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A Look at the Fields.

BY SUPERINTENDENT H. G. MELLICK.

Fields and Pastors.

Winnipeg, 1st church, pastor, Alexander Grant; Winnipeg, Logan Avenue, A. J. Vining; German church, W. H. Mueller; Winnipeg, Scandinavian church, L. M. Stolberg.

Emerson, J. Hollingshead.
Morden, J. W. Litch.
Manitow, Bro. Canfield.
Boisevain, E. J. Grant.
Melita, J. G. Hastings.
Pilot Mound, J. Dingman.
Carnduff, S. Cripps.
Hartney, D. D. McArthur.
Carmán, T. M. Marshall.
Morden, (German) Geo. Burgdorff.
Portage la Prairie, H. H. Hall.
Brandon, John Davis, returned missionary from India supplying.
Stonewall, J. Marrie.
Moosomin, M. Vansickle.
Grenfell, J. W. Payne.
Regina, A. T. Robinson.
Edenwold, (German) R. F. Eurskile.

Calgary, J. R. Creswell.
Edmonton, C. B. Freeman.
South Edmonton, A. McDonald.
Neepawa, President F. W. Auvasche.

Shoal Lake and Strathclair, Student Pengilly.

Birtle, Dr. J. P. McIntyre.
Leduc, (German) F. Mueller.
New Scandinavia (Scandinavian) Bro. Freeman.

Indian Missionaries.

S. Van Tassel, St. Peter's; Henry Prince, Fairford; Mrs. Wilson, Portage la Prairie.
There is an evangelist, C. W. McCrossan, and superintendent, H. G. Mellick.

Vacant Pastoral Fields.

Brandon, Rapid City, Moose Jaw, Medicine Hat, Westbourne, Oak Lake, Ebenezer (German), Wolsley (German).

Vacant Student Fields.

Emerson out-stations, Reston and Pipestone, Langvale, Hilton, Cyprus River, Treheim Qu'Appelle, Chesley. These should all have permanent pastoral service.

Important Openings for New Fields.

At least two more missionaries should be stationed amongst the 20,000 Mennonites of Manitoba. Scandinavian work at Rat Portage and Norman must have at least one man, another man must be sent to the big colony near Red Deer. Pastor F. Mueller needs two good men with him amongst the Germans of the Edmonton district. He covers 20 miles square of territory alone. English missions should be opened at Lake Dauphin. The government has built a railroad to this settlement, we should think it important enough to send in the gospel. Minnedosa, Lethbridge, Fort McLeod, Prince Albert, Virden, Gladstone, Innisfail, Olds Red Deer, these should have permanent pastors. A score others might be mentioned where student labor would do for the present. Some of the fields occupied now must be divided. There

are about 20 reservations of heathen Indians in Manitoba alone without any Christian missionary. There should be work commenced at once amongst the Icelanders. A missionary could reach 4,000 of these people in one district in Manitoba. There is not a Protestant missionary amongst the Roman Catholics of the Northwest, these number over 30,000. "Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already for the harvest." Men are available to fill all these fields if we had the money to support them.

A Good Business Opening.

I refer to the Lord's business and speak to the Lord's stewards. The Northwest calls for increased investment of the Lord's money.

A glance at the unsurpassed mineral and agricultural resources of the West gives assurance of its rapid development. The centre of Canada's population will one day be at Winnipeg instead of Montreal. Among the most thickly settled and wealthiest districts will be Northern Alberta. Here is a district equaling the combined areas of the Maritime Provinces. In addition to a large por-

tion of fertile land are immense coal-areas and rich deposits of gold-dust. It needs no brilliant imagination to see in these territories the future home of millions. The picture satisfies those who measure greatness by population and wealth.

It suggests a serious question to those who seek the triumph of Christian principles in individual and in nation. To those who see the tendencies of western life the question, "Shall the N. W. be positively Christian or anti-Christian?" is no idle one. The average settler is no "Pilgrim Father." He is not after religious liberty but seeks a living. His eye is single but it is for mammon and not for God. His faith is in "hustling." His creed, "God helps those who help themselves." Coming to the West, the church member of the East too often puts his religion in his trunk for the journey and forgets to unpack it in his new home. Once earnest workers gradually succumb to the prevailing worldliness.



SELKIRK HALL—LOGAN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH, WINNIPEG.

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The situation becomes more serious when we consider various nationalities now settling here. In this district we have, besides the native Indians, French, German, Russian, Scandinavian and Polish settlers.

The nations are coming to our doors. Shall we meet them with the Bible? Canada's safety and their salvation depend upon the answer. The answer depends upon the churches of the Eastern Provinces.

If the opportunities of the West are to be properly met the missionary should everywhere be in the vanguard of settlement. The devil always marches there. To say nothing of the souls at stake, every year's delay means extra cost in developing a self-supporting Christian community. Yet the path of Baptist missions in the Northwest is dotted with such mistakes. There is no doubt

that many dependent churches would have reached self-support had the work been taken up earlier. I am confident that had a Baptist missionary been in the Edmonton District two or three years earlier our strength would to-day be double what it is, and the Board would be able to break up new ground instead of exhausting its ability in cultivating the old fields.

The same mistake seems inevitable with regard to the Sturgeon field, (20 miles north of Edmonton), where the young church of 30 members is dependent on the fragmentary help of the Edmonton pastor. Steady and vigorous work there would soon pay for itself; but such arrangements as seem inevitable with the Board's present resources, mean stagnation. No doubt many another field has a similar tale. Where is the remedy? In the pockets of the Baptists of Eastern Canada. The poverty plea will not stand before God. None have suffered more by prevailing hard times than the Baptists of Manitoba and the Northwest. Yet the churches gave last year for all purposes an average of \$15.25 per resident member. When the resident Baptists of the Maritime Provinces give as much according to their ability as the Northwest Baptists, the Telugu field will be well-manned, the College well-endowed, the local work and provincial Home Missions well-sustained and instead of sending sixteen hundred dollars to the Northwest you will as easily send sixteen thousand. Early and generous investment will quickly develop self-supporting and generous churches. Tardy and scanty investment means a prolonged condition of dependence—a long-drawn agony to Board, pastors and people.

CHAS. B. FREEMAN.
Edmonton, Alberta.

Scandinavian Baptists in the Home Land and America.

BY REV. L. M. STOLBERG.
(Scandinavian Baptist Missionary, Winnipeg.)

The first Swede was baptized in 1844. He is still alive. The work, on a very small scale, commenced shortly afterwards in the southern part of Sweden. In the Province of Dalarna, about forty-five years ago a revival swept over a large part of some extensive parishes. The converts were mostly young people. They met together, sang hymns, offered prayers and read their Bibles. None of them had ever heard of such a thing as a Baptist. Through reading their Bibles they became convinced that they were not baptized, and found, all by themselves, the Biblical teachings on the subject of baptism. This was the beginning of the Baptists in the Province of Dalarna.

The sufferings of the Baptists for many years following were intense. Fines and imprisonment were common in those days. In one instance, a soldier was condemned to be shot because he had dared to be baptized. While the most hardened criminal was a citizen and a member of the church, and treated as such, the Baptist was, as far as within their power, excluded from all rights. The public school teachers, if converted and baptized, were at once turned out of their situations, however capable and well educated they might be. The young man or woman who had dared to join the Baptists were denied the rite of marriage. In spite of all this opposition and trouble the Baptists grew in numbers, strength, and knowledge of the Word of the Lord. Some of those baptized had a fair education. This soon gave the church a number of ministers who had considerable education. A Theological Seminary was opened in Stockholm. The increase of the Baptists was rapid, and their increase in numbers was followed by a corresponding decrease in persecution. The restrictions against them are now mostly all removed or forgotten, with the exception, perhaps, of those against teachers. They now number probably about 60,000 in Sweden, Norway and Denmark, fully two-thirds