

teaching of temperance in the public schools of the country, and the provision being made for such teaching, this Assembly directs its Committee on Temperance to call the attention of the Provincial Educational authorities to the necessity of making suitable provision for giving instruction on the moral, as well as scientific bearing, of the use of alcoholic liquors, and that the Presbyterian Committee on Temperance be instructed to memorialize public school inspectors within the bounds to have the Temperance Manual systematically used in all the schools under their jurisdiction.

S. That this Assembly approves generally of the plan of organization, as contained in Section 2 of this report, and recommends it as a simple and practical plan for doing effective temperance work within the Church.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

Dr. Laidlaw presented the report of the Committee on the nomination of Standing Committees, which with a few alterations was adopted.

Dr. Moore presented the report of the committee appointed to consider the duties of the proposed permanent secretary of the Foreign Mission Committee. In accordance with the report presented the salary voted is \$2,000 per annum and travelling expenses. It was also agreed to leave defining the duties of the office to the Foreign Mission Committee, and that the secretary be a member *ex-officio* of the Foreign Mission Committee.

Professor McLaren in eulogistic terms proposed that Rev. R. P. Mackay, Parkdale, be appointed Foreign Mission Secretary. Principal King in seconding the motion spoke very highly of Mr. Mackay's qualifications.

Dr. Laing moved in amendment that Rev. D. D. McLeod be appointed Foreign Mission Secretary.

Rev. R. McLeod, Glenora, seconded Dr. Laing's motion. Dr. Moore proposed the name of Dr. J. B. Fraser, and spoke in support of his nomination, referring to the fact that he had been formerly recommended by the Foreign Mission Committee and was himself a missionary for a time in Northern Formosa.

Rev. John Somerville seconded the nomination of Dr. J. B. Fraser.

Rev. George M. Milligan in a few remarks proposed the name of Rev. A. Gandier of Brampton.

While the ballot was cast, Rev. J. Fleck reported for the committee on the appointment of an additional professor for Montreal Presbyterian College.

He moved that the report be received and that Rev. James Ross be appointed Professor of Homiletics, Pastoral Theology, Church Government and Sacred Rhetoric. He spoke very highly of his many qualifications for the office. Dr. Wardrop seconded the motion for the appointment of Mr. Ross. It was carried with the almost unanimity. The Alma Mater Society, consisting of the graduates, are to be empowered to nominate annually three of their number to represent them on the Board. This also was agreed to.

The debate on the question of a summer session in Manitoba college was resumed by Dr. Cochrane. He referred to the effort made several years ago, to secure an alteration of the time of holding a summer session, when it was found to be impracticable. Circumstances in the North-West have changed very much since then, and something ought to be done to meet the necessities of the Home Mission field. He did not think that students would benefit by going from college to college. He would like with all his heart to see summer sessions, but the Assembly ought first clearly to understand what such a movement would involve. Is the Church prepared to raise \$10,000 additional for Home Missions this year.

At this point Dr. Warden reported for the scrutineers that Rev. R. P. Mackay had eighty-four votes for the appointment of Foreign Secretary. Dr. Laing moved that Mr. Mackay be appointed Secretary to the Foreign Mission Committee. Rev. D. D. McLeod cordially seconded the motion, and Rev. R. D. Fraser and Rev. A. Gandier gracefully indicated their desire that Mr. Mackay should have the fullest and most cordial support of the Church. The Presbytery of Toronto were empowered to take the necessary steps for releasing Mr. Mackay from his charge that he may enter on the duties to which he has been appointed.

Rev. Dr. Proudfoot gave an explanation of his position in moving that the report on Summer Sessions be laid on the table. He was not unfriendly to the proposal, but it should be demonstrated that it will meet the case. If we resolve on a summer session, let us go into it with all our heart.

Principal King, in referring to the urgent needs of the field, spoke of the difficulty of finding men properly fitted for the work. No other expedient for meeting the difficulties of the case has so commended itself to the Church as that of a summer session. There are difficulties in the way of carrying it out. The college in Manitoba must have aid from the other colleges. It would be difficult to teach efficiently Systematic Theology by a succession of professors rather than by one man. The scheme would necessitate a succession of professors. If it would be an advantage to Home Mission work, then there would require to be a large increase in the number of theological students in Manitoba College. If the scheme were adopted, it would, on the most economic lines, entail additional expense. He for one would do nothing and say nothing that would foster hostile feelings among the other colleges. The scheme is proposed purely in the interests of the mission fields, but it is attended with considerable risk to the interests of the colleges. It will be a serious matter to make the experiment, but he will loyally carry out the decision of the Assembly.

Principal MacVicar stated that he was by no means indifferent to the claims of the mission field, but he believed that however wisely the experiment may be carried out the colleges will suffer, the cause of theological education will be injured. The short summer session of a few months during the hottest season of the year will certainly not be conducive to the advancement of theological learning.

Rev. A. F. Tully thought that as we had heard from the colleges, it was now time to hear from the Presbyteries. We cannot forecast what the results of a summer session would be. Dr. MacVicar speaks of the irregularities that would result. He went on to answer some of the arguments adduced in the course of the debate. He was of opinion that the scheme should have a fair trial.

Dr. Mungo Fraser thought we should not evange in such an enterprise without knowing where the money is to come from.

Rev. G. M. Milligan had the impression that our ministry is not receiving the calm, leisurely and efficient training that would fit them for their work. We should not lower our standards but raise them. We are already sacrificing theological education to the exigencies of our mission fields.

Professor Scrimger last year expressed himself as favourable to the proposed scheme. He held the same view still. He would yield to no man in his belief of the necessity of a thorough theological education, but he did not think the experiment would prove so disastrous as some were inclined to predict. He did not deny that there might be difficulty of a want of harmony among the colleges, still he did not think the danger was very great.

Mr. R. McQueen believed in a thorough education for the ministry. The Principal of Manitoba College has generously offered to carry out the scheme and there seems to be a consensus of opinion in the Church that it is the only available scheme yet proposed.

Rev. J. Pringle, from his intimate knowledge of the necessities of the mission field, thought that it was plainly the intention of the Church that the experiment of a summer session in Manitoba College be made. There is no antagonism between East and West. If the measure is revolutionary, revolutions have done good.

Rev. D. M. Gordon, as mover of the resolution, wished to say a

few words in reply. He thought that those who opposed the new movement should have presented a real amendment, one that would have proposed a better plan. If mission stations obtain winter supply there must of necessity be an increase of expenditure. It will not meet all the requirements of the case. A scheme must be tried before its success can be demonstrated. What fresh methods have been suggested? Mr. Gordon analyzed the returns to the remits by the Presbyteries, and from that analysis showed that there was great unanimity on the subject throughout the Church.

Dr. Mackay submitted the draft of the loyal addresses to the Queen and to the Governor-General, which were adopted.

John Charlton, M.P., in the absence of Dr. Armstrong through ill-health, presented the report of the Committee on Sabbath Observance. Mr. Charlton said that legislation on Sabbath observance is peculiar to the Anglo-Saxon race, Great Britain and her colonies, and in the United States. Such legislation is not designed to compel people to be religious, but to permit people to be religious. It is to preserve the rights of conscience. That is the object of the law that is now before the House of Commons. It has been objected that the Legislature has nothing to do with matters of an ecclesiastical character. The decalogue contains laws which must be subjects of civil law. It is also objected that such legislation as is now sought is inconsistent with human rights. We have the right to legislate for the preservation of man's right to the enjoyment of the Sabbath rest and opportunity. It is in the interests of public morality. It protects the rights of conscience. It is a law in the interests of higher education. It protects the home, and hence it is the bulwark of the State. It prevents crime. It promotes the prosperity of the State. He then gave details concerning the provisions and the progress of the bill in the House of Commons. It has met with determined opposition in the House. There can now be no more progress made with the Bill this Session. It was desirable that we should have the backing of the Christian sentiment of the country. There is an influence that some legislators care for, the votes of their constituents. Popular agitation is needed. The Christian sentiment of the country needs to be awakened. It is a matter of the greatest importance. He illustrated how the Sunday newspaper had spread its demoralizing influence in the United States. We must fight for our rights in the preservation of the Sabbath. He expressed his conviction that at all events the Canadian department of the World's Fair will be closed on the Sabbath. Mr. Charlton concluded by making a motion for the reception and adoption of the report.

The Hon. David Laird, Charlottetown, P.E.I., seconded the motion. He said Mr. Charlton had to encounter many difficulties urging legislation for the better observance of the Sabbath, and it is the duty of the Christian community to uphold the course he has followed in this respect. He agreed with all that Mr. Charlton had said on the evil influence of the Sunday newspaper. He was glad to see that throughout the Dominion the tone of public sentiment respecting the Lord's Day was improving. But desirable and necessary as legislation is, the cultivation of a proper regard for the Sabbath in the Church and the home, is the most effective means for securing it, and that the pursuit of worldly pleasure on that day has an injurious influence.

Dr. Jackson in support of the overture from the Guelph Presbytery stated that the grounds of the Chicago Exposition are now open on the Sabbath and charges for admission being made.

Dr. Laidlaw complained of the number of railway trains run on the Sabbath Day. If we are in earnest we will not be content with preaching an annual sermon, but will be instant in bearing testimony against Sabbath desecration.

Mr. George Hay said that the running of railway trains can be stopped. Our Lord knew what the exigencies of the future were and He legislated on the subject. There is an amazing amount of apathy on the subject. Mr. McQueen and Dr. Moore spoke also in support of the first recommendation. In explanation Dr. Torrance stated that since representations had been made against the opening of the post office at Lethbridge that the post master has resolved to close his office and take the risk of dismissal if the Government choose to take that course.

A lively discussion arose on the sensational methods of Sabbath services as advertised in the Saturday newspapers. The following are the recommendations adopted:—

1. Same as last year, viz: "That ministers of our Church be careful to bring before their congregations the nature and sanctions of the Sabbath Day as they have opportunity, and that at least one sermon during the year be devoted to the subject."

"That parents in their home instructions and teachers in the Sabbath schools take pains to instil into the minds of the young the teachings of Scripture in regard to the Sabbath Day."

"That the ministers and members of our Church, and especially those on our various Sabbath Observance Committees, seek, as they have opportunity, to use the press in influencing public attention to right views on Sabbath observance."

2. That the General Assembly express its strong disapproval of opening of post-offices on the Lord's Day, and that the General Assembly memorialize the Government in regard thereto.

3. That the Assembly express its general approval of the bill for the better protection of the Lord's Day now before Parliament, authorize the Moderator and Clerk to sign a petition in favour thereof, and appoint the members of its Committee on Sabbath Observance as its representatives in the Lord's Day Alliance of Canada.

4. That the Assembly join with other bodies in urging that the Commissioners and Directorate of the Columbian Exhibition, to be held in Chicago, to close the Exhibition on Sabbath Days; and that the Assembly also petition the Government of Canada to direct the closing of all exhibits over which they may have authority and authorize the Moderator and Clerks to sign the necessary documents relating to the matter.

5. That a circular be sent to Presbyteries containing questions for the purpose of eliciting information, and that Presbyteries be recommended to call for reports from their Committees on Sabbath Observance at a regular meeting of Presbytery.

THURSDAY, JUNE 16.

In connection with summer sessions Dr. Warden moved that in view of the adoption by the General Assembly of the principle of a summer session, the Home Mission Committee (Western Section) be instructed to consider what action, if any is necessary, to secure the increased amount required for the work entrusted to their care, and more especially to consider the proportion of work in the Home Mission fields in Ontario and Quebec, as is done in the Maritime Provinces by means of a synodical committee and to report to next Assembly. In supporting the motion, Dr. Warden referred to the increased cost the Scheme adopted entails, and to the possible injury that mission work in other provinces may sustain from the present sweep of a North-West wave.

Dr. Campbell, Kennew, seconded the motion.

Principal King made some explanations concerning the financial affairs of Manitoba College.

Dr. Robertson said a few things in defence of the methods of carrying on work in the North-West. They wanted a new policy for the West. The policy of the East in the past had been one of neglect and loss. He proceeded to show that the average of contributions was higher in the West than in the East.

Dr. Gordon moved that the Home Mission Committee should consider the propriety of giving increased remuneration to the student missionaries labouring in the more remote mission fields. The motion was adopted. For the proper working of the newly-adopted scheme,

Dr. Gordon moved that the authorities of Manitoba College be empowered to obtain the requisite assistance in teaching during the summer from among the theological professors in the other colleges and others who may be willing to take part in the work of instruction.

Rev. D. M. Gordon next moved that a special fund be raised of \$1,500 to meet the expense incurred by carrying on the summer session, and that a committee be appointed to receive contributions from congregations and individuals.

Dr. Warden then moved that the motion be laid on the table.

Dr. King explained that the position of Manitoba College was different from that of the others. The time may not be far distant when that College may be entirely supported by the North-West.

Dr. Warden's amendment was voted down.

D. J. Macdonnell suggested that instead of a special fund the increased amount be raised in connection with the ordinary fund.

The suggestion was accepted.

Mr. Gordon moved a resolution to the effect that students attending a summer session shall labour in the mission field in the winter preceding or following such session.

The second part of Dr. Warden's motion relating to Synodical Committees, that the question be remitted for consideration of the Home Mission Committee, was withdrawn.

President Forrest then presented the following resolution, which was adopted: That the General Assembly appoint a committee to take into consideration the relation of all our colleges to the Church, to consider the practice which prevailed in the various branches of the now united Church prior to union, regarding the appointment of theological professors and to suggest some plan by which uniformity of practice shall be secured and report to next Assembly.

Rev. J. Fleck presented the report of the committee appointed to consider students' applications, which was substantially accepted.

President Forrest, in the absence of Rev. T. Sedgwick, presented the report of the Committee on the reception of ministers from other Churches. Rev. A. Gray, from Presbyterian Church of the United States; Rev. E. D. Pellier, Congregational Church of the United States; Rev. James McCaul, formerly of our Church, now of English Presbyterian Church; Rev. Joseph McCracken, of the Church of Scotland; Rev. Andrew Millar, Original Secession, Scotland; Rev. Alexander Miller, Free Church of Scotland; Rev. Joseph Elliott, United States Presbyterian Church; Rev. J. C. Graeb, German Evangelical Association; Rev. J. W. Nelson, United States Church; Rev. J. K. Smith, D.D., formerly of our own Church, at present in connection with the United States Church; Rev. B. McElman, United States Church. The report recommended that one or two other applications be not granted. The reception of Rev. James Fitzpatrick by the Presbytery of Montreal was concurred in, but that no precedent be thereby created.

At the afternoon session Dr. Torrance presented with brief and comprehensive remarks the valuable report of the Committee on Statistics. The following recommendations were approved of, and Principal MacVicar moved that the report be received and adopted, and that the thanks of the Assembly be tendered the Committee, and especially the Convener:—

1. Your Committee would call attention to the neglect of many vacancies in not sending in their reports, and would ask the Assembly to renew its injunctions to Presbyteries to require these.

2. That Presbyteries be enjoined to call upon their Clerks, or Committees on Statistics, when there are such, to report at some meeting, say in March, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the names of congregations and vacancies that have not reported.

3. That congregations be enjoined not to report in their statistical and financial returns to Presbyteries moneys that have not been actually remitted to the Treasurer of the Church for the different Schemes.

4. That Woman's Foreign Missionary, Young People's and kindred societies in connection with congregations, that have undertaken the collection of moneys for religious purposes, be requested to furnish the treasurer of the congregation, or to report at the annual meeting of the synod, the amounts they have collected, so that the congregations may be credited with these, and that they may appear in the reports of their operations.

5. That local treasurers, or the agent of any Scheme, who have collected subscriptions in different localities, be asked to report the amounts and objects to the treasurer of the congregations to which the subscribers belong, that they may be entered in their books and included in the returns made to the Committee on Statistics.

6. That it be referred to the Committee to be appointed, to consider and provide for inserting a column in the Statistical Report, enquiring if Young People's or other societies have been formed in congregations and stations as auxiliary to the Home Mission Committee, and another in the columns on Finance for entering the amounts collected.

7. That Sessions be required to procure from the superintendents of all the Sabbath schools and Bible classes in connection with congregations and stations the actual number of those enrolled in each, so that the returns may be complete.

Dr. Torrance then presented the report of the Committee on the Distribution of Prohibitions, which was received and adopted.

Dr. Robertson reported favourably on behalf of the committee appointed to consider the proposal for the formation of a Synod in British Columbia, defining the boundaries of the Presbyteries of Kamloops, Westminster and Vancouver Island, composing the new Synod, and concluded that the Synod of Columbia meet in St. Andrews Church, Vancouver, on the third Wednesday of July, 1892, and that Rev. D. McKee, Victoria, be the first Moderator.

Dr. Reid presented the report of the Finance Committee, which showed that there had been a gratifying increase in the contributions to the Schemes of the Church. Attention was directed to the state of the Assembly Fund. Some congregations had not contributed anything during the year, and it is recommended that Presbyteries should see that the reasonable claims of this fund may be met. Copies of the Minutes and Reports to be sent to each minister and Session and deacons' court or board of management, and that others desiring to obtain a copy should inform the Clerk of Assembly before July 1, to whom they will be sent for fifty cents.

Mr. A. Jaffray moved that the report of the Committee on Standing Committees be adopted.

Dr. Laing presented the report of the committee on the formation of the new Presbytery of Algoma, defining its boundaries and proposing that the first meeting be held at Gore Bay, Manitoba, on the third Wednesday of July, and that Rev. D. H. McLennan, Bruce Mines, be the first Moderator, and that the Presbytery of Algoma be in the bounds of the Synod of Toronto and Kingston.

An overture from the Synod of Hamilton and London and one from the Presbytery of Montreal, prayed for the rescinding of the law requiring students to spend two years, and ministers received from other Churches to give one year's service before settlement. The overture was supported by Dr. Proudfoot. He considered that the legislation passed by the Church on this subject has a tendency to lower the character of theological education. Dr. Laing followed in support of the overture. President Forrest moved and Dr. Robertson seconded the motion that these overtures be laid on the table for one year.

Professor Gregg spoke in support of the overture, and Rev. D. A. McKee against it. Dr. Proudfoot's motion was negatived.

A deputation composed of Messrs. J. R. Dougall, A. M. Featherstone, J. H. Carson, Dr. Bazin, representing the Dominion Alliance, appeared before the Assembly to ask for the Church's co-operation in the fight for prohibition. The Moderator assured the deputation of the sympathy of the Assembly and of the Presbyterian Church