

General Assembly Proceedings.

(Continued from page 5.)

Dr. MacLaren replied feelingly, conveying his best thanks to the Assembly for the words of appreciation. The report of Knox College was then adopted.

British Columbia College.

The contributions to the British Columbia Theological College for 1907-08 amounted to about \$1,600.

This was adopted and the name of Westminster Hall chosen for the new college.

Ottawa Ladies' College.

The President of the Ottawa Ladies' College, Rev. Dr. W. D. Armstrong, had a happy condition of affairs to report; total number of pupils enrolled 149, of whom 77 were in residence; average attendance, 128. Notwithstanding the increased cost of living and considerable expenditure for improvements the revenue of the college will be more than sufficient to meet all expenses.

The effort through the year to extinguish the debt was only partly successful, about \$5,000 of the \$13,000 required having been subscribed. A donation of \$1,000 for the founding of a bursary was received from the late Mrs. Alex. Lumsden. In the interests of the college, the board feels that the Church should not only remove the encumbrance of debt, but should proceed at an early date to provide increased accommodation. Report adopted.

Dr. W. M. Cooper, representative of the British and Foreign Bible Society,

Statistics.

The report of the Committee on Statistics for the year ending the 31st of December, 1907, and contributions to schemes for year ending the 29th of February, 1908, was presented by Rev. Dr. John Somerville, Convener. The grand total contributed for all purposes was \$3,619,749. The number of communicants is \$264,999. Dr. Somerville discussed in detail the principal points and recommendations. The report was unanimously adopted.

Dr. Chapman's Address.

An address by Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman, Washington, on evangelistic work, aroused much enthusiasm and interest.

A resolution by Principal Gordon expressed appreciation of Dr. Chapman's address, and named a committee to consider the whole question of evangelistic work, reporting to a later sederunt.

Home Missions, Eastern Section.

The Home Mission Committee, eastern section, Rev. J. S. Sutherland, Halifax, Convener, which has over sight of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, also of work on the coast of Quebec and Labrador, and part of the State of Maine near the New Brunswick border, reported contributions of \$13,501.18 for the past year, besides \$4,604.42 for the Northwest. The number of ordained missionaries is eighteen. Grants aggregating \$3,490.87 were received by congregations from the Home Mission Fund.

The great need of the hour, as Rev. James Ross, Superintendent for the Synod of the Maritime Provinces, puts it, is a larger number of young men—men in whom the Spirit of God is—to man the pulpits, for there are numerous vacancies in that synod, with no immediate prospect of supply. The Halifax Presbytery has taken a forward step in Newfoundland. There were in the synod's field twenty-eight catechists and six ordained missionaries.

The receipts for the year for home missions, east and west, excluding the credit balance of \$1,742.64 on March 1, 1907, were \$18,498.57, and as this amount was \$1,943.77 more than the amount received during the preceding year it was sufficient to meet the expenditure of the year in the east, which expenditure amounted to \$11,967.78; to enable the Treasurer to remit \$4,604.42 to the western Treasurer for missions in the Northwest; to pay \$225 on account of the Northwest to chaplains for the immigrants arriving at Halifax and St. John, and to add \$1,701.37 to the credit balance, making it on March 1, 1908, \$3,444.01. The report was adopted.

Rev. Alexander McGillivray, Toronto, presented the report of the Sabbath schools.

Sabbath Schools.

The report showed a marked increase in the four western Synods in the number of schools reporting, the total being 2,919 (2,578 Presbyterian, a gain of 64, and 341 union, a loss of 21). The total enrollment, including—Presbyterian, teachers and scholars in union schools, is as follows:—Officers and teachers, 23,011, a gain of 512; scholars, including Bible classes, 194,334, a gain of 6,959; average attendance, 134,251, a gain of 4,165; home department, 8,384, a gain of 666; cradle roll, 8,992, gain unknown, as not reported in 1906. The contributions also show a marked increase throughout for running expenses, schemes of the Church and children's day fund, reaching a total of \$162,531, a gain of \$9,715. The number of schools contributing to the schemes was 982, a gain of 23, and to children's day fund 1,636, a gain of 52.

The committee recommended "that Sessions, parents, superintendents and teachers be affectionately urged to keep in view the supreme importance of leading the children to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and of training them in His service"; and reported favorably on the remit from the General Assembly regarding amalgamation of the committees on Sabbath schools and Young People's Societies.

Mr. J. C. Robertson, superintendent, and Rev. M. MacGregor spoke on the need of facilitating the training of teachers, and taking care of the enormously increased attendance. The report was adopted.

The Sabbath school publications report, presented by R. Douglas Fraser, Toronto, was regarded as satisfactory, and was adopted.

Presbyterian Record.

There were printed and distributed during the year sixty thousand copies of The Presbyterian Record, an advance of 5,000 copies over 1906, equal to a thousand libraries, each containing three hundred volumes, of three hundred pages each. The income of the year was \$13,663.01, and expenditure \$13,331.35; the balance on the 1st of January, 1907, was \$13,865.03, and the credit balance on the 31st of December, 1907, was \$14,196.69. The Convener of the committee is Rev. James Fleck, D.D., Montreal. The editor and manager is Rev. D. E. Scott.

Foreign Mission Committee.

The evening sederunt was devoted to the subject of foreign missions, and the address of Dr. R. P. McKay, covering a fourteen months' tour of the far east, received close attention.

"The history of the missions under the charge of your committee during the past year has been one of mingled light and shadow," runs the report of the eastern section of the Foreign Mission Committee. Rev. E. D. Millar, D.D., Yarmouth, N.S., is Convener. It continues:—

The history of the missions under the charge of your committee during the past year has been one of mingled light and shadow. The health conditions of some of your fields have been very disquieting, and have been embarrassing to the committee, as well as fraught with anxiety to the missionaries, their friends and the whole Church. The number of Canadian laborers has not increased, and one of our young missionaries sent out to succeed a veteran who had retired, died of yellow fever within three weeks after he reached his field. On the other hand, doors have been wide open on nearly all the fields, and the call for missionaries to reap the ripened harvest has reached your committee over and over again, and it has been little less than heartbreaking to have been compelled to decline to send the needed men; who are available for want of means to support them. And even as matters stand, though our people have contributed more largely than during the preceding year, yet the fund is deeply in debt."

Success in Corea.

After touching on conditions in the New Hebrides, Trinidad, and British Guiana, the report says with regard to Corea:—

"In Corea the mission has again had remarkable success, and the general conviction throughout all the Churches represented there is that the time to favor Zion in Corea has fully come. It is stated that the Presbyterian Church in Corea, which during the past year has been more fully organized, reports an increase in members and adherents this year of nearly 13,000, and that the Methodist Church reports a similar increase. So clearly has the present need been perceived, and so fully has the present opportunity been realized, that almost all the Churches are greatly strengthening their forces. It may be said without exaggeration that at the present moment the eyes of the Christian world are on Corea, and that many of those who are in a position to understand the situation best are looking for Corea's speedy evangelization. It is with extreme regret that your committee find themselves so hampered by the want of funds that they have been unable to comply with the repeated and very urgent calls of their mission council in Corea for more missionaries. Men are available if only means were forthcoming."

There is a Deficit.

The receipts for the foreign mission fund from all sources during the past year have been \$46,635; they totalled in 1906-07, \$45,268.64.

The expenditure during the year has exceeded this amount by \$8,849.88, which, with the debit balance of the preceding year of \$3,792.19 added, makes a total debt on February 29 of \$12,042.19. One gratifying feature is that there has been no falling off in the contributions received from the principal sources of revenue. Congregations have contributed \$18,695.86, being \$2,183.13 more than the previous year. The W. F. M. S. has provided \$18,723.52, being \$823.52 more than for the year before, and, indeed, a little more than has been given by all the congregations in their congregational capacity, a disproportion which it is hoped that the Laymen's Missionary Movement will speedily bring to an end. Meanwhile the honors are clearly the right of the W. F. M. S., to whom the warmest thanks of the General Assembly, as well as the committee, are due.

Increase of the Staff.

The western section, with Mr. Millar and Rev. W. A. Martin of Brantford as joint Conveners, after sketching con-