China for next year were approved. Buildings are to be erected at this point, but the sum that will be required is not at present known.

The Foreign Mission committee has granted the services of the Rev. A. W. Longhead, one of its missionaries at Honan, in North China, to the foreign department of the world Y. M. C. A., to labor among some 17,000 Chinese students who are attending the schools in Tokio.

It was agreed to unite with the other Canadian churches in giving financial assistance towards the important work of maintaining union churches in Oriental cities, where many foreigners reside. These include young men employed in governmental and consular service and in business. It was felt that young men exposed to such great temptations should have some oversight, and that for this purpose it was better to establish a union church, which, although it will need at the present time some help, will within a year or two be self-sustaining.

Dr. J. M. Walters, a medical missionary stationed at Ujjain, in Central India, was granted a year's furlough. Dr. Walters will leave India on January 7, and will spend his furlough in Canada. His home is practically in Toronto, but his wife's relatives live in Kincardine.

The 23rd annual meeting of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the Paris Presbytery was held in the Presbyterian church, Paris, on Thursday, Nov. 14, and was well attended, the spacious auditorium being comfortably filled at each of the three sessions. The Presbyterial president, Mrs. (Rev.) McCullough of Innerkip, presided. The various auxiliaries and mission bands throughout the Presbytery, presented full and gratifying reports. The amount received from the different auxiliaries during the year totalled \$1,645.40; from the various mission bands, \$619.64; a total of \$2,265.04, or an increase of \$12.59 from the auxiliaries and \$95.87 from the mission bands. Mrs. Grant, of Honan, China, addressed the meeting and told of the excellent work being done in that far-off field. The business transacted throughout the sessions was of a practical character, reflecting to the credit of the officers and others interested in this department of the Church's work. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: President, Mr. McCullough, Innerkip; 1st vice, Mrs. Kitchen, St. George; 2nd, Mrs. Dickey, Woodstock; 3rd, Mrs. Martin, Brantford; 4th, Mrs. Shearer, Drumbo; treas., Miss Capron, Paris; recording sec., Miss McMullen, Woodstock; cor. sec., Miss Long, Brantford; Mission Band sec., Miss N. James, Paris.