

WESTERN ONTARIO.

Rev. J. W. McNamara, of Drayton, was appointed moderator of Saugeen Presbytery for the ensuing year.

Rev. A. H. MacGillivray, of First Church, Chatham, will preach his farewell sermon on the 11th April, and the pulpit will be declared vacant on the following Sunday. Rev. J. C. Tormie, of Windsor, is interim moderator.

Saugeen Presbytery nominates Rev. D. D. McLeod, D.D., of Barrie, for the moderatorship of next General Assembly; and for the Chair of Practical Theology, in the Montreal College, Rev. Wm. Farquharson, D.D., of Durham. Saugeen Presbytery sends the following commissioners to the General Assembly: A. Thompson, S. Young and J. W. McNamara, ministers; and Thos. H. McLoughlin, Alex. McEachern and John Swanston, elders.

The Committee on Systematic Beneficence in London Presbytery, at a meeting last week, Rev. James Malcolm, of Dutton, convener in the chair, decided to recommend a missionary committee within each congregation; and also that the congregations of the London Presbytery be divided into six groups for the better prosecution of the work. These groups have been defined, and the ministers in each district will be asked to exchange pulpits and speak on the subject. London Presbytery will raise \$50,000 for missions.

Last week the new Sunday school of Knox Church, Galt, was formally opened and dedicated in the presence of a very large congregation, Rev. Dr. Ross, of St. Andrew's, London, preaching morning and evening. The new building, one of the finest in Canada, is of local limestone, roofed with slate, and interior finished with Georgia pine. It is 58x113 feet over all, with basement under the whole building, with 11 foot ceiling. The second floor is on a level with the church auditorium, and has two entrances from the church and two from the outside, leading directly into the assembly hall, where classes gather for opening and closing exercises. This room will accommodate 200 scholars in classes exclusive of eight class rooms under the gallery, which are built with movable partitions, and which accommodate 200 or more scholars in their classes. Provision is made for librarian rooms, ladies' parlors and adult Bible class rooms with a seating capacity of 100, and a vestry. The total cost of the building and furnishings was \$25,000.

At Bond Head on Tuesday afternoon March 23rd, Mr. Wm. P. Lane was ordained and inducted by the Presbytery of Barrie into the pastoral charge of Bond Head and Schomberg. The Moderator of Presbytery, Rev. J. Currie, of Hillsdale, presided, offered the ordination prayer, and inducted the minister-elect. Rev. A. Smith, of Uptergrove conducted the service, and preached a very appropriate sermon from the words "I have called thee," etc. Rev. George I. Crow, of Thornton, addressed the minister, and the Rev. C. H. Cooke, who had acted as Moderator during the vacancy, addressed the people. After the service the congregation adjourned to the manse, where tea was served. After tea, Mr. Cooke, who presided, called upon a number for short addresses. Rev. J. Burnett, clerk of Presbytery; Rev. A. Smith, who was a classmate of Mr. Lane; Rev. Messrs. Watt, of the Church of England, and Reynolds of the Methodist Church, and Messrs. Jas. Wilson, senior elder, Abernethy and Watson, as representing the congregation, spoke words of welcome to the newly inducted minister. Mr. Lane replied in felicitous terms, and the meeting closed with the benediction. Mr. Lane enters on his work with every prospect of a happy and successful pastorate.

FRENCH EVANGELIZATION.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of the Board of French Evangelization was held in Knox Church last week, under the presidency of Rev. Dr. Mowatt, convener. The reports from the various Presbyteries indicated progress. Dr. Amaron, from Montreal Presbytery, reported twenty-two missionary fields under its care, ten distinctively French fields, and six mixed fields. Though nothing remarkable, extraordinary, or sensational has taken place during the year, such as contributors to a work of this character sometimes seem to look for, very marked progress has been made in several fields. St. Hyacinthe has become self-supporting, St. John's, Montreal, has added \$400 to the stipend of its pastor, and increase in liberality has shown itself elsewhere. It is hoped that Joliette shall also become self-supporting. Reports were also received from the Gengarry, Huron, Regina, Algoma, Ottawa, and Quebec Presbyteries. The Ottawa Presbytery carries on French work in eleven fields, and the Quebec Presbytery in eighteen fields.

The work at Point-aux-Trembles is in an encouraging condition. There have been 250 pupils this session, 22 have passed from Romanism to Protestantism. Bibles and Testaments to the number of 570 have been distributed through the school. The fees paid by the pupils amount to \$4,000. It is hoped that the indebtedness on the school buildings will be paid this year.

The Board adopted a new policy in connection with French evangelization work in the east end of the city. The four following fields will be worked as one field:—La Croix, St. Jean Baptiste, Tetreaultville, and Maisonneuve. There will be an interchange among the missionaries, they will visit together and engage in an aggressive campaign. It is hoped that much good will result from this new policy.

Prof. C. Bieler was recommended to the General Assembly as a representative of the Church at the Calvin celebration in Geneva next July.

A committee on finance was appointed to consider the important question of the increase of contributions for this branch of mission work. Mr. James Rodger reported, and a resolution was passed, having in view the communication of more ample information to the churches on the nature and needs of the work.

The changed conditions in Northern Ontario gave rise to an important discussion. The need of bilingual schools was clearly pointed out, and action will be taken to meet these needs.

A committee formed of the Rev. J. H. MacFarlane, Prof. Bieler, the Rev. S. Rondeau, and the Rev. S. J. Taylor, was appointed to consider the question of securing French and English literature adapted to the needs of the work of the Board.

Prof. Bieler was granted leave of absence to go to France and Switzerland. During his absence he will do some work in the interest of the Board.

The Rev. S. Rondeau, managing editor of "L'Aurore," spoke on behalf of the educative work done by the paper, and urged its claims in a strong speech. The Board agreed to continue its grant.

A legacy of \$1,000 has been announced from the late Henry Morton.

The Board adjourned to meet in March of next year.

During the absence of Rev. P. A. Robinson in the Kootenay the pulpit of St. Andrew's Church, Stirling, is being occupied by the Rev. R. F. Byers, formerly of Williamsport, Pa. Mr. Robinson has accepted the invitation of the Assembly's Committee on Evangelism to give two months to the campaign to be carried on in the mining towns in B.C.

BIBLICAL CRITICISM AND MODERN THOUGHT.

Prof. W. Clark, of Trinity College, Toronto, reviewing Professor Jordan's new book, in the Mail and Empire, says:

Let there be no mistake on one point. The Higher Criticism is here and here to remain. It is accepted by our greatest teachers and our own most orthodox bishops. Surely it is not an unreasonable enquiry to ask the authorship and time of production of the ancient books of Scripture. No doubt some of the advocates of these enquiries have carried their speculations to absurd extremes. It is enough to mention the names of Cheyne and Schmiedel. But it is a simple matter of fact that the most able and orthodox opponents of these extremes are themselves what would have been counted higher critics a short time ago. It is sufficient to mention the names of Dr. Orr and Prof. Sayce. The work before us, by Dr. Jordan, does not belong to either of these extreme classes, but it is most clearly and distinctly on the side of the higher critics, and his step in this region is firm and decided. He is not carried away by every new theory. For example, he does not believe that Israel was dependent upon Babylon for its earlier religion, yet he recognizes the influence of the people surrounding the chosen people. Without committing ourselves to every statement in Dr. Jordan's work, we can honestly recommend it to the personal of Christian men and women. They will find here nothing to shock their faith, if they read with calmness and reflection, and they may, perhaps, learn that it is possible for men to retain their faith in Christ, even although some of their critical theories of Christianity may be different from some of those of their forefathers.

TORONTO.

Rev. Professor Jordan, D.D., of Queen's, Kingston, was the university preacher in Toronto last Sunday.

The new Davenport Road church, corner of Delaware avenue, will be opened next Sunday. The dedicatory services will be conducted by the Rev. Frederick B. DuVal, D.D., of Winnipeg, Man., moderator of the General Assembly.

Mr. Robert Dale, a member of St. Mark's church at King and Tecumseh streets, some time ago presented the congregation with a site for a new church at the corner of Queen street and Bellwoods avenue. Rev. J. D. Morrow, the pastor, who is a great lover of good, clean sport, and who was at one time himself a noted athlete, thinks athletes and followers of sport in Toronto and elsewhere, if they would co-operate, could build the church for him. He thinks most of "the boys" would give a dollar, and some more. The cost of the church will be in the neighborhood of \$30,000. The church will, it is expected be made to suit the requirements of the young people of the west end and will be kept open each night of the week.

Dr. Sheard, medical health officer of Toronto, has been giving some good advice to the women of that city. In a recent address he warned them against social extravagance, fashionable folly, and immoral habits. Life in flats, so destructive of domestic life, playing bridge at all hours to the neglect of duty and causing waste of time, and race suicide were also roundly denounced. Dr. Sheard is doing a larger work than merely looking after the health of the citizens, as it is generally understood.

At 364 Bronson Ave., Ottawa, on March 23, 1909, by Rev. T. G. Thomson, Alexander Miller to Janet Grier Louden, all of the City of Ottawa, and formerly of Glasgow, Scotland.