

General Parish News.

We are sorry to announce a considerable amount of sickness as prevailing in the parish. Mr. Hawkins, of Mackenzie st., and Miss Allen, of Cobourg st., are very poorly indeed. Mrs. Brooker, St. David st., has also been ill for some time; and Mr. William McEwin does not improve. Mrs. Henry Yeandle, Brunswick st., was seized with apoplexy on the evening of Tuesday, 28th, and at the time of writing is very low. Mrs. Friend has also been very ill. And besides these there were up to the last few days of the month six belonging to our church in the hospital. Of these, three have now left the hospital and the others are progressing favorably.

The sudden death of Mr. Wade was a serious loss to the church in many respects. For twenty-five years he had been prominent in all good works, as was also his family, and now we fear that the family will be necessarily broken up. Let us treasure the memories of devotion to the Church evinced by him and the late Mrs. Wade, and imitate their good examples.

We are glad to announce the arrival among us of two new families: Mr. A. Carman, Inspector of the Perth Mutual Ins. Co., who has taken up his residence on the corner of Albert and Nile; and Mr. E. Hannaford, of the G. T. R. civil engineer department, who has taken rooms on the corner of Downie st. and Market square. We give them both a hearty welcome, and trust they will find among us a pleasant home.

The reception by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew was a pronounced success in every respect. There was a large number present, the programme was admirable, and all seemed to enjoy themselves. The presentation to Mr. W. C. Young was a surprise, but all agreed that it was well-deserved by the long and faithful services of Mr. Young.

During the temporary absence of Mrs. Jas. I. Moore, Miss King, Caledonia st., has kindly consented to assist Miss Steet in the management of the Junior Auxiliary.

We are able also to announce the arrival of a third family among us—that of Mr. Riddell, son-in-law of Mr. Wm. Buckingham. He has taken up his residence on Norman-st., where Sheriff Hossie used to live. To them also we give a hearty welcome.

The eldest daughter of the late Hugh Campbell has been taken by her aunt who lives in Alpena, Mich. The youngest daughter and his son, who has left the hospital, where he was ill with typhoid fever, are with Mr. Wm. Abraham, Douglass-st.

Miss Elsie Neild has been laid up with an attack of pneumonia, but is now recovering.

We are glad to find that the rumor as to the removal of Mr. C. F. Neild from Stratford is unfounded, and hope never to hear the rumor again.

We are glad to say that our collection for the Hospital this year was on the whole good—nearly double of what it was last year. The full amount was \$86.35, out of this \$6.35 are to be deducted as expenses for printing, postage, &c., making a net contribution to the Hospital of \$80.00.

HOW TO MAKE LARGE CONGREGATIONS.—Let each one who comes to church regularly bring one other with him who does not now come and the congregation will be doubled. Will each one who receives this Magazine, do this? If you will, then we shall have a congregation every Sunday of between 600 and 700. Let us endeavor to do this during Advent and what a glorious Christmas congregation we shall have!

Advent and Christmas.

Advent brings before us the two comings of Christ. His first coming to be a man among men, to be the son of man; and His second coming as the son of man to judge the quick and dead. The first coming was an exhibition of Divine Love; the second will be an exhibition of Divine Justice. These two—Divine Love and Divine Justice—are the fundamental principles of Advent. The first coming is the earnest and the guarantee of His second coming. Christmas reminds us that the first coming in Love is now a historical fact. On Christmas day we therefore rejoice in the love of God, in the Incarnation. The Incarnation of the Son of God is indeed the most overwhelming fact in all history. It is the central fact of the world's history. To this all preceding history sacred and profane converged. The Incarnation closed one volume of the world's history and opened another. The first volume recorded the history of man from Adam to Christ—man's fall—man's sin; the second volume opens with the birth of the new head of the human race; and records the history of man's redemption from sin by Christ Jesus. As in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. Christmas day thus brings before us an event whose significance transcends any other in history—whether viewed in reference to the welfare of the whole race or in reference to the individual man. Let us remember this on Christmas day. So shall we make an effort to be present in His house to adore him and partake of the sacrament of His love. And remembering that His first coming in love is the earnest of His second coming in Justice, we shall rejoice not frivolously and like an animal, but seriously as a being that has eternity in view.

Church Lads' Brigade.

We earnestly urge upon parents their duty to assist Mr. H. W. Copius and Mr. R. Burritt in their work with the "Lads." It is needless to say that without their co-operation the work must be more or less ineffective. Regularity of attendance is a necessity in such work above all others. Let parents insist upon their boys being present. We hope the Brigade to prove a great means of good. As soon as they have learnt their drill properly, we hope to see the lads every Sunday morning in church. It is intended that it should prove an introduction to the Brotherhood of St. Andrew in ordinary church work. Thus will habits of discipline, of regularity in Divine worship, and participation in church work be instilled into the lads at an early age. But we depend entirely upon the assistance of the parents both for a large attendance and for regularity. Let the parents give us this assistance.