

work, neither shall he eat." Ten years ago Western Canada was plunged in the horrors of civil war through an Indian rebellion; now there is such a good understanding between whites and Indians that not only is another outbreak impossible, but even the hardest working agitator can hardly raise an "Indian scare" worth a head line in the daily papers. Ten years ago on Sabbath, hunting, fishing, and any other kind of work and diversion went on, on many reserves, as on any other day; now on these reserves there are churches well filled with devout worshippers, and in Sabbath-keeping they furnish a model of which their white neighbours often fall short. Ten years ago they refused to listen to the missionary; now they welcome him, and although they do not all follow his teachings, there are among them many devoted Christians, whose simple faith and child-like literal acceptance of Gospel truth is a rebuke to our sophistications and subtleties.

Then follows in detail, notices of the stations at Mista-wasis, Prince Albert, Regina, Lakesand, Fife Hills, Round Lake, the Crowstand, Birtle, Bird Tail, Okanase, Rolling River, Portage la Prairie, Pipestone. Summing up the statement is made:—Not including the Albarni Mission, which is under separate management, mission work is carried on in Manitoba and the North-West Territories on twenty-one reserves from fourteen mission centres. Services are held regularly at thirty-one places by seven ordained missionaries and numerous lay missionaries. Of these lay helpers, only some of whom, however, conduct religious services, and others are school teachers, matrons of boarding schools, interpreters, etc., there are about twenty-four. There are seven boarding and industrial schools and three day schools. The former have an enrolment of 265 and an average attendance of 239. The latter have an enrolment of fifty-three, and an average attendance of thirty-eight. The number of communicants is 152, a less number than last year, due partly to the transfer of the Stoney Plain Mission to the Methodist Church, and partly to the smaller number reported at the Crowstand for the reason explained in that report. These Indians contributed for the benevolent and other work of the Church the sum of \$191.

The following notes are appended:

The mission on the Assiniboine Reserve, south of Indian Head, has been closed for some time to facilitate the transfer of the children to the Regina school, but it is now proposed to begin the work again and to place Mrs. Leckie, formerly of the Regina school, with suitable assistance, in charge of the small mission. Plans have been prepared for a building which will likely be erected by the carpenter apprentices of the Regina school under the care of their instructor in that trade.

As was reported last year the Stoney Plain Mission has been transferred to the care of the Methodist Church, and that Church is now using the premises and carrying on services among the Indians. There has been some delay in that part of the negotiations which has to do with the transfer of the buildings, although there never was any difference of opinion as to the proper course to pursue. Recently arbitrators have been appointed who are to value the buildings, and on the basis of their valuation they will be bought by the Missionary Society of the Methodist Church. The report of these arbitrators will likely be handed in within a few weeks.

The report of every missionary makes grateful acknowledgement of the assistance received from the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society in the sales of clothing and other good and useful things which are sent out each year. As a means of reducing the expense of boarding schools by helping to clothe the children, as a means of securing the comfort of sick, infirm, and destitute Indians during the winter, and as a proof of the interest and good will of Christian women the gifts of clothing are alike valuable, and on all hands appreciated—indeed they are often appreciated and eagerly accepted where any ministrations of a purely spiritual character are looked upon with suspicion or aversion. With increasing experience the gifts are becoming each year more suitable, and the supplies of new material to be made up in the school into garments for the children are of the very highest value.

The Winnipeg Executive Committee has met as usual fortnightly and finds the meetings not at all too frequent for the satisfactory overtaking of business.

Of the conveners, Prof. Hart visited during the past summer the missions at Birtle, Okanase, the Crowstand and Portage la Prairie; and Professor Baird visited Regina, Prince Albert, Mista-wasis and Stoney Plain. Both presented full reports on their return.

Mrs. Harvie and Mrs. Jeffrey, of Toronto, on behalf of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, visited during the months of August and September, all the missions as far west as Prince Albert and Mista-wasis. They had an interview in Winnipeg with the members of your Committee, at which an understanding was reached in respect to several matters of mutual interest and importance, and the report and the recommendations which they submitted after their

visit was over, have been of the highest value to the committee. Even of greater value than this, it is believed, is the encouragement and sympathy they gave to lonely missionary workers in the west, and the fund of information gathered at first hand which they have carried back to develop the intelligent interest of auxiliaries and mission bands in the east.

Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund.

The report of the Committee on the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund (western) is a concise and business-like document. The amount expended on annuities was \$16,130 72, and a balance is reported at the credit of the ordinary fund amounting to \$915.48. Dealing with the endowment the Committee state:

The following statement will show what has been accomplished in carrying out the direction of the Assembly in the matter of the endowment of \$200,000 for this fund:—

Total amount subscribed.....	\$125,319 91
" " paid up to April 30, 1895..	106,894.91

Adding to these the capital in existence before the special effort was ordered, it will make the endowment as follows:—

Totalsubscribed.....	\$140,519 61
Total paid up.....	122,384.91

It will be seen that there is still much to be done before the \$200,000 is reached. Comparatively little progress has been made during the year in adding to the amount subscribed, while, in view of the prevailing depression and the great stringency in monetary affairs, fair progress has been made in collecting from subscribers to the fund. It may be explained that subscriptions have been hindered by the fact that the agent, Mr. Burns, during the summer and autumn of 1894, was called to give almost undivided attention to matters connected with Knox College; and also from the further fact that very few persons could see their way to pledge themselves for future payments to the fund, making it unwise to canvas congregations till things improve.

The Fund will receive a substantial addition under the bequest of the late David Maurice Wright. He left an estate amounting to about \$9,500 to the Fund. The bequest is subject to a life interest of a tenant for life in a house worth about \$800, and two legacies, of \$100 and \$200 respectively, and an annuity of \$200 for life to a lady named in the will. It will probably result in a proposal to take over the estate after payment of the two legacies of \$100 and \$200 and the Church to give a bond for the payment of the annuity of \$200.

In order that the Fund may have the benefit of this bequest, the Committee recommends that the Assembly authorize the Convener and Agent of the Church to execute on the Assembly's behalf a bond to the above effect.

A further handsome addition will be made to the Endowment by the action of the Synod of Hamilton and London, whereby the "Buxton Mission Fund," amounting to \$3,856 19 will be handed over, thus giving effect to the wish of the late Rev. Wm. King, of Buxton.

THE ORDINARY FUND. The committee is greatly pleased that the condition of this fund enabled it to pay for the past year annuities on the basis adopted in 1892-3. It is very desirable, however, that the Ordinary Fund be brought into such a condition as will permit of the payment of the full amount under the Rule. Till this is done the older ministers will suffer injustice.

It is a matter of deepest regret that contributions from congregations continue to decrease. Your committee does not think that it is the fault of the people, as a rule, but rather of the pastors. Too cold an advocacy on the part of many, even of those connected with the Fund, and the indifference of the many not connected with it, doubtless account for the smallness of congregational contributions. More than 250 congregations have contributed nothing, and of these more than 100 are presided over by ministers not connected with the Fund. No comment is needed.

Ministers' Rates have kept up much better than the Committee anticipated. There is also a slight increase in interest, but for these, a further modification in the reduction of the Annuities would most certainly require to have been made.

In connection with the collection of Ministers' Rates, the Committee decided, in order that justice might be done to all equally, to charge interest on all rates if not paid during the month of November, on the first of which month they become due, and the attention of ministers is asked to this rule, as it is not unfrequently neglected, necessitating correspondence. It is the intention to adhere strictly to the rule and it is to be hoped that Ministers will comply with it when remitting rates.

Then follow particulars as to applicants, etc., in routine order.