

## ASSEMBLY SYNOD PRESBYTERY CONFERENCE AND UNION FUNDS.

In the Presbyterian Church all congregations are required to contribute to the Assembly, Synod and Presbytery Funds according to their numerical and financial strength. These funds are used for the purpose of meeting the expenses connected with the different Courts of the Church respectively.

In the Methodist Church the General Conference Fund provides for the salary, office and travelling expenses of the General Superintendent, expenses of Standing Committees and Boards of General Conference not otherwise provided for, travelling expenses of delegates to General Conference and other expenses incident to the meeting and work of the General Conference. It is apportioned amongst the several circuits and missions of the Church.

The Contingent Fund, which is also used for the purpose of relieving cases of special affliction and defraying extraordinary expenses incurred in the services of the Church, pays the expenses of the Annual Conference. The governing body of the local church is supposed to make an allowance to cover travelling expenses to District Meeting.

## CHURCH, MANSE AND PARSONAGE BUILDING FUND.

In the Presbyterian Church, in addition to the fund that was established some years ago for the purpose of assisting mission fields and weak congregations in the erection of churches and manses in the North-West, and whose capital is about \$34,000, two similar funds have lately been established to aid in church and manse building in the mission fields and augmented charges in New Ontario.

In the Methodist Church Social Unions exist, having as a branch of their work church extension in the more needy neighborhoods of our cities. There is also a "Church and Parsonage Aid Fund" of the Methodist Church, exclusive of the Nova Scotia Conference, which is allowed to manage its own fund for this purpose. It makes loans at low rates of interest. It receives legacies and donations, and under careful regulation carries on a system of loans. The capital at present is about \$26,000.

## TEMPERANCE, PROHIBITION AND MORAL REFORM.

The General Conference at its last session established a new Department with the above title. The Board of Management consists of the General Superintendent of the Church, the General Secretary and Treasurer of the Board and other members divided into groups representing the different sections of the Dominion and Newfoundland. In case of emergency all these groups may be gathered together for consultation and united action. Under ordinary conditions the representatives of the Ontario Conferences have all the powers of the Board. The Board is vested with the general oversight of our Temperance, Prohibition and Moral Reform work throughout the Church, and has authority to make representations to Governments, Legislatures and Parliament, in harmony with the declared principles and policy of the General Conference on all these matters, and has power to arrange for the publication and circulation of suitable literature. The revenue of the Board consists of annual collections taken on each circuit and mission of the Church. This means of support has been found quite sufficient to meet all financial demands. The declared policy of the Conference covers all questions that may arise under the general head of Christian Citizenship, and the purpose of the Department is to interpret the laws of the Kingdom of God into the social and civic life of the people and to promote the observance of temperance.

## THE METHODIST BOOK ROOM.

The Methodist Book Room, situated in Toronto, and having branches in Montreal and Halifax, is the property of the Methodist Church. Its net capital is now about \$450,000. The profits for the quadrennium from 1899 to 1902 were \$84,891.02. Of this amount \$43,500 was appropriated to the Superannuation Fund. The eastern section of the Book Committee, which deals with the business done at Halifax, where the Wesleyan is published, also carries on a profitable business.