

The Teachers Monthly

R. Douglas Fraser, J. M. Duncan, Editors; John Mutch, Associate Editor

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EDITORIAL

Changes in the Staff

Important changes have taken place in the Editorial Staff of the PUBLICATIONS. Mrs. Jane Fraser Keith has retired from the Managing Editorship of the Illustrated Papers, leaving a record of faithful and efficient service, covering a long period of years. For the success of these Papers, Mrs. Keith deserves the largest share of credit. EAST AND WEST, in particular, under her management, has won a distinct and honorable place amongst the periodical literature of the country.

Rev. John Mutch, M.A., B.D., minister at Stouffville and Melville Church, Markham, Ont., was appointed by the General Assembly at Montreal to the position of Associate Editor. Mr. Mutch is a young man who has already given proof of his powers. A graduate of the University of Toronto and of Knox College, his scholarship is of a high order. He has had a more than usually varied experience of work in Home Mission fields of our church. For a considerable period he was in the service of the Board of Sabbath Schools and Young People's Societies as a field worker. As the minister of a country charge, he has made a firsthand study of rural problems. During his student years he served for some time in the PUBLICATIONS office as an editorial assistant. Mr. Mutch, therefore, possesses unusual qualifications for the position to which he has been appointed, and those who know him best are most confident that he will make a large contribution to the effectiveness, both of the Lesson Helps and the Illustrated Papers. By his editorial associates Mr. Mutch is most warmly welcomed.

A "Getting Together" Assembly

The General Assembly of 1917 may very well be called the "Getting Together" Assembly. Its proceedings were pervaded throughout by an altogether admirable spirit of goodwill and harmony and a desire, as far as possible, to avoid division. There were a quite unusual number of unanimous votes.

Outstanding amongst the instances of getting together was, of course, the vote on the question of Church Union. In the discussion of this question, three separate resolutions were presented, representing as many different points of view. These, however, were referred to a committee, which was able to present to the Assembly a resolution which was carried, not only unanimously, but without discussion. It was no wonder that, after such a result, the members of the Assembly rose as one man and sang, with full hearts, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," while the prayer of humble thanksgiving, led by the venerable elder, Mr. Robert McQueen of Kirkwall, Ont., closed an incident never to be forgotten by those who witnessed it.

Other examples of getting together were the amalgamation of the Home Mission and Augmentation Committees, Eastern Section, foreshadowing, it may be, the union of the Home Mission Committees of the Eastern and Western Sections; the receiving of the Gwalior Mission, India, with its zealous missionary, Rev. Dr. John Wilkie, under the care of the Foreign Mission Board; and the proposal that, during next winter, the central colleges of the church should help those in the prairie provinces by the loan of a professor or professors.