

of the Church." Dr. Fraser Smith, of Honan, China, in his interesting half hour's talk, very forcibly laid before the gathering the responsibility resting upon every follower of Christ in reference to the great missionary cause. He urgently asked the young Presbyterians of Toronto that in their prayers they will not forget their missionary in the foreign field. The music for the evening was generously supplied by the choir of West church. Several of the ministers of the city attended the meeting in company with their young people.

#### Christian Endeavor Convention.

A large convention of young people of the Christian Endeavor Societies of the Presbytery of Paris was held in the Presbyterian church, Paris, on the afternoon and evening of Tuesday, May 7th. Rev. E. Cockburn, M.A., moderator of the Presbytery presided, and Rev. W. S. McTavish, B.D., acted as secretary. After devotional exercises conducted by the moderator and Rev. Messrs. Miller, of Norwich, and McTavish of St. George, two-minute reports from the various societies were called for. The reports were all of a very encouraging nature and they indicated that most of the societies were growing more deeply interested in the work of Home Missions.

Rev. W. A. McKay, D.D., of Woodstock, opened the speech-making with a stirring address on "The Importance of Presbyterian Organization." This opening address seemed to give tone to the whole convention for the entire programme was a succession of good things. "The pledge" was reviewed by the Rev. R. G. Sinclair, of Mount Pleasant, in a capital address. Rev. R. Pettigrew, M.A., of Glenmorris, read a carefully written paper on the "Improvement of the Prayer Meeting." "The Best Methods of Bible Study" was ably handled by Rev. R. M. Hamilton, B.A., of Brantford. The duties of the Look-out Committee were comprehensively dealt with by Mr. Risk, of Brantford, and by his fellow townsman Mr. W. J. Craig. This Committee has been called "The Pastor's Cabinet," "The Gymnastic Committee," "Christ's Detectives," "The Engineers of the C. E. Society," "The Eye of the Society," and these terms were all explicative of the duties which devolve upon it. A paper was read by Miss Jessie Weir, of East Oxford, on the place which music should hold in the exercises of the society. A paper on the duties of the social committee was read by Miss Jennie Hunter. Miss Gertrude Forsyth, of Brantford, followed with another paper along the same line, and Mrs. Malcolm, of Paris, read a paper which for literary excellence and suggestiveness, was perhaps one of the best read during the convention. Her subject was, "How best to organize Mission Bands and Bands of Hope." Rev. A. Lealie, M.A., of East Oxford, briefly summed up the salient points of the afternoon's programme.

In the evening the large auditorium was well filled and after devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. R. M. Hamilton the work of organization was proceeded with. The following officers were elected:—President, Rev. Dr. McKay, of Woodstock; vice-president, Mr. Craib, Paris; minute secretary, Miss Forsyth, Brantford; corresponding secretary, Mr. Archibald Pyper, Woodstock; treasurer, Miss Oliver, Ingersoll; executive committee, Miss Jessie Weir, East Oxford; Mr. J. W. Craig, Brantford; Miss Malcolm, Norwich; Miss Bessie Manson, Ayr; Miss Jennie Hunter, St. George, and Mr. A. E. Campbell, Embro. When the business was disposed of, Rev. Dr. McMullen, of Woodstock, gave a clear, incisive, well-reasoned address on the distinctive principles of the Presbyterian Church, and he was followed along the same lines by Mr. Alex. McCosh, of Ayr, and Rev. R. G. Sinclair, of Mount Pleasant. An eloquent plea for Home Missions was made by Rev. Dr. Cochrane, of Brantford. Miss Kate Hamilton, of Woodstock, and Mr. S. Y. Taylor, of Paris, each gave five-minute papers on topics of general interest to the young people. After Mr. Cockburn had spoken a few closing words a very impressive consecration service was conducted by

Rev. J. S. Hardie, of Ayr. As the large audience dispersed the well trained choir, which had rendered some beautiful selections during the evening, sweetly sang, "God be with you till we meet again."

#### Conference at Orangeville.

THE annual conference in connection with the Synod of Toronto and Kingston took place on Monday and Tuesday of this week in St. Andrew's church, Orangeville. At the opening meeting on Monday afternoon Rev. J. J. Elliott, B.A., Hillsburg, presided. The topic for the afternoon was "The Administration of the Holy Spirit in the Work of the Church." This was divided into two parts—(1) Through its officers; (2) through its members. Rev. Mr. McKenzie read a paper on the first point of the topic, and showed that in the Presbyterian Church, apart from the minister, there were two bodies—the elders, and the deacons or managers, to manage the affairs of the church. In the New Testament the Lord laid down general principles for the admission of members into the Church, and for the management of the finances of the congregation. The aid of the Holy Spirit was required to enable the officers to apply the general principles to particular cases.

The second point of the topic was taken up by Rev. Wm. Patterson, of Cooke's church, Toronto. The Spirit did not add new power to church members at conversion, but sometimes wrought through their lives so that people would take knowledge that they had been with Christ. The Spirit worked through the natural gifts which they already possessed, such as gifts of song, speech, etc., and it is the duty of the Church to see that the members have an opportunity to develop the gifts. The Lord, he said, is going to reach the world through the members of the Church. They are His representatives, His lights, and it is through these gifts that the Spirit works.

The subject was discussed by Rev. Dr. McTavish, Rev. Mr. Turnbull, Rev. R. P. Mackay, and several others.

At the evening session, a paper was read by Rev. J. A. Turnbull, B.A., on the topic, "Should we send to the field all approved persons who offer for Foreign Mission service trusting to the Church for their support?" Giving an affirmative answer to the question, he proceeded to give reasons for it.

1st. The great need that there is abroad. Although almost 1,900 years have elapsed since the commission to evangelize the world was given to the Christian Church very little, comparatively speaking, has been accomplished. There is only one true religion, viz., that which rests on the sacrifice of Calvary, and whatever there may be of good in the other so-called religions apart from Christ there is no salvation. At the commencement of this century there were very few countries outside of Christian lands—where the missionary was permitted to enter. But prayer ascended from the Church of God for open doors, and to-day there are only two places to which the missionary may not go, the country of Tibet and the city of Mecca, and on the frontier of the former a pioneer band, led by Miss Annie Taylor, is encamped, learning the language and waiting for God to prepare the way. The need of these perishing souls and the access to them for which we prayed, and now possess, appeals to Christians on no account to delay.

2nd. The fact that so many men are offering themselves for the work, many of whom asking that they be sent, and are willing to trust for support. Here followed some very interesting statistics.

3rd. The Church possesses the ability, or by the faithful discharge of duty would possess it, to extend the Gospel far beyond anything hitherto attempted. Dr. Josiah Strong estimates that there is wealth amounting to \$13,000,000,000 now in the hands of the Christians of the United States, and these Christians gave last year \$5,000,000 to foreign missions, or one thirty-second part of one per cent. of their means. The Church members of Protestant Christendom on both sides of the Atlantic is estimated at 40,000,000.

000. One cent per Sabbath would secure \$20,800,000 per year, at present only \$14,588,354 are given. Moreover, we believe the true remedy for hard times is to be found in the promise of God, "Honor the Lord with thy substance and with the first fruits of all thy increase, so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine." "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, said the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." When the bill to incorporate the American Board was before the Massachusetts senate a member said, "We have no surplus of religion to export," to which was answered, "Religion is a commodity of which the more we export the more we have." Let us put God to the test and see if this is not true of money as well as of Christian spirit. The Dead Sea is the Dead Sea, because it is always receiving and never giving out. It has no outlet.

4th. The path of duty is so plainly marked out. The promise was given to Christ—the heathen for His inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for His possession, and He has commanded His servants to realize the promise by going into all the world and preaching the Gospel to every creature. Shall we then wait, and when the money is secured advance money in hand, or shall we go ahead and trust that the money will follow and be on hand when needed? Shall the General Assembly, hearing the captain's command, "Forward!" hesitate to advance because the money is not yet secured? We would change the wording of it: subject to read, "Trusting to the Lord through His Church to support them." We all know how George Muller has carried on his great work for fifty five years, trusting entirely to the Lord. If he can do this, why not a whole church, and if God so honours his faith in connection with his orphanage, why not in connection with the salvation of the heathen. Abraham testified his faith by his obedience. When called on by God to leave home and kindred he went out not knowing whether he was going. When called on to sacrifice his son, he proposed to obey, accounting that God was able to raise him from the dead. Let those who are the leaders of the Church in Foreign mission work possess like faith. If there were any question as to the needs, if there were not so many consecrated young men. If there were any doubt as to whether the Church can do more than it is already doing, if there were any uncertainty as to the command of Christ, then we would be justified in waiting. Advancement would be presumptuous, but when concerning all these we possess such positive information, we will honor God by our faith, and God will honor our faith by abundant success. The negro expressed his sense of faith and duty in God when he said, "If God commands me to jump through a stone wall, I am going to jump at it; the going through it belongs to God." Carey's motto will greatly help us, "Expect great things from God, attempt great things for God."

#### A Congregation's Record.

IN the month of February last a paragraph appeared in the Review which seems to have been misconstrued. It had reference to a deficit in the stipend of the minister of Oak Lake, Manitoba, from whom the following interesting account of the history of the congregation has been received:

"It is true there is a deficit this year in the stipend, but that is largely to be accounted for by the hard times, removals and commercial depression, etc., etc." Perhaps few congregations can give a better history of themselves, in the west, than the said congregation and its associated stations. Eight years ago I was inducted into the First Presbyterian church, Oak Lake, and associated stations, which comprised the following, Oak Lake, Griswold, Hillsdale, Hyerson and Haggard. We received aid