

CHURCH
WORK

Ministers and Churches

NEWS
LETTERS

OTTAWA.

The Rev. Dr. McMeekin of Ottawa has been preaching most acceptably at Madawaska.

Services preparatory to the Communion will be held next Friday morning in Bank street church, Knox church and the Glebe.

Meetings for the deepening of the spiritual life have been held in Erskine church this week, when addresses were delivered by Rev. J. W. H. Milne and Rev. D. J. Craig, of Aylmer.

It is expected that work will start on the new Stewarton Church, Bank street, about the first of May. It will cost in the neighborhood of \$27,000 and will be the largest Presbyterian church in this city, seating 1,200. It is to be built of stone and already plans have been prepared which will be brought before a congregational meeting on the 11th of April for acceptance, when other details will be arranged. The present building cannot begin to accommodate the congregation, which, since Rev. William A. McIlroy took charge, has increased very rapidly. Already several thousand dollars have been contributed and the members are determined to soon have a place of worship that will compare favorably with any in the Capital.

In the absence of Rev. Dr. Armstrong, Rev. Professor Mackenzie, of the Presbyterian College, Montreal, was the preacher in St. Paul's. In the morning his theme was "The Presence of God," which, he said, was the need of all life, whether individual or national. He took for his text Exodus XXXIII, 14: "My Presence shall go with Thee." In a sense, said the preacher, the presence of God was with every man, good or bad. No man could hide himself from God. He might forget God, and lead a prayerless life, but that did not alter the fact that through all the hours of the day the presence of God was with him. There were times when some men found God's presence irksome, a jarring note. They could test themselves by this thought: Did God's presence make them afraid? If it did then something was wrong with their lives. In another sense God's presence was forfeited and lost by living a selfish, sinful life. The presence of God was the great need of their lives. It was the need of national life. A nation's greatness consisted not in its material wealth, but in the presence of God in the national life of the people. Again, it was the great need of church life. If the presence of God was not realized in the church life, in the preaching, in the praying, in the singing, in all they did then all would come to naught. They needed to be more diligent, but it was not by stirring themselves up a little more that the church would grow, but by the presence of God in all that they did. Then the promise contained in the text was the great need of the family life. Could anything be worse for the children than to grow up in a home where there was no sense of God's presence. Professor Mackenzie's evening sermon was on "Acceptable Service," the four essentials of which he defined as love, faith, loyalty and self-renderer.

The Toronto papers make the following announcement:

The annual examination in the Presbyterian General Assembly's teacher training course will be held on Saturday, May 5, 1906, or on Friday evening, May 4, wherever this may be more convenient, and in as many places as may be found necessary from applications received. Already about 121 names have been sent in, and there is yet a month in which to receive applications.

EASTERN ONTARIO.

Rev. J. H. White, M.A., of Uptergrove, conducted preparatory services in Knox church last Friday at 11 a.m.

Prof. J. Marshall, M.A., of Queen's University, Kingston, lectured in the collegiate institute at Renfrew recently.

Rev. D. Currie, pastor of Knox church, Perth, occupied the pulpit of St. Paul's church, Smith's Falls, on Sunday last.

On next Friday evening Rev. H. D. Leitch, of St. Elmo, will lecture in the Russell Church on "People I have met and do not wish to meet again." There should be a large attendance.

Rev. J. C. McConachie of Queen's University, Kingston, will preach in St. John's church on Sunday next. Mr. McConachie graduated a year or so ago and has been engaged in mission work. He is now taking a post-graduate course.

Last Sunday morning Rev. David McLaren delivered a special sermon to the children in the Alexandria church. It is announced that special services will be held in MacLaren Hall, commencing on Monday evening, 26th inst. Revs. A. Morrison of Kirk Hill and A. G. Cameron of Apple Hill will assist at these meetings.

At the recent celebration of the first anniversary of the induction of Rev. R. McKay, of Maxville, the pleasing feature of the gathering was the "lifting" the mortgage on the church property. Rev. H. D. Leitch, of St. Elmo, discharged the duties of the chair in a happy manner, and altogether the meeting was a most enjoyable one.

An excellent entertainment was given recently in the White Lake church. Miss M. Asquith, Ottawa; Mrs. (Rev.) H. Young, Glasgow; the Misses MacLean, Carleton Place, and Miss J. Needham, Pakenham, were among those taking part. The church was crowded to the doors and all expressed themselves as being delighted with the entertainment.

On Sabbath, March 11th, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was dispensed in St. Andrew's Church, White Lake, by the pastor, Rev. E. J. Show. The morning was fine, the roads favorable and the largest number in many years attending a March communion greeted the pastor. Fifteen new communicants were received on profession of faith and one by certificate.

Rev. P. F. Langill of Martintown preached in St. Andrew's church here last Sunday morning, while Rev. A. Govan preached in St. Andrew's church, Martintown, and read to the congregation the notice that their pastor had received a unanimous call from Vars congregation. Many people in this village hope that the call will not be accepted, as Glengarrigans can ill-afford to lose such a whole-hearted clergyman as Rev. Mr. Langhill.

The Board of French Evangelization has offered the Rev. P. F. Langill, of Martintown, the position of canvassing agent for the Pointe aux Trembles schools at a salary of \$1,200 a year and expenses. The offer has not yet been accepted, but is under consideration. The work is difficult, but most important, and those who know it best are anxious that the board's offer be accepted.

St. Andrew's church, Martintown, one of the finest country churches in Eastern Ontario, was destroyed by fire on Tuesday forenoon of last week. The villagers turned out in full force and made every effort to stop the work of destruction, but having no fire-fighting appliances were unable to accomplish much and the building was completely destroyed, nothing but the bare walls remaining. There had been no fire on since Sunday and when the caretaker cleaned out the furnace on Monday there was no sign of burning embers. There was an insurance of \$5,000, but it is estimated that the structure could not be rebuilt for less than \$20,000 or \$25,000.

WESTERN ONTARIO.

Cookstown Presbyterian contributed last year \$100 to the schemes of Church.

Rev. Hector McKay, of London Junction, was the preacher at St. Andrew's church, Guelph, last Sunday.

The following commissioners have been appointed to attend the General Assembly from Guelph Presbytery: Ministers—Dr. Dickson, Mr. Blair, Mr. Glassford, J. W. Orr, Dr. Middlemiss, Ruling elders—A. W. Panabaker, Wm. Holmes, J. E. McLean, Wm. Argo, Alex. Howie.

Division street church, Owen Sound, has undertaken to secure the services of an assistant for their pastor for the next six months. Mr. Jos. E. Pauline has been engaged for the position and will enter upon his duties on the eighth of April.

Rev. E. A. Henry, of Knox church, Hamilton, is unanimously called to Knox church, Regina. Salary promised, \$2,500, a free manse and six weeks' holidays. Mr. Henry has been four years in his present charge and has done excellent work. Before going to Hamilton he had spent several years in Brandon, Man.

Rev. Dr. McCrae, Westminster, has just returned from a two weeks' stay at Clinton Springs, N.Y., where he was recuperating after a severe attack of la grippe. Dr. McCrae preached last Sunday at New St. James', London, exchanging pulpits with Rev. F. Ballantyne, B.A.

The veteran minister of Knox church, Woodstock, Rev. Dr. McMullen, in a sermon last Sunday on the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch, said that the higher critics in casting reflections on the authorship of Moses cast doubt upon Christ's authority. Christ's authority was Christianity, and Christ was Christianity. He did not understand how such men, doubting the authority of Christ, could profess to be Christians and have faith in Christ, for their soul's salvation.

At the recent meeting of Guelph Presbytery the resignation by Rev. J. B. Mullen of the pastorate of St. Andrew's Church, Fergus, was up for consideration. Communications were heard from the Session, Board of Management and congregation, who spoke most favorably of Mr. Mullen's long service among them, the strong attachment between him and the congregation, who were very sorry that he had seen it his duty to resign. At a meeting of the congregation it had been resolved that his resignation be accepted by the Presbytery, but not to take effect until the 1st of July, 1907; that they had agreed to give him an increase of salary for 1906 of \$100, making it \$1,000, and also to pay him \$1,000 for the half year ending in June, 1907.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Montreal Ministerial Association on Monday the following delegation was appointed to interview the government on the question of Sunday observance: Rev. W. D. Reid, Rev. S. J. Taylor, Rev. Dr. Symond, Rev. Dr. Gilmour and the secretary.

Mr. J. Colin Forbes, R.C.A., of Montreal, who is at present in England painting the portraits of the King and Queen for the Parliament of Canada, has been entrusted with the task of painting a portrait in oils of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the new British premier. The picture is for the National Club.

The doors of every church should swing outward as well as inward. We must listen to the call of the regions beyond as well as to the stranger within the gates.

As the sunlight exceeds the starlight so does wisdom exceed folly. But when the wise man spends his knowledge as the fool his folly it were better not to be wise.