

## REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION.

The recommendations of the Committee on the state of religion as follows, were then adopted.

1. That our Christian people, especially in towns and cities, be exhorted to give all possible encouragement and help to those who in a legitimate way by the early closing movement, are seeking the relief of both merchants and their clerks, from the grievous bondage of late shopping, especially on Saturday nights.

2. That Presbyteries be urged to make a more vigorous effort to secure full replies to the questions on state of religion, from all the sessions within their respective bounds.

3. That Presbyteries be recommended, by visitation or otherwise, to institute inquiry into the financial system and general business management of such congregations especially, as are apparently behind in the grace of liberality.

4. That the importance of family worship, and their prime responsibility in the matter of home religious instruction, be earnestly impressed on parents, and that this be made matter of pulpit discourse on one or more Sabbaths during the year.

On motion of Mr. D. H. Fletcher, seconded by Mr. Gustavus Munro, the report as a whole was then adopted, and thanks given to the Committee and especially to the Convener, for their excellent report.

## SABBATH SCHOOL REPORT.

The recommendations of the Committee on Sabbath School work were also adopted, and are as follows:—

1. That Superintendents be urged to use great diligence in recording the statistics of their schools, and in making reports through the session to the Presbytery.

2. That congregations be requested to defray, if not all, at least the larger proportion of the expenses of their schools, thus leaving the scholars' offerings to be mainly devoted to the missionary schemes of the church.

3. That a summary of this report be printed for distribution to pastors and superintendents.

On motion of Dr. Thomson, seconded by Mr. Chrystal, the report was adopted as a whole, and thanks given to the Committee, and