

## THIRTY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING AT WINNIPEG

REV. F. B. DuVAL, D.D., MODERATOR

After the delivery of the carefully prepared sermon by the retiring moderator, Rev. Dr. Campbell, as given in last week's Dominion Presbyterian, the moderator thanked the brethren for the generous measure of support given him in the conduct of his responsible office. The first duty of the assembly would be the election of his successor. Continuing Dr. Campbell said—The year had been a fruitful one and he could congratulate the church on the showing in the printed documents. The year was especially notable for the impulse given to the laymen's missionary movement. He trusted that the movement would take root in every congregation. He regretted to say that there had been a heavy toll of death in the ministerial ranks, no less than seventeen ministers having died during the year. Reference was then made to the late Rev. Dr. Torrance, honored and venerable statistician of the Presbyterian church; to the late Rev. Dr. Isaac Murray, a distinguished preacher and scholar; to the late Rev. John Crombie, greatly esteemed and beloved in his own community; to the late Rev. Dr. Robert Campbell, of Renfrew, who occupied the moderator's chair in 1899, and the late Rev. James Stuart, of Prescott, both the latter being comparatively young men.

### Election of Moderator.

Rev. Dr. Bryce then rose to propose Rev. Dr. F. B. DuVal as moderator of the general assembly of 1908. Dr. DuVal seemed to him to be the unanimous choice of the Presbyterian church generally and of Knox church particularly. In the first place the doctor was a pastor and a preacher. Formerly the assembly had elected professors, but he himself had been the last of that band, and latterly they had chosen pastors—a better choice. At Knox church Rev. Dr. DuVal had succeeded two very distinguished men, Rev. Dr. Robertson, the great superintendent of the west and then Principal Gordon. The present was the twentieth year of Dr. DuVal's pastorate. He was a scholar of excellence, and one of the best church lawyers in the Presbyterian body. The doctor's pastorate had been a time of great development, and the years had called for a man who could see ahead in regard to almost every public question, who could do his duty fearlessly and who could command the respect of the community.

Judge Forbes, of St. John, N.B., seconded the nomination. They had come, said the speaker, with the fresh breeze of the Atlantic to encourage them in their city, whose growth was almost passing knowledge, and to do honor to one of their distinguished ministers.

Rev. Dr. DuVal was then elected unanimously. Rev. D. Bryce and Judge Forbes introducing the moderator-elect to Rev. Dr. Campbell.

### New Moderator's Address.

Amidst great applause Rev. Dr. DuVal then rose and said: "I thank you, sir, for your courteous reception. Fathers and brethren,—It has been said that for 20 years I have stood at the gateway of this tremendously developing west. Through the gates of this Red river there have been pouring in Medes and Persians, and all the dwellers in Mesopotamia. They were days of stress and no man could have done his duty in them without laying himself, soul and body, upon the sacrificial altar of Christ. Beloved, it is an honor to be

called to be moderator of the general assembly of the Presbyterian church in Canada. It is not so large as some bodies in the world, but, beloved, it has quality in it that will yet make it a tremendous power on the American continent. I look forward to the time when the sons of your sons shall take that prestige in the moral and religious world in America that the sons of the northern tribes of Europe took on the continent of Europe. Any man who looks out with the eye of the physical geographer and the ethnologist cannot but see that there is an aggregation of forces in this great northern part of the continent. If managed aright, if guided by clear intellects, and if inspired by the spirit of the living Christ, these forces will develop a power that will wield an influence for righteousness and bless the millions that are coming to us from every nation under heaven." (Loud cheers).

On the motion of Walter Paul, Montreal, seconded by Rev. Dr. Rajcliffe, St. Catharines, a vote of thanks to the retiring moderator for his services to the church during his year of office and for his inaugural sermon, was passed amid applause.

Rev. Dr. DuVal read a message from Earl Grey thanking the last general assembly for its loyal addresses to His Majesty and to himself.

### SECOND DAY.

Devotional exercises occupied a large portion of the morning sederunt, and the business was principally routine. Applications from thirty-one ministers of other churches, who desired to be taken into the ministry of the Presbyterian Church, were received and a committee was appointed to consider them. Several other applications were referred to special committees.

### The Civic Welcome.

Mayor Ashdown, at the opening of the afternoon sederunt, extended to the commissioners a hearty welcome to the city, and expressed the opinion that important results would flow from the present meeting.

Dr. DuVal on behalf of the Assembly replied fittingly.

Rev. Dr. Roe and Mr. J. A. M. Aikins, Winnipeg, brought greetings from the special committee of the General Conference of the Methodist Church. Naturally the question of church union was mentioned during the addresses, and a strong hope uttered by both speakers that careful thought would be given the consideration of the subject.

The Moderator thanked Messrs. Rose and Aikins for their message, and a formal resolution, moved by Dr. C. W. Gordon, expressed appreciation of the brotherly and generous sentiments expressed in the addresses, gratification at the increasing tendency to emphasize doctrinal points on which there was an agreement, and sympathy in the great work in which the Methodist Church is engaged; An informal greeting from Archbishop Matheson, now in England, was also received.

### Presbyterian College, Halifax.

The report of the Presbyterian College, Halifax, expressed gratification at its success under Rev. Principal Magill, Ph.D., and with Mr. J. W. Falconer, B.D., succeeding Dr. R. A. Falconer in the chair of New Testament Greek and exegesis.

The receipts for the year from all sources were \$13,850.77. The contributions from congregations amounted to \$5,915.81 as against \$5,997.08 for the preceding year. The income from interest was \$7,852.96 and from donations and all other sources \$82. The expenditure apart from the debt was \$14,661.17. The old debt of \$290.07 was removed, leaving a debit balance of \$1,101.10 on March 1st, 1908.

### Presbyterian College, Montreal.

The Presbyterian College at Montreal had sixty-two students enrolled. Great satisfaction was expressed in the report of the board, of which Mr. David Morrice of Montreal, is Chairman, at the good work done by the new professors, Rev. R. E. Welch, D.D., and Rev. A. R. Gordon, D. Litt. It regretted inability to make permanent arrangements for the French chair, but had secured the services of Rev. Prof. Bonet-Maury of the Protestant Theological Faculty of Paris during the first term, and those of Rev. Leon Peyrie of Paris for the second, and hoped to prevail upon M. Peyrie to accept the position of permanent professor.

The financial statement showed all funds, except the building fund, with balances on the right side, though that to the credit of the ordinary fund is very small, and several small sums can hardly be counted upon in future. The current year's requirements will be at least \$2,000 greater.

Motions adopting these included permission to the governing boards to fill vacancies in the teaching staffs without further reference to the Assembly were unanimously carried.

### Queen's University and College.

Principal Gordon presented the report of Queen's University and College.

The enrollment for the past session was as follows:—Undergraduates in arts attending, 390; extra-mural, 261; post-graduates in arts attending, 34; extra-mural, 38; students in theology, 36; in practical science, 284; in medicine, 213; in education, 42. Deducting 47 enrolled in two faculties, the total attendance thus was 1,251, an increase of 112 over 1906-7. Last year the increase (97) was mainly in the arts department, this year it has been chiefly in science, while there have been added also the students in the faculty of education.

The board asked the Assembly's approval of its appointment of Rev. Robert Laird, Financial Secretary of the University, at the completion of the present canvass for additional endowment of half a million dollars, as General Secretary and professor of practical theology at \$2,250 a year.

The revenue for the year totalled \$99,564.39. The chief items were: Fees, \$32,449.84; interest, \$35,741.20; jubilee fund interest, \$2,145.34; General Assembly college fund, \$3,620.25; Ontario Government, \$5,000; Ontario Government voted but not yet paid, \$2,226.63; scholarship, \$2,492. The chief item of expenditure was that of \$50,874.84 for salaries.

It was adopted, and the motion included permission, as in the case of the other colleges, to fill vacancies on the staff.

Principal Gordon secured consent to postponing the presentation of the report of Queen's endowment and the memorial of Queen's Senate for the present.

Principal Patrick presented the report of Manitoba College.

### Manitoba College.

The number of students attending Manitoba College, as reported by Mr. Wm. Whyte, was slightly in advance of last year, which was the largest in the history of the college. There were 275 enrolled, including 2 post graduates, 18 in regular course in theology, 25 min-