

minimum of salary, contributions were sent by be accomplished next 500 could be assured

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have been at work, es, as stated above, little information ies, and that little is of plan, according to erations. Properly, reported under the The scheme is now, and carried out by w extensive mission has been taken up wa, and other Pres- en and means.

in calling the atten- e. Something must sion work is to go th this end in view. oy, and if necessary, f country; that the f a settled pastor; s employed. Such ply of ordinances, mong an irreligious s to which they are

strangers. So long as the number of vacancies exceed the number of Probationers, and the number of young men licensed each year and of ministers received from other churches is little more than equal to the loss among our ministers by death and removal, the Home Mission Field must be neglected, unless men be provided specially for it. The Committee earnestly beseech the Synod to meet this matter fully and apply a remedy.

2. For the better securing of liberal and systematic support for our Mission work, the Committee recommended the formation of Missionary Associations, and more frequent contributions. Experience has proved beyond question the superiority of such an agency over the annual collection system. It has also been suggested to have a Superintendent of Missions, who may devote his whole time to visiting the mission field, organizing stations, &c., and visiting congregations from time to time, by way of stirring them up to a more lively interest in the mission work. The difficulties, both theoretical and practical, however, connected with such an appointment are such that the Committee is not prepared to recommend action.

3. The Committee proposes that regulation vi, 2, last clause, be amended as follows. After the word "conjointly," read "of \$400 for "an ordained minister, or a licentiate without board, \$300 without "board for a catechist, and for a student in divinity at the rate "of \$5 per Sabbath with board, and travelling expenses to the field of labor."

4. The Committee recommend that in order to avoid unnecessary travelling expenses, a smaller Committee be entrusted with the Home Mission business; or that the members of this Committee be also members of some other Committee meeting at the same time. And that the travelling expenses for this year be paid out of the Central Fund.

In concluding this report the Committee desire to express their cordial thanks to the Clerks of Presbyteries, and Conveners of Presbyterial Committees, who have so cordially aided them in the work. As was to be expected not a little confusion and misunderstanding resulted from the introduction of a new scheme. As the work has gone on however, the difficulties have decreased, and all parties have come better to understand each other, and now that initial difficulties are surmounted, the Committee are confident of the future success of the scheme under which they are working.

It may however be of use to notice one or two misconceptions which have produced no little difficulty and dissatisfaction. The entire removal of Vacancies and Probationers from the charge of the Home Mission Committee has been sometimes overlooked. Whenever Mission Stations have been supplied by Probationers for a day or two, there have been complaints, and no wonder. This was never intended, and in sending a Probationer to visit a Mission Station, Presbyteries were working against the scheme. The operations of this Committee, and of the Committee on vacancies are quite distinct, and if Presbyteries overlook this distinction, confusion and dissatisfaction must inevitably be the result.

In some quarters it seems to be assumed that the Central Fund will pay Missionaries all their salaries, if not paid by the stations. This is a mistake. As already stated, the Committee are responsible only for the amount promised. Some also think that Probationers will be indemnified from the Central Fund. This also is a mistake. The Vacancies must pay the Probationers, except where in the case of weak congregations, a weekly supplement has been promised; this only the Central Fund will make good.