

hours before, between, and after, the regular Session were the busiest, in the work of various committees or in their respective Presbyteries.

After an half hour spent in devotional exercises the first business taken up was the Report of the Committee on the

HUNTER CHURCH BUILDING FUND.

This is a fund left by the late C. D. Hunter, Esq. of Halifax to aid weak congregations in building churches. The Fund is divided into two equal parts. One part is used in giving loans, free of interest. These loans are repaid in annual instalments and thus the work of Church building is made lighter and the fund is not lessened. The other part of the Fund is invested, and the interest as it is received from year to year, is used in making free grants to weak congregations. These do not have to be repaid and are even more helpful than the free loans. Many claims have to be declined for lack of funds. Since its beginning the Fund has given free in free grants the sum of \$10,021.66, and loans without interest to the amount of \$17,000. Thirty-seven churches have been aided by free grants.

One difficulty with which the committee have to contend is that some congregations shew their gratitude for aid thus rendered by negligence in paying their instalments on free loans which they have received.

The Report of the Committee on the

MCLEOD BEQUEST

was received. This is a sum of money left by the late Alexander McLeod of Halifax for the purpose of helping ministers who are in the receipt of less than \$600 annually. There are some congregations that cannot "qualify" i. e. cannot raise among themselves the sum necessary in order to secure a grant from the Augmentation Scheme who can thus receive some aid from this Fund. After such cases receive aid the balance is given to the Home Mission Fund.

Rev. M. G. Henry, Convener presented the Report of the Committee on

SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE.

The object of this Committee is to promote regular and systematic giving to the Lords work. We expect to give the report in full as it is intimately connected with all the schemes of the Church.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

A large part of this afternoon's session

was occupied in discussing the subject of the proposed

LADIES' COLLEGE

which was introduced by Rev. R. Laing. The following resolution was adopted :

Whereas, it is proposed to raise in shares of \$25 each, a capital sum of \$40,000 for the purpose of establishing a ladies' college in Halifax in connection with the Presbyterian church ;

And whereas, a provisional board has been formed and a sum of over \$11,000 has been subscribed for the purpose in Halifax, with the prospect of having that sum considerably increased ;

And whereas, there is a most pressing need for such an institution as the one proposed.

Therefore, this synod cordially approves of the proposal to establish in Halifax a ladies' college in connection with the Presbyterian church and of the plan proposed for carrying it into effect.

Further, this synod endorses the movement already instituted and pledged itself to give all possible encouragement and assistance in completing the work.

THE CHURCH AGENCY

then occupied the attention of Synod until the hour for adjournment.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

The Meeting was held in the First Pres. Church. The first subject was

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

After some members of the F. M. Com. had spoken. Mr. Annand gave a most interesting and impressive address. He spoke of the lights and shadows of mission work and of the present prospects of our mission in the South Seas. The outlook is dark from threatened French occupation but God reigns.

A resolution was passed recommending to congregation and members of the church that on the first Sabbath of Nov. special prayer be made for Foreign Missions, as has been done in the United States, and in the Western Section of our own Church, after which a collection of \$62.45 was taken for the F. M. Fund.

Rev. A. B. Dickie then submitted the report on the

STATE OF RELIGION

which was on the whole encouraging. Family worship seems on the increase. Christian liberality is improving. Many parts of the Church have been blessed, by