

ST. ANDREW'S BEST YEAR.

Progressive Presbyterian Church Has a Membership of 854.

Finances of All Departments in Excellent Condition. Enthusiasm and Harmony at the Annual Meeting.

Reports telling of progress and prosperity were presented at the 23rd annual meeting of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church last evening. It was one of the most successful years in the congregation's history, and the large audience that assembled in the lecture room evinced the keenest enjoyment as the different societies presented their report showing the increases. The meeting was quite harmonious, the only discussion being in regard to the election of managers. Messrs. Dreback, Cline, Ewing, Firth, McLeod and Anderson were the retiring members, and all were re-elected by acclamation.

The five new managers added to the board were elected as follows: J. H. Little, three years; W. A. Schofield, two years; W. G. Patrick, two years; C. Robertson, two years; R. Somerville, one year.

Rev. J. A. Wilson presided and Mr. W. R. Leckie, acted as secretary.

In the report of the session, submitted by Mr. W. R. Leckie, the weekly system of contributions towards missions was shown to be a forward step, missionary gifts being far in advance of those of last year. During the year the individual communion cups were introduced and have met with popular favor. The attendance at communion has been the highest in the history of the church. A thorough revision of the roll of membership was made and at the close of the year it stood at 854.

Death took ten members. The session statistics were: Membership, 31st December, 1907, 806; added during the year, 144; total, 950. Left during the year, 96; membership, 31st December, 1908, 854; increase over last year, 48; average attendance at communion, 570; baptisms, infant, 40; adult, 5.

The session receipts amounted to \$128.45, and the expenditures, \$128.85. The report of the Board of Managers, submitted by Robt. Duff, in part, was as follows:

Nernst lamps have been installed in the Sunday School in place of gas. A new flue has been built in the tower of the church to obtain satisfactory draft for the north furnace, and other necessary changes made. The plate and envelope collections have exceeded those of last year; by \$36.47, although our total revenue has fallen \$366.53 below last year, largely owing to the fact that the Board has not called on the Ladies' Aid for assistance. We are carrying over into 1909 accounts amounting to about \$190.

It is the intention in future to call for special interest collections quarterly instead of half-yearly as heretofore.

The church treasurer's report showed the following:

Table with columns for Receipts and Expenditures, listing various church activities and their financial impact.

The report of the sinking fund showed that during the year \$1,204.16 in new subscriptions and \$456.54 in old subscriptions had been received; also \$437.96 from the Ladies' Aid Society and \$45 from the Sunday school. The expenditures were: Organ tone, \$800; church debt, \$500; total \$1,300. All the organ notes have been cancelled, and the mortgage on the church is now \$150,000 on property valued at \$400,000.

The Sunday school superintendent's report, submitted by J. M. Robinson, showed the plan of organization as set forth in the last report to have exceeded the highest expectations. The attendance has been the largest in the history of the school. There are 870 members on the roll, being an increase of 187; 54 teachers, an increase of four, and during the year the average attendance has been 476. Fifteen scholars have been united with the church. The receipts for the year amounted to \$949.56, leaving a balance of \$8.59. In addition to a bank loan of \$100, there is a note outstanding for \$50.

The Union Bible class showed an increased attendance during the year; also that the interest in the work has been well sustained. The average attendance has been 87. The receipts amounted to \$286.37, and disbursements \$285.18.

The receipts of the young men's Bible class amounted to \$40.29, and expenditures \$35.08, leaving a balance of \$5.21. Mr. Robert Duff's class reported receipts \$29.50, and the expenditures the same.

The report of the home department, submitted by Mrs. James Crombie, showed the average attendance to have been 70. Two hundred books with the Sunday school lesson in them have been left in the homes of the people. Four members died during the year. The receipts were \$32.45, and the expenditures \$20.57, leaving a balance of \$11.88.

The cradle roll report, submitted by Mr. W. R. Leckie, showed the number on the roll to be 390. Eight deaths occurred during the year. The receipts were \$82.45, and the expenditures \$80.27, and expenditures the same.

The report of the auxiliary to the W. F. M. S., submitted by Mrs. D. M. Robinson, showed ten meetings held. The receipts were \$157.27, and the expenditures were the same.

The Golden Rule Mission Band was organized last January, and reported a successful year, the average attendance being 25. The receipts were \$10.15.

The Ladies' Aid Society report, submitted by Mrs. Robinson, showed the

number on the roll to be 281. The receipts were \$611.54, and expenditures the same. The Young Ladies' Mission Band report, submitted by Ethel Callaghan, showed the number on roll to be 34, and an average attendance of 61. The receipts were \$204.47, and expenditures \$196.26, leaving a balance of \$8.21.

The senior Y. P. S. C. E. report, submitted by David Walker, showed receipts of \$40.28, and expenditures \$39.88. During the year the society furnished a room in the Home for Incubables.

The junior Y. P. S. C. E. report, submitted by G. McCallister, gave the number on roll as 100, with an average attendance of 74. The receipts were \$53.80.

Miss Charlotte Robinson, in reporting for the Flower Committee, said \$11.50 had been paid in providing flowers for the church.

The report of the Boys' Brigade showed receipts of \$112.87, and expenditures \$108.25.

The Music Committee reported expenditures of \$24.35, all of which has been paid by the church treasurer.

The Lord's Day Alliance report, submitted by Robt. Duff, showed the receipts to be \$600.

The auditors' report, submitted by Mr. Firth, was adopted.

The secretary was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Robt. Duff. Mr. Eric Bowers, jun., was appointed.

A resolution, on motion by Mr. W. R. Leckie, to appoint two new members to the Mission Board, was passed. Mr. Fred Robinson and A. J. Taylor were elected.

BISHOP'S THREAT.

MR. JUSTICE MACMAHON UPON Mennonite Church Methods.

Lehman's Award Stands—Court Holds That of all Influences the Religious is the Most Dangerous.

Toronto, Jan. 21.—Mr. Justice MacMahon gave judgment yesterday morning declaring invalid a release given by Benjamin Lehman to Orvil Kester, of a judgment for \$1,200 obtained by Lehman against Kester for the seduction of his daughter.

Kester appealed from the award and when the case came up in the Divisional Court last November, put in a release from Lehman. The latter claimed that the release had been obtained under undue influence and the court ordered a trial of the issue for a determination of the validity or otherwise of the release.

Both parties belong to the Mennonite Church of Altona Village, whose members are bound not to go to law with one another, and their fellow-worshippers were greatly scandalized when Lehman sued Kester for the seduction of his daughter, who had gone to the Kester home to help in the house during Mrs. Kester's confinement. The fact that Lehman won the suit rather aggravated the offence. Lehman, being made to feel his heinousness, on Sunday, Nov. 8th, while the appeal was pending, told Elder Isaiah Hoover that if Bishop Wideman came to the church two weeks later he would make confession. Elder Hoover and the Bishop apparently found that Lehman's repentant mood might pass, and they decided not to wait for the appointed Sunday.

On the 16th they drove down to Lehman's house, and the Bishop asked him if he would make confession. Lehman replied in the negative and told the Bishop to remove his name from the books of the church. The Bishop said that he would certainly be expelled if he did not confess.

BISHOP GOT AGREEMENT. Finally the Bishop and the elder got Lehman to agree to give Kester a release on condition that the latter paid all the costs. All three then started off in a rig to Kester's farm, but when three-quarters of a mile away Lehman wished to get down and go back home. Elder Hoover was persistent, and succeeded in making Lehman accompany them all the way.

At Kester's under the control of the Bishop and the elder, Lehman agreed to sign a release, which was drawn up by Mr. McCullough, of Stouffville.

His Lordship remarks that plaintiff is 62 years of age, a cripple, not strong physically and of a nervous temperament, and that he was induced to sign the release by the threats of expulsion used by Bishop Wideman. Though neither of the parties—the Bishop and the elder—exercising undue influence over Lehman were beneficiaries, Mr. Justice MacMahon rules that it does not prevent the transaction from coming under the rule that when undue influence has been exercised, even if the benefit results to a third person, the impeded transaction cannot stand. The law requires free and full consent to bind the parties, such consent supposing three things, physical, mental power and a free exercise of these powers. If either is defective or if the exercise is hindered the act is not binding.

"As no court has ever attempted," says His Lordship in conclusion, "to deprive a man of his property, to tempt to define undue influence, which includes one of its many varieties. The undue influence which the Courts of Equity endeavor to defeat is the undue influence of one person over another, the influence of enthusiasm on the enthusiast who is carried away by it, unless indeed such enthusiasm is itself the result of external undue influence. But the influence of one mind over another is very subtle, and of all influences religious influence is the most dangerous and the most powerful, and to concentrate it Courts of Equity have gone very far."

"When the plaintiff was consulted about the release which was to be prepared he was acting from fear—loss of moral power—engendered by Bishop Wideman's threat that he would be expelled from the church unless a release of the judgment to Kester was executed by him. I think the plaintiff should have been permitted to see his solicitors before being taken to Kester, as he was virtually giving to Kester the \$1,200 judgment recovered against him."

The plaintiff's release was executed by the plaintiff without the advice of his solicitors and under the undue influence of Bishop Wideman and Mr. Hoover, and is not a valid release."

Laxa-Food, Many strong points have been brought out on this food, nothing too strong to be said. Improve your health by using it. Give it a fair trial and note the difference in your general health.—A. W. Maguire.

The Government is considering the question of extending the T. & N. O. Railway from Charlton to Elk Lake.

Chapped Hands

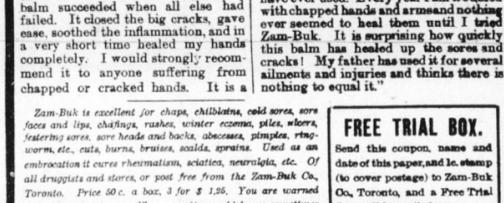


ARE your hands chapped, cracked, or sore? Have you "cold cracks" which open and bleed when the skin is drawn tight? Have you a cold sore, frost bite, chilblains, or a "raw" place which at times makes it agony for you to go about your household duties? If so, Zam-Buk will give you relief and will heal the damaged skin. Anoint the sore places at night, and if it is the hands, wear a pair of old gloves overnight. Zam-Buk's rich healing essences will sink into the wounds, end the smarting, and will quickly heal.

Read MRS. YELLEN'S Experience. "Mrs. Yellen of Portland says:—'I consider it one of my duties to tell you of the great benefit I have derived from Zam-Buk. My hands were so sore and cracked that it was agony to put them into water. When I tried to do so they would smart and burn as if I had scalded them. I seemed quite unable to get relief from anything I put on them until I tried Zam-Buk, and the balm succeeded when all else had failed. It closed the big cracks, gave ease, soothed the inflammation, and in a very short time healed my hands completely. I would strongly recommend it to anyone suffering from chapped or cracked hands. It is a wonderful healer and should be in every home.'"

Father and Daughter both Cured. Miss Hattie Bertrand, Galesburg, Ont., writes:—"Zam-Buk is the best balm we have ever used. Every year I am troubled with chapped hands and arms and nothing ever seemed to heal them until I used Zam-Buk. It is surprising how quickly this balm has healed up the sores and cracks! My father has used it for several ailments and injuries and thinks there is nothing to equal it."

FREE TRIAL BOX. Send this coupon, name and date of this paper, and in stamp (no cover postage) to Zam-Buk Co., Toronto, and a Free Trial Box will be mailed you.



Fun For Our Readers

Sure of a Sermon. Dr. Clifford, who has just made his nineteenth appearance before the Paddington justices for not paying the "secularian rate," is in great demand at mission services. An amusing adventure happened on one occasion when he was conducting such services at Carr's Lane, Birmingham. Arriving only a few minutes before the commencement, the doctor was refused admission by the policeman at the door. "I want to go in," said Dr. Clifford. "Are you a seat-holder?" asked the official. "No, I am not." "Then you can't go in." "I think," remarked the famous positive resistor, "that there will be room for me in the pulpit." "I am not so sure of that," retorted the other. "But I am Dr. Clifford, and I am due to preach in another minute and a half." "Oh, are you?" said the incredulous policeman. "I have let in two Dr. Cliffords already."

A Veteran. "They say her married life was one long series of battles." "Oh, yes; he goes for a tramp every day."—Leslie's Weekly.

Kept in Training. "Do you give your dog any exercise?" "Oh, yes; he goes for a tramp every day."—Leslie's Weekly.

His One Hobby. "If you didn't take so much interest in horses you would be better off," snapped Mrs. Growler. "You have had horses on your brain all your life."

Perfectly Equipped. When the large and healthy-looking individual who had asked at the door for "a little something to eat" was told that he might have it if he would work a while at the woodpile, he shook his head mournfully. "I've got the axe," he explained, "and my hand is that untidy, I couldn't hit more'n one stick in seven."

Enlightened. When the train stopped at the little southern station the northern tourist sauntered out on the platform. There were the usual number of sun-bonneted women, tall "crackers" and stray dogs. Under a scrub oak tree stood a lean animal with scraggy bristles. The tourist was interested. "What do you call that?" he queried of a lanky native. "That be a hawg," elucidated the other.

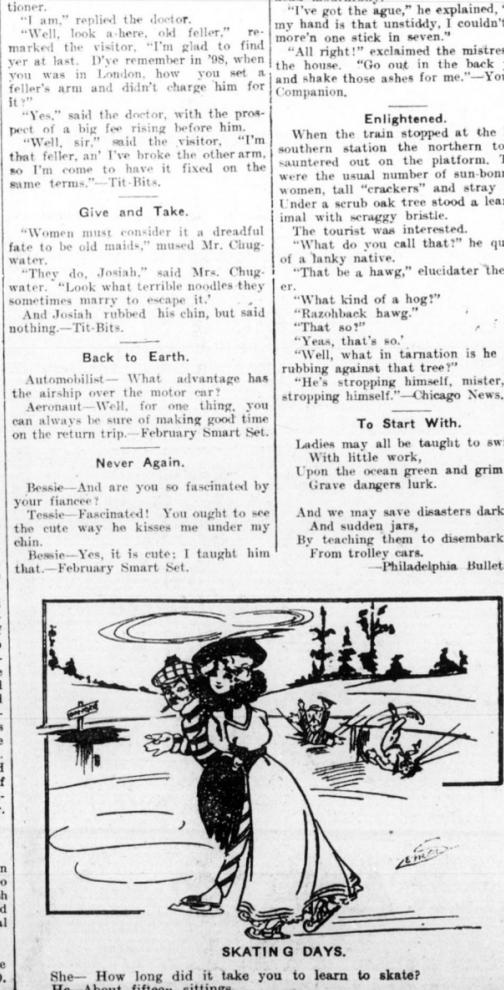
Give and Take. "Women must consider it a dreadful fate to be old maids," mused Mr. Chugwater. "They do, Josiah," said Mrs. Chugwater. "Look what terrible noddies they sometimes marry to escape it." "And Josiah rubbed his chin, but said nothing."—Tit-Bits.

Back to Earth. Automobileist—What advantage has the airship over the motor car? Aeronaut—Well, for one thing, you can always be sure of making good time on the return trip.—February Smart Set.

Never Again. Bessie—And are you so fascinated by your fiancée? Tessie—Fascinated! You ought to see the cute way he kisses me under my chin. Bessie—Yes, it is cute; I taught him that.—February Smart Set.

To Start With. Ladies may all be taught to swim With little work, Upon the ocean green and grim Grave dangers lurk. And we may save disasters dark By teaching them to disembark From trolley cars. —Philadelphia Bulletin.

SKATING DAYS. She—How long did it take you to learn to skate? He—About fifteen sittings.



CONTRACTS FOR SEWERS.

Extensions to be Made Through Revetment Wall at Once.

Committee Will Require \$27,000 For the Year.

Waiting For Settlement of the Power Question.

The Sewers Committee last night awarded the Hamilton Bay Improvement Company the contract for pile driving in connection with the extension of the Ferguson avenue and Catharine street sewers, through the revetment wall. The price is 27 cents a foot. The City Engineer's department was instructed to proceed with the balance of the work by day labor as quickly as possible.

It was the first meeting of the new committee. Estimates of \$20,000 for the sewage disposal works and \$8,500 for general sewer work were sent on to the Council. The amounts are made up as follows:

Table listing various sewer works and their estimated costs, including Sewage disposal, Ferguson avenue works, and General sewers.

One of the most important matters in connection with the completion of the new sewer system is the installation of the electric pumps. Nothing can be done with this, however, until the power question is settled, and the aldermen were obliged to lay it over.

On account of the low-lying land on Simcoe street, west of Bay, the property owners there are unable to make connections with the Bay street sewer, and City Engineer Barrow was instructed to report on the feasibility of installing a septic tank system and the estimated cost.

ADMITS IDENTITY.

Britain's Cassie Chadwick Tells Why She Disappeared.

Edinburgh, Jan. 20.—Miss Violet Charlesworth, who, after having mysteriously disappeared, was found on Sunday at Oban, Scotland, to-night admitted her identity, although for the past two days she had persistently denied that she was the person for whom the police have been searching.

Miss Charlesworth's disappearance caused considerable excitement. She had been involved in extensive stock deals, and it was reported two weeks ago that she had been killed while attempting to ride in company with her sister and a chauffeur. According to the story told by the sister, Miss Charlesworth had been hurled over a cliff into the sea.

In admitting her identity to-night the young woman asserted that she was in the car at the time of the alleged accident, but was so unharmed by terror at finding the automobile on the edge of a precipice that by some unexplainable impulse she fled bare-headed to a village, where she took a train for Oban.

KILL 'EM BY PRAYER

Irish Anti-Vivisectionist Gives Fair Warning to Scientific Men.

London, Jan. 20.—The leading surgeons and physiologists of Great Britain are receiving a printed circular containing an extraordinary threat to kill by prayer those who practice vivisection.

The sender, who is said to be an Irish anti-vivisectionist named Cowan, tells the efficacy of prayer, she has resolved to use it to remove vivisection. She intended first to kill Dr. Starling, professor of physiology, of London, but she says:

"It seemed unfair to give such a stab in the back without letting him know." Therefore, she decided to beseech the Almighty to remove, if in accordance with His will, the man most likely to cause future suffering to innocents by experiments. About a fortnight later, one of the best-known vivisectionists died. This is taken to be the Almighty's approval, and the circular adjures its recipients to be warned, and assures them that their fate is in their own hands.

AEROPLANE WRECKED.

British Army's Machine Fell With Its Operator.

Aldershot, Eng., Jan. 20.—The aeroplane with which the balloon corps of the British army is conducting experiments again came to grief to-day. After a couple of short flights Capt. P. S. Cody, who was in charge of the experiment work, started on a more ambitious flight, when the lifting fan buckled and the machine came down with a thud. The aeroplane was badly wrecked, but Capt. Cody was not hurt.

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What is CASTORIA

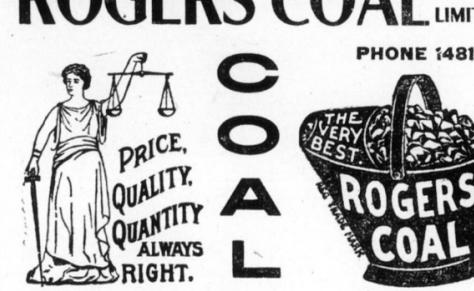
Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is Pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. Its age is its guarantee. It destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. It cures Diarrhoea and Wind Colic. It relieves Teething Troubles, cures Constipation and Flatulency. It assimilates the Food, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

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BEE-KEEPERS' CONVENTION.

A bee-keepers' convention will be held in the city of Brantford on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 28 and 29. A cordial invitation is extended to all those who are interested in the honey bee. Whether you keep a few or many, your attendance will be appreciated by your brother bee-keepers of the Brant convention, who are desirous of making this convention a great success. There are no charges, and no fees. Meetings will be held afternoon and evening.

MAY BE DISMISSED.

Montreal Jail Chaplain Denounces Mr. Langlois, M.P.P.

Montreal, Jan. 20.—Rev. Father Dugas, chaplain of the Montreal jail, has been dabbling in politics and is likely to get into trouble. On Sunday he preached a sermon in which he denounced Mr. Godfroi Langlois, M. P. P., as a Freemason and a foe of religion. The matter has been referred to the Attorney-General of the Province, and the chaplain will likely lose his job.

FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT.

Hotelkeeper, Clerk and Two Others Arrested at Tilbury.

Tilbury, Jan. 20.—George Chambers, former proprietor of the Balmoral Hotel; Elmer Anstie, clerk; Alva Morrison, oilwell operator, and William Wellwood, county constable, were arrested this afternoon by Constable Shaw on a charge of fraudulently concealing the contents of a stock of Chalmers, that were under seizure by the Sheriff at the time of being taken away. The prisoners were released on substantial bail and will receive their preliminary examination to-morrow before Police Magistrate Calliwell. About one thousand dollars' worth of goods were taken from the hotel since the assignment, and part of them were found at the premises of Wellwood and Ainslie.

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