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CONVENTION.

(Continued.)

MONDAY, AUG. 22.

There was a good attendance at the opening session and throughout the day. The seats were well filled. The interest was maintained even through the discussion of details that cannot be reported with advantage. The consideration and analysis of reports cannot well be described in print. A verbatim report would be impossible and anything less fails to give the reader a correct understanding of the discussion.

The Historical Society presented its first report to the Convention through its secretary, Rev. J. W. Brown. It reported the work fairly under way. Local Baptist History is to be secured, and, after passing through a literary committee, is to be deposited in the Library of Acadia College. Officers for the year are, President, Principal E. W. Sawyer; Vice Presidents, Dr. B. H. Eaton; Rev. J. G. A. Belyea; Secretary-Treasurer, Rev. J. W. Brown. The Central Committee to examine historical documents consists of Rev. Dr. E. M. Saunders, Dr. B. H. Eaton, Rev. Dr. A. C. Chute. The Report of the Home Mission Board was read by the Secretary, Rev. E. J. Grant, who answered questions on various points connected with the work.

An extended discussion took place on work among the African people in Nova Scotia, Dr. E. M. Saunders, Rev. A. S. Green and Bro. C. E. Knapp spoke on this subject. It is said that there are 6,000 people of African descent in the province and that the great majority of them are Baptists. Their needs and their defects were set forth and accounts given of the religious and educational work done for them in the county of Halifax.

The discussion on the Westchester field revealed the fact of some loss by error that had come in; but also gave assurance that the church goes on its way with increase of devotion.

Rev. H. G. Estabrook, Rev. M. W. Brown, Rev. P. S. McGregor and Rev. G. A. Belyea spoke on the matter and described the very high appreciation of the people of the present Pastor Rev. H. S. Shaw.

The Rev. A. F. Baker has been the General Missionary of the Board for a number of years. He has been well received by the churches he has visited and his labors have resulted in many additions to the membership of the body. He is retiring from the service for the present. Very properly a committee was appointed to prepare a resolution of appreciation of his service. The good wishes of Convention will follow Bro. Baker in his service elsewhere.

The Rev. Mr. Smallman and others spoke highly of Rev. W. A. White's ministry among the Africans. Mr. White was graduated from Acadia in 1903 and has during the year labored with the churches of the African Association with success. He has the confidence of his brethren in a marked degree.

The Treasurer's report showed receipts amounting to \$8,327.80, which included a bequest of the late Hon. A. F. Randolph of \$1,000; from the late Rev. E. N. Archibald of \$80; donation from C. H. Harrington, \$100; G. F. Allen, \$50.

During the session the following pastors who have entered on work in the Provinces during the year were called to the platform and welcomed to Convention: Rev. F. C. Wright, Rev. Mr. Crowell, Rev. S. W. Cummings, Rev. Charles McLearn, Rev. F. E. Bishop, Rev. F. O. Erb, Rev. G. W. Schurman.

At the afternoon session there was a long and animated discussion on a proposition made by Rev. W. C. Goucher to invite the Convention of Manitoba and the North West to attend the Convention next year and to present the needs of mission work in the west to Convention and subsequently to visit our churches in the interest of that work. Rev. W. N. Hutchins favored the resolution, believing many churches and individuals should hear Bro. Vining's message delivered here yesterday. Rev. R. O. Morse supported the resolution. He had great difficulty in securing any one of the Boards to send a representative to address his church. Rev. F. M. Young, J. Parsons and others spoke of the needs of the West. Dr. Trotter said the work was one, and we must support all. But the timeliness of special efforts must be considered.

We have the Convention Plan and are supposed to work in harmony with it. If one Board goes to the churches for help, then have all the Boards similar privileges? There was a difference of opinion on this question, some Boards

considering they were at liberty to make special appeals for funds and others not feeling free to do so. Dr. Trotter explained that a year from now there would still be a considerable sum needed to complete the second Forward Movement Fund, and that if the representative of Northwest preceded the representative of the college in appealing to the churches the action of Convention as to the college might be interfered with. Rev. Dr. Manning and Rev. H. F. Adams, Rev. J. H. McDonald, Rev. E. J. Grant, Rev. Dr. Gates, R. G. Haley, Rev. J. G. A. Belyea, Rev. H. G. Colpitts, Rev. S. Langille, Rev. L. Hutchinson, Rev. H. G. Estabrook, and Rev. G. R. White made remarks on different features of the difficult subject. It was the strong desire of the brethren to help the North West and at the same time to adhere to their pledges already made to the second Forward Movement. Rev. Isaiah Wallace, the Veteran Home Missionary, Evangelist and helper to all good causes, was received with applause from all parts of the house when he arose to speak on behalf of the North West which he visited some years ago.

Rev. A. J. Vining was called for and in answer spoke briefly. The North West is the hope of Canada and the hope of our denomination. He wishes the privilege of appealing to our body for aid for two hundred churches which we ought to support in the North West. In three or four years we ought to have a thousand churches in the North West. Two hundred and fifty dollars as outside help will start a church there.

The Resolution of Mr. Goucher was referred to a committee composed of R. G. Haley, J. J. Wallace, Rev. W. N. Hutchins, Rev. A. Cohoon, Rev. W. C. Goucher, Dr. Gates, Dr. E. M. Saunders, Dr. Manning, G. E. C. Burton. At the evening meeting the committee reported and report was adopted as follows:

As the Second Forward Movement has only until Jan. 1st, 1906, to secure pledges to fully meet the offer of Mr. Rockefeller of \$100,000 it is the opinion of this committee that there should be no special general appeal of the other Boards until after this date; but as the claims of the North West are immediately urgent the committee recommends that a Representative of the North West be invited to attend the next Convention and then to enter upon the work of appealing to the constituency of this Convention for funds for that great and important work and that the Agent from Manitoba and North West shall labor in harmony with the Board of Governors as to the territory to be canvassed and the committee also recommends that the appeal be for immediate gifts and not for pledges to be extended over a stated term.

EVENING SESSION.

The session opened with reading of Scripture by Rev. A. F. Browne and prayer by Rev. S. W. Cummings.

Rev. Dr. McLeod, of Fredericton, Rev. D. Long, of St. John and Rev. Mr. Perry, Moderator of the Free Baptist Conference of New Brunswick were introduced and received a cordial welcome. They were, of course, invited to seats in convention and to join in discussions of the body.

Rev. Dr. McLeod addressed convention, expressing his pleasure that we were now magnifying our points of agreement and minimizing our points of difference. God has been in this movement of union. The thought of a great Baptist brotherhood is a grand one and is calculated to encourage our people.

Rev. Mr. Perry and Rev. Mr. Long spoke in a similar way.

Rev. M. W. Brown, of Home Missions, spoke effectively on "The conditions and needs of our Home Missions."

With great clearness he outlined the groups of churches receiving Home Mission grants. He asked for prayers for the work. When the students return to college there will be twelve vacant fields in Nova Scotia and P. E. Island.

More money is needed to supply the 44 groups under the Board. During the year he had travelled 5820 miles, visited 122 churches, made 496 visits, held 247 services, and baptized 22 converts.

Rev. E. Bosworth spoke for Grande Ligne with his usual force and eloquence.

The Evangelization of Quebec is vital to the future welfare of Canada. The fact that the French Catholics are increasing so fast leads us to ask how long it will be before they will dominate Canada.

Mr. Bosworth did not object to the increase of the French but argued that we should give them the Gospel in its purity as a means of deliverance from darkness of Romanism.

The work is encouraging. Converts are being received and the truth is spreading.

Rev. W. A. White followed Mr. Bosworth. He completely won the favor of the congregation as he spoke of his year's work among the colored people. There are, he said, 40 settlements of these people, and eleven ordained ministers, of whom he said, if he had his way, there would not be many left.

He is trying to lead the people back to God. Whites, and Blacks alike need Christ.

There are many discouraging things among them, as Impurity of Home Life, intemperance, instability after conversion, lack of teaching and training. There is great ignorance through lack of schools.

But there are encouragements. It is the Lord's work. "Lo, I am with you" is not an obsolete word, but is vital to this work. He never dreamed of being a missionary in Nova Scotia when he left his home in Maryland; but God led him in a way he knew not. We have God's promise: "My word shall not return unto me void." Mr. White said he had received hearty fellowship from the pastors and brethren.

He appealed for prayer that he may be helped in his work (applause).

Rev. W. E. McIntyre was heartily cheered as he came to the platform, and expressed his pleasure at being present. The contemplated union of the 12,000 Free Baptists and the 18,000 Baptists in New Brunswick would inaugurate a great future for that part of our territory. In many districts both bodies are spending money one half of which might be saved. There will be work enough for the 30,000 Baptists to do. There is much prayer behind this Union movement.

Rev. E. J. Grant, Secretary of the Board, generously gave up his time to permit others to speak. The evening was a very pleasant one for those who wished to hear bright addresses of a cheering character. The audience filled the house.

The reports of the Treasurers of Denominational Funds were passed. Rev. A. Cohoon's statement for Nova Scotia showed receipts \$11,888.07. The payments were: Envelopes, postage, stationery, exchange, printing report last year, printing post cards, \$64.80; to Home Mission Board, \$3,329.10; Foreign Mission Board, \$4,174.88; Acadia University, \$1,768.85; Ministerial Education Board, \$177.67; Ministers Annuity Board for Annuity Fund, \$562.19; Ministers Relief and aid, \$358.78; North West Mission Board \$826.35; Grand Ligne Mission Board, \$625.15. If we add the \$6,196.18 contributed by the W. M. A. Societies we have \$18,084.25 as the total for Nova Scotia. The amount raised by Mission Bands is not included.

Rev. J. W. Manning's report for New Brunswick showed receipts \$3,363.28. The payments were: Home Mission Board of N. B., \$994.57; Foreign Mission Board \$1,527.20; Acadia University, \$251.55; Ministerial Education, \$25.06; Ministerial Relief and Annuity Fund, \$103.16; North West Missions, \$248.16; Grande Ligne, \$3,382.78. The Mission Band receipts for N. B. were \$639.13.

Mr. A. W. Sterns report for P. E. Island showed receipts from Prince Edward Island Association, \$631.00. The payments were: Printing, postage and exchange, \$9.41; To Home Mission Board, \$206.71; Foreign Mission Board; \$145.08; Acadia University, \$166.77; Ministerial Education Board, \$10.80; Ministers' Annuity Board for M & R. Aid, \$21.69; Ministers' Annuity Board for Annuity Fund, \$31.69; North West Mission Board, \$49.28; Grande Ligne Mission Board, \$50.27.

Add to the above \$719.39 reported by the Treasurer of the W. B. M. U. and \$112.63 reported by the Treasurer of Mission Bands, and we have as the total from Prince Edward Island \$1,463.02 for the year ending July 31st, 1904.

Bro. A. Cohoon asked to be relieved from further service as Treasurer of Denominational Funds for Nova Scotia, an office he has filled for twelve years without remuneration. The Convention acceded to Mr. Cohoon's request and passed a resolution of grateful appreciation of his valuable and faithful service.

TUESDAY MORNING.

The Foreign Mission Board's report was read by Rev. J. W. Manning, D. D., Secretary-Treasurer, who gave full answers to various questions asked on the several sections. To a stranger some of the questions would appear to be vexatious. The discussion almost appears sometimes like the heckling of a government by the opposition in parliament. It is in marked contrast to the proceedings in the Baptist meetings in United States and England. In the

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