

GENERAL RECOMMENDATION—MANSE FUND.

The General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Committee, extended the time formerly fixed for soliciting contributions to the Church and Manse Building Fund of Manitoba and the North-West, until the sum named—one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000)—be secured.

On motion of Dr. Moore, duly seconded, the report was adopted as a whole.

PUBLISHING HOUSE COMMITTEE.

The Moderator now named the Committee, agreed upon last night, to take into consideration the subject of establishing a Publishing House under the sanction of the Assembly, as follows:—Messrs. George Bruce, J. K. Smith (Galt), Dr. Jardine, A. McLean Sinclair, Dr. Proudfoot, J. M. Cameron (Toronto), W. M. Clark, W. D. Armstrong, P. McF. McLeod (Convener), W. D. Russell (Winnipeg), D. McGregor (Halifax), W. Drysdale (Montreal), R. Murray (Halifax).

AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND—WESTERN SECTION.

The Assembly called for the Report of the Committee on the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund—Western Section. The Report was presented in printed form by Mr. James Middlemiss, Convener, who directed attention to some of the important points contained therein. On motion the Report was received, and it was agreed to consider its recommendations *seriatim*. The first and second recommendations were read and adopted as follows:—

“1. If a minister resigns his charge without obtaining leave from the Assembly to retire from the active duties of the ministry on account of age or infirmity, but continues in the service of the Church as a preacher without resorting to another vocation, such service shall be of the same account as service in the pastorate, in relation to his claim to benefit from the fund, provided that he pays *eight* dollars per annum in addition to rate on his professional income, which additional payment shall cease on his being again inducted into a pastoral charge, otherwise he shall be entitled only to such annuity as the length of his pastorate or pastorates warrant according to the regulations.

“2. A Minister resigning his pastoral charge and transferring his services to another Church, or giving himself to another vocation, shall forfeit all claim to benefit from the fund, beyond repayment of one-half the amount paid by him into the fund; but the Assembly may, on consideration of all the circumstances, grant the application of such minister to retain his claim to benefit corresponding to the number of years of service in the ministry of the Church, on condition:—*First*, That he shall pay an annual rate of not less than *fifteen* dollars; *Second*, That he shall submit to the judgment of the Assembly on any application that he may subsequently make for benefit on the ground of age or infirmity.”

REMITTED TO PRESBYTERIES.

It was agreed to send down to Presbyteries for their consideration during the year, the recommendations of the Report, numbers *three*, *four* and *five*, as follows:—

“3. No Minister shall be required to pay rate on any annuity received from the fund; but all annuities shall be reduced by *ten* per cent. on excess of income beyond *two hundred dollars* that any annuitant may receive, whether from a congregation as a retiring allowance, or for service rendered as a preacher or otherwise; and all annuitants shall make a return of such income for the calendar year immediately preceding, before receiving their semi-annual payments in May.