

CHURCH
WORK

Ministers and Churches

NEWS
LETTERS

OTTAWA.

Another annual thank-offering service was held in Stewarton church last week in connection with the Women's Foreign Missionary Society. Mrs. J. Alexander was the speaker of the evening, giving a splendid talk on the duties of Christian women to their heathen sisters. All contributions to the offering were not in, but the sum received last evening amounted to \$50. During the evening a vocal solo was rendered by Miss Ethel Morris. Miss E. Stewart, the president, occupied the chair.

The annual thank offering service in connection with the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of Glebe Presbyterian church was held on October 1st, when a large number attended and took part in the devotional services. Rev. J. W. H. Milne conducted the devotions and a helpful and appropriate address was given by Mrs. W. D. Armstrong. The usual thank-offering contributions were received amounting to \$53. Mrs. J. W. H. Milne presided during the service.

The annual meeting and banquet of the Erskine Men's Association was held in the lecture hall of the church last week, when 27 men sat down to a supper, kindly provided by the ladies of the congregation. After addresses by A. H. Jarvis and Rev. Mr. Wood, the election of officers was proceeded with, which resulted as follows: President, Mr. D. C. McBain; vice-president, Mr. McMullen; secretaries, H. W. Russell and W. G. Bowman; treasurer, H. Grant; executive committee, Messrs. Whalley, Mulligan, Innes, Anderson, Simpson, Proudfoot, and Tyndale.

The sum of \$100, in aid of the church building fund, was voted by the Stewarton Church Men's Association at their meeting last week. The treasurer's report showed a balance on hand of \$99.38, and retiring president, Mr. A. J. Meiklejohn, reviewed the year's work. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Hon. president, Rev. W. A. McIlroy; president, A. J. Meiklejohn; 1st vice-president, G. H. Barr; 2nd vice-president, J. B. Picken; treasurer, F. A. Evans; secretary, P. W. Currie; committee, G. H. D. Gibson, H. W. Williams, P. W. Cowie, Louis Acheson, J. H. Johnston; auditors, W. H. Fitzsimmons and Mr. Lowe.

The ladies of Knox church organized an Ottawa branch of the Women's Home Missionary Society. This is a new departure for the ladies of Knox church, and the proposal to form a branch of the world-wide association was received with the greatest interest. The following ladies were elected as officers of the new society for the first year: President, Mrs. (Dr.) Ramsay; 1st vice-president, Miss A. Blackburn; 2nd vice-president, Mrs. J. Robertson; treasurer, Mrs. G. McCormick; recording secretary, Mrs. W. Kennedy; corresponding secretary, Mrs. W. T. Urquhart; secretary for the district of the official organ, "The Pioneer," Mrs. Savage. The society will meet on the second Friday of every month, from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The meetings held last week in connection with the Laymen's Missionary Movement were most successful, Ottawa laymen pledging themselves to raise \$75,000 for foreign mission work during the coming year. This is two and a half times the amount raised last year and is the concrete result of the four days' campaign of the Laymen's Missionary Movement in the Capital—one of the most wonderful and absorbing campaigns ever carried on in this city. Of the whole amount the Presbyterians

have agreed to raise \$25,000, or one third, and to do it by October 15, 1909. The net result—if effort is crowned with success, and there appears little doubt of that—will be the increase of contributions to foreign missions from the city of Ottawa from 61 cents per church member to an average of \$5.

The call of Erskine Presbyterian church to Rev. C. W. Nicol, of Sherbrooke, Que., was sustained at a meeting of the Ottawa Presbytery, which met in Bank Street church on September 29th, and was forwarded to the Quebec Presbytery. The call contained 824 signatures, being one of the most numerous signed ever presented to the Ottawa Presbytery. It was presented by Rev. Dr. D. M. Ramsay, acting moderator of the Erskine session, and supported by a committee from Erskine congregation composed of Messrs. James Baxter, W. H. Tate, Joseph Smith and Andrew Cochran. The call carries a salary of \$2,000 and a free manse. At the same Presbytery meeting another call moderated was that to Rev. Jacob Steele, of Campbellford, to the pastorate of Bryson. The call was presented by Rev. G. A. Hackney, of Bristol.

The Men's Association of Stewarton Presbyterian church held their annual meeting on the 1st of October, which closed another year of excellent work accomplished by their many and energetic members. The treasurer's report showed a balance in the treasury of \$99.38. The remaining amount was added, making \$100, which sum was voted to the building fund of the church. A proposal to open rooms for reading, rest and amusement in the church during the winter was heartily approved, and a committee appointed to look into the matter. It was also decided to meet this year every Thursday instead of every other Thursday. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: Honorary president, Rev. W. A. McIlroy; president, Mr. A. J. Meiklejohn; vice-presidents, Mr. G. H. Barr and Mr. J. B. Picken; treasurer, Mr. F. A. Evans; secretary, Mr. P. W. Currie; committee, Mr. H. M. Williams, Mr. J. H. Johnston, Mr. F. W. Cowie, Mr. Lewis Acheson and Mr. G. H. D. Gibson; auditors, Mr. W. H. Fitzsimmons and Mr. Ernest Lowe. Mr. A. J. Meiklejohn presided and the attendance was very large.

The fifteenth annual meeting of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of St. Paul's Presbyterian church was held on Sept. 30th in the church parlors, when a large attendance was present and most satisfactory reports of the past year's work presented. Mrs. John Thorburn occupied the chair and Mrs. J. Alexander, the president of Knox Church Society, addressed the ladies on the opportunities and responsibilities of each member in this work for foreign missions. Rev. Dr. W. D. Armstrong also addressed the meeting and the ladies were favored with a vocal solo by Miss Eva Bourne. The treasurer, Mrs. W. J. Irvine, stated that \$165 had been raised during the year. Miss Laura Watters reported the work of the Mission Band and the report of Mrs. J. R. Hill, the recording secretary, showed a considerable increase in attendance. Mrs. C. H. Thorburn was appointed as the delegate from St. Paul's to be present at the packing of the bale for the Industrial School at Regina. The officers elected for the coming year are: President, Mrs. John Thorburn; vice-presidents, Mrs. W. D. Armstrong and Mrs. M. Gallagher; recording secretary, Mrs. J. R. Hill; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Blackett Robinson; treasurer, Mrs. W. J. Irvine; superintendents of Scat-

tered Helpers, Mrs. J. D. Anderson and Mrs. T. W. Anderson; secretary of "Tidings," Mrs. S. Knauff; executive committee, Mrs. Henry Watters, Mrs. W. H. Taylor, Mrs. G. McNab and Mrs. Thomas Whillans. The appointment of the programme committee was left over to next meeting.

In Stewarton church on September 27 the fourth anniversary of the induction of Rev. W. A. McIlroy as its pastor was celebrated. At the morning and evening services the sermon was delivered by Rev. R. P. MacKay, D.D., of Toronto, the secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Canadian Presbyterian Church. Rev. Dr. MacKay, who is in the city in connection with the Laymen's Missionary Movement, was in attendance at the Morrison Centenary Conference at Shanghai, China, last spring and he spoke interestingly upon the reports presented there, of the missionary developments in China, and the present opportunities for evangelic work in that country. At all the services collections were taken up for the building fund. The large attendance at each was a tribute to the pastor on the completion of his fourth year among the congregation, for when he was inducted this consisted of one hundred families, while at the present time the number is four hundred, representing six hundred and sixty-five communicants. In 1904 the Sunday school membership was but 160. Today the number enrolled is 550, marking a most material increase. But there is another feature in the progress of the church under Rev. Mr. McIlroy's direction which stands out most prominently, and that is the splendid increase in church revenue. In 1904 the yearly receipts amounted to about \$1,800, while at the present time this has been increased to \$12,000. There were only four elders, where now there are fourteen. In addition thirteen societies embrace the various branches of the church work.

MONTREAL NOTES.

Last Sabbath the pulpit of St. Andrew's church was occupied by Rev. R. E. Welsh, D.D., of the Presbyterian College.

Rev. Mr. Montgomery of the Presbyterian College occupied the pulpit of Chalmers church last Sunday.

Rev. J. Keir Fraser, D.D., of Charleston, S.C., preached in Crescent street church last Sabbath.

A great deal of interest was shown last week in the special conference of Missionary Movement, which was opened in the Y.M.C.A. on Monday morning and extended over Tuesday. Meetings were held in the various city churches, and on Monday afternoon a mass meeting was held in Association Hall, presided over by Mr. W. M. Byles. The principal speakers were the Rev. Dr. R. P. MacKay, C. Halford (U.S.A.), and Mr. S. J. Moore.

The Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbyterian church, Dresden, held their annual thank-offering meeting on September 25th. The meeting was held in the church and the ladies were ably assisted by the Sunshine Mission Band. Speeches were delivered by Mrs. Riddle on loyalty, and the Rev. Mr. Lindsay on mission work. Mrs. S. Bently, president of the association, occupied the chair, and the proceeds of the meeting amounted to \$35.33.

Rev. Mr. Arnold, of Petrolia, has accepted the call to Knox church, Guelph, and will be inducted to his new charge towards the end of this month.