

divided on the question of religious instruction, but he thought that much had now been accomplished. The several legislatures could not be expected to take any action unless backed up by public opinion. He spoke of the feeling that had existed in New Brunswick in the past in regard to the matter, and said that it would be difficult to do anything in that province for some time; but that was no reason why the voice of the Church should be silent, but it was a reason why it should always be heard and always in one direction.

Rev. D. Williams read his motion as agreed to at the conference of the committees, viz.:

That the Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, at this session, appoint a committee, consisting of the Bishops and one clergyman and one layman for each diocese, for the purpose of carrying out the views and recommendations of the General Synod.

That the Bishops and other members of this committee residing within any civil province shall constitute a committee for that province for said purpose:

That such committees, in conjunction with any diocesan committees, and also in conjunction with other Christian bodies, where possible, shall urge upon the governments of their respective civil provinces the carrying out of said views and recommendations of the General Synod; and that the concurrence of the Upper House in this resolution be respectfully requested.

Ven. Archdeacon Evans did not see what right the Church had to find fault with the Government for not giving it what it wanted, when a committee allowed three years to go by without ever once meeting; the matter could not be very pressing upon it. He expressed the hope that if the motion before the house was passed, the committee would meet at least once before the next meeting of the Synod, and that it would seek the co-operation of all available forces. The privileges enjoyed in this province were worked to their fullest limit in all the public schools of Montreal and with most telling advantage in so far as the gaining of religious knowledge by the children was concerned. It was going to be a great strength to Protestantism in this province when it was able to unite on broad lines in a reasonable demand for a system of religious instruction in the schools. We had that, but he believed that more was to be obtained when it was asked by the united voice of the non-Catholic section of the province.

Mr. J. J. Mason touched on the change that had come over the trustees of the schools at Hamilton, who, he believed, would now be willing to vote for religious instruction in the schools. Of these trustees, sixteen out of twenty were either Presbyterians or Methodists. Of course, the question would arise as to who should give this religious instruction. If the regular teachers, it was contended that they should be trained for the work, the same as for their ordinary work. The majority of the public school teachers in Hamilton were women. The trustees had spoken to a number of them, and, with a single exception, they had been

quite willing and ready to take up the work of religious instruction. But they must themselves be instructed before they began to instruct others. He imagined that that could, to a large extent, be done by the use of proper text books, which would have to be passed upon by the Board of Education, and there he thought the committee would prove useful, perhaps, in giving advice to the Minister, and showing how the difficult problem could be carried out.

The vote was then taken, and Rev. D. Williams' amended motion was carried unanimously.

Later in the day the Prolocutor named the following as the committee on religious education:

Nova Scotia—Rev. E. Crawford, Rev. James Simpson, Canon Vroom, Hon. Mr. Justice Fitzgerald, Judge Savary, and Mr. C. S. Wilcox.

Quebec—Ven. Archdeacon Roe, Rev. Albert Stevens, Dr. R. W. Hencker, Q.C., and Mr. John Hamilton.

Toronto—Rev. H. Symonds, Hon. S. H. Blake, and Mr. George R. Parkin

Fredericton—Dean Partridge, Ven. Archdeacon Brigstocke, Mr. Justice Hamilton, and Mr. Geo. A. Schofield.

Montreal—Ven. Archdeacon Evans and Dr. Alex. Johnson.

Huron—Rev. David Williams and Mr. Charles Jenkins.

Ontario—Rev. Prof. Worrall and Mr. E. J. B. Pense.

Niagara—Ven. Archdeacon Dixon and Mr. J. J. Mason.

Ottawa—Ven. Archdeacon Bogert and Judge Senkler.

Algoma—Rev. J. Boydell, Mr. J. B. Aulph, and Mr. G. S. Wilgress.

A message was read from the Upper House concurring in Dr. Williams' motion, and the Synod adjourned until next day.

(To be continued)

Rural Deanery of Muskoka.

St. Bartholomew's Day, August 24th, 1898, was a veritable red-letter day to this deanery. The Rural Dean having sent out his invitations a majority of the clergy responded to his call, and met in Gravenhurst for worship and brotherly counsel. The clergy present were: Revs. Rural Dean Machin, Gravenhurst; J. Boydell, M.A., Bracebridge; A. H. Allman, Uffington; A. R. Mitchell, Port Sydney; T. E. Chilcott, M.A., Port Carling; and J. Pardo, Novar. Ven. Archdeacon Llwyd and Revs. W. H. French and A. H. Hazlehurst were unable to attend. The visiting clergy arrived on the previous day.

On the day in question (Aug. 24th), at 8 a.m., the Holy Communion was administered in St. James' Church to the clergy and a few of the laity, Rev. J. Boydell, officiating, assisted by Rev. A. R. Mitchell. At 10 a.m. there was a public service again, which consisted of Morning Prayer, Litany, and a sermon. Different clergy took various parts of the service, and Rev. A. H. Allman gave an excellent

sermon (both in matter and manner) on the apostolic character, Scriptural purity, and distinctive claims of the Church of England. Rev. J. Boydell concluded the service with collects and Benediction.

At 2.30 p.m. the clergy met at the parsonage, and the entire afternoon was spent in earnest but harmonious discussion on several important and very practical matters connected with the welfare of the deanery.

At 8 p.m. a public meeting was held in St. James' Church, which was opened by the singing of a hymn, followed with a few prayers by the Rural Dean; then, as chairman, he announced with regret the unavoidable absence of the clergy mentioned above. Next the Rev. J. Boydell was called upon to address the meeting, which he did far too briefly, but, at the same time, very effectively, on the necessity of developing the internal resources of the diocese, and the duty of personal and conscientious support. The laity must rise to the full appreciation of the burning needs now confronting the diocese and the ultimate withdrawal of all extraneous aid, if they truly desired the diocese to be creditably sustained and sufficiently developed. Rev. A. R. Mitchell took the foreign field, and showed with convincing clearness and energy that whilst all that the previous speaker had said was undeniably true, it was also the duty of every Christian to assist in some measure the Church's effort for the evangelization of the world. The Rural Dean himself was, as usual, delightfully full of information. He poured forth a most stimulating mixture of the facts and figures inseparably connected with the history and work of the great English societies, and showed what a large portion of the funds provided for the Church's work in Algoma and other dioceses all over the world was furnished by them. He showed himself thoroughly acquainted with the reports, work, and agents of those societies, specially singling out the S.P.C.K. and S.P.G., and gave copious information in the most interesting way, imparting what was new almost to the extent of a revelation.

The closing hymn was sung, the Rev. J. Boydell pronounced the benediction, and the next day the clergy returned to their various homes, grateful to their different hosts and distinctly the better for their gathering together.

Acknowledgments.

The Rev. W. A. G. Burt, North Bay, thankfully acknowledges the following additional sums towards the Church debt:

Previously acknowledged	\$23 50
John Labatt, Esq., London, Ont.	2 00
Mrs. J. G. V. Burkholder, Hamilton, Ont.	1 00
Muskoka Tourist Offertory, per Rev. Chas. Braydon, Buffalo, U.S.	10 00
Mr. Smallpiece, Toronto, Ont.	2 00
Mrs. Horace Blachford, Toronto, Ont.	5 00
Miss Temple, Toronto	50
Total	\$44 00