

# THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## An Anticipatory Note

The meeting of the Supreme Court of such a large and influential body as the Presbyterian Church in Canada has an interest not for Presbyterians alone, but for all who recognize the importance of the religious element in national life.

The Assembly is composed of one-sixth of the ministers whose names are on the rolls of Presbyteries, together with an equal number of laymen. From all parts of our broad Dominion, ministers, judges, doctors, lawyers, merchants and farmers will turn their faces toward one of the youngest of our Canadian cities, not for scientific purposes, not from political motives, nor with commercial aims, but solely in the interests of the work of the Church.

Under our present system of selecting a Moderator, no one can tell upon whom the honour will be conferred until the Assembly has actually made its choice. In the present case, however, it is as certain as anything of the kind can well be that the new Moderator will be the Rev. Dr. McQueen, the beloved and honoured minister of the Church in which the Assembly is to convene.

The varied activities of the Church will all pass under review. Each of these has its own importance, but every thoughtful man must recognize that in our present national situation a special emphasis must be laid upon

the enterprise of Home Missions. In a country that is growing so rapidly as Canada is now doing, the Church that does not provide the means of grace for those who desire to enjoy its ministrations is foredoomed to failure.

The situation in China, with its vital bearing upon national relations and its immense possibilities of influencing economic conditions throughout the world, will necessarily give an added interest to the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions.

The whole question of theological education may be brought up by the request that is to be made for the establishment of a theological college in the Province of Saskatchewan. The special committee on "The Supply of Ministers" appointed by the General Assembly two years ago is recommending the appointment of "An Assembly Board of Education," to deal with the general educational policy of the Church.

Last to be mentioned, but not least in importance, is the question of Church Union.

The bill of fare to be placed before the Commissioners will certainly be long enough to satisfy the most voracious appetite and varied enough to suit the most diversified tastes. May its discussion have the effect of rendering the life of the Church both more robust and more spiritual.