

Church News.

In Canada.

REV. NIEL McPHERSON, M.A., was inducted at Petrolia on Friday last.

REV. WM. GORDON, recently of Longlake-ton, N.W.T., has left for Manitoba, where he will labour for the future.

THE WHITBY Presbytery have appointed the Rev. J. B. McLaren, Columbus, moderator *pro tem* of Clatsop.

REV. NORMAN MACPHER, Marsboro, Que., has been laid aside for several weeks and is still in a critical condition.

REV. F. McCUAIG, has been seven years pastor at Welland, and during that time much prosperity has attended his ministrations.

REV. J. R. MACLEOD, of Three Rivers, has been nominated Moderator for the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa, by the Presbytery of Montreal.

THE young people of Zion Presbyterian church in Hull, are considering the advisability of establishing a Christian Endeavour society in their church.

THE decision of Rev. R. H. Abraham, of Burlington, not to accept the call to the First Presbyterian church, Brantford, has caused much disappointment in the telephone city.

A concert was held in Chalmers' church, Woodstock, last week, and was very successfully carried out. At the close the Ladies Aid Society entertained the performers to a tea. About forty dollars were realized.

MR. JOHN A. JACKSON, who has been a valuable Bible class teacher and elder at Abingdon, was presented with a highly complimentary address and a well-filled purse recently on the occasion of leaving that locality.

REV. MR. KELSO, Wallacetown, has been presented with a well filled purse by the congregations of Duff's and Chalmers' churches, Dunwich, in appreciation of his services as moderator of session during the vacancy of the congregations.

ON Sabbath, April 15th, at Blackheath Presbyterian church, Messrs. Arthur Sementon, Samuel McLeod and George McKay were ordained to the eldership. The work is very encouraging at Blackheath, Seneca and Abingdon appointments.

THERE was held on Monday, April 16th, in St. Andrew's church, Whitby, a missionary institute called by the Whitby Presbytery. A deep interest was taken in it by those present. Special mention should be made of the address by our Foreign Mission Secretary, the Rev. R. P. Mackay.

AT a recent meeting of the Willing Workers Society of the Presbyterian congregation at Winchester, one thousand dollars was donated to the building committee of the new church. There is still a handsome balance in the hands of the society for the furnishing of the church. The pastor, Rev. D. G. C. Connery, M.A., last Sabbath presented twenty-four volumes as prizes to twenty-four Sabbath school scholars for perfect attendance. On Wednesday last Rev. L. R. Glogie, of Norwood, delivered a powerful and eloquent address to a large congregation.

THE congregation of St. Andrew's church, Victoria, met on the evening of the 11th April for the purpose of calling a minister to supply the vacancy existing since the 6th September last. The Rev. D. MacRae, of St. Paul's, Victoria, moderator of the session during the vacancy, in the chair. The call was unanimously and cordially in favour of Rev. W. L. Clay, B.A., of Moose Jaw, N.W.T., who supplied the pulpit acceptably for two Sabbaths last autumn, at a stipend of \$2,500 and removal expenses. The proceedings throughout were of the most harmonious and cordial character, all auguring bright future prospects for this old and important congregation.

COOK'S Y.P.S.C.E., Toronto, still continues in a healthy state. Eleven live committees are each engaged in special work. Missions are given a most important place in the society, and the temperance and good citizenship committee has done noble work in the prohibition cause, and expect to capture one of the good citizenship diplomas at the Cleveland C.E. convention this summer.

Over 2000 tracts and booklets have been distributed during the winter months by the tract committee with good results, but the more important committee of "one" is given a very prominent place, as it is through this committee that the greatest good can be done to uplift fallen humanity. The membership at present is 325, and the meetings of the society are held every Tuesday evening.

THE Beauharnois and Chateaugay local union of the Y.P.S.C.E. held a convention in the Presbyterian church, Valleyfield, on the 23rd ult., the Rev. J. E. Duclos, president of the union, in the chair. The most interesting subject on the programme was, "Should Christian Endeavour Societies hold secular entertainments?" Among those who took part in the discussion were the Revs. D. M. Morrison, Wilkinson, F. McCusker, and Messrs. Kilgour, Eccles and Campbell. The strongest arguments were for the negative.

THE semi-annual meeting of Y.P.S.C.E. of the Presbyterian church, Hespler, was held on Tuesday evening last week. After the regular devotional exercises the president took the chair and entered into the business part of the meeting. The reports of the several committees for the past six months were received and were very encouraging, showing that the Society is growing and that they are bound to push the good work they have on hand. Election of officers and committees:—Hon. president, Rev. D. Strachan; president, Mr. R. Purvis; vice-president, Mr. S. Lutz; sec. secretary, Miss A. McInnis; cor. secretary, Miss E. Kribs; treasurer, Miss E. Richardson; organist, Miss L. Bolduc. Committees.—Lookout committee, Miss Doughty; prayer meeting, Miss Snodgrass; social, Mr. R. W. Karch; flowers, Miss J. Ewing; music, Miss E. Kribbs; calling, Mrs. Williams; Sabbath school, Miss C. Limpert; associate lookout, Mr. A. Holm; junior Sabbath school, Miss E. Bolduc.

THE lecture hall of the new Knox church, Montreal, was opened for public worship last week, and it is expected that the church will be ready for opening before the end of May. The services in connection with the opening of the hall were impressive and appropriate and were heard by large congregations. The sermons were preached by Revs. Professors Ross and Scrimger, and short addresses by Rev. Dr. Mackay and Messrs. J. Murray Smith, David Morrice and W. P. Yule. An appeal was made by circulars on behalf of mission and other work. It was in this connection stated that last year \$1,028 was collected by the congregation and allocated as follows: Cote St. Louis Mission, \$243; French Evangelization, \$100; Home Missions, \$100; Augmentation, \$100; Foreign Missions, \$100; City Missions, \$150; Hospital for the Insane, \$80; Presbyterian College, \$75; Missionary Record, \$40; Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, \$20; Widows' and Orphans, \$20. The various needs of the church were set forth as follows: Home Missions, \$58,000; Augmentation Fund, \$31,000; Foreign Missions, \$115,000; French Evangelization, \$58,000; Colleges, \$14,500. There were also the Widows' and Orphans' Fund and the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund.

Synod of Hamilton and London.

THE Synod of Hamilton and London convened in the Macnaught street church, Hamilton, on Monday last. Rev. George Sutherland, the retiring moderator, preached an able sermon, and Rev. Dr. Battisby, of Chatham, was elected moderator.

ON Tuesday morning routine business was taken up.

REV. DR. COCHRANE presented the annual report of the Brantford Ladies' College, which shows that the institution continues to progress favorably, notwithstanding the rather straitened financial condition of the times. There has been no falling off in the attendance of students, which is a further evidence that Canada is not feeling the effects of the hard times to any extent.

THERE have been enrolled during the year fifty-two boarders and eighty-two day students, a total of 134. Five students are

being prepared for matriculation and one former graduate in music has taken the first examination for Mus. Bac. in Trinity University.

ON motion of Rev. Geo. Sutherland, of Fingal, who spoke very highly of the institution, a resolution, seconded by Rev. Mr. Hamilton, of Motherwell, was passed strongly approving of the college as an institution for the training of the daughters of Presbyterian families.

A NEW HYMNAL.

AN overture was read from the Presbytery of Stratford asking that action be stayed in connection with the adoption of a new hymnal on the ground that it is not desirable to now change the book so recently introduced and placed in the congregations at considerable cost, especially as it is probable further changes will be sought in a few years. No loss will be sustained by the use of the present hymnal for a few years longer, as the Pan-Presbyterian Council is taking steps to compile a hymnal for general use by Presbyterians throughout the British empire.

REV. A. F. Tully, of Mitchell, spoke in support of the overture.

A discussion ensued, and the statement that the Pan-Presbyterian Council will issue a new hymnal for the English-speaking Presbyterian Church, was questioned. Several speakers were strongly in favor of a universal hymnal being prepared. Rev. S. Lyle, of Hamilton, thought it would be strongly advisable to wait until a universal hymnal was prepared. If a new hymnal is issued now by the Church in Canada, it will be an argument against the adoption of the universal hymnal, whereas by waiting the Presbyterian Church in Canada can use its influence strongly to urge on the preparation of a universal book.

REV. DR. McMullen, of Woodstock, was also in favour of waiting until a proper universal hymnal is prepared. The hymnals in use are not altogether satisfactory, and it is no wonder the people get tired of them and want a revision every few years. The number of good hymns is really very limited. "The psalms of David don't seem to wear out the way these hymns do," said the speaker. He moved the adoption of the overture.

REV. F. McCUAIG, of Welland, took strong ground that the work of preparing a universal hymnal should not be left in the hands of the Pan-Presbyterian Council.

REV. DR. LAIDLAW, of Hamilton, said that even if the Synod takes action now it will be a sufficiently long time before the change takes place. The Presbytery of Hamilton had advised that the Hymnal Committee of the Assembly should ask the Presbyteries to submit hymns to the Assembly Committee.

REV. J. McDONALD, St. Thomas, said it was out of the question to expect that the Pan-Presbyterian Council should prepare a universal hymnal, because one of the strongest branches of the Presbyterian Church was not represented on the Council.

A facetious member said that not only were the hymns liable to wear out, but the books themselves had been very prone to do so, and he sincerely hoped that if a new book was adopted it would be properly bound.

AFTER further talk it was decided to appoint a committee to meet with the representatives of the Stratford Presbytery and draft a new overture to be presented in the afternoon. The committee was composed of Rev. Messrs. McMullen, R. Thompson, W. P. Walker, S. Lyle, B.D., Dr. Laidlaw, J. A. McDonald and S. Anderson.

ORDER OF PUBLIC WORSHIP.

AN overture was received from Rev. Dr. Laing, of Dundas; Rev. Dr. Fletcher, of Hamilton, and Rev. A. McLean, asking that steps be taken to establish uniformity in the order of service in the worship of God. The overture stated that in some instances the order of service is seriously defective, and in many cases objectionable; consequently it is desirable that action be taken to establish a uniform order of service.

REV. DR. LAING, on his arrival, said that as matters stand at present almost every church has a different order of service. It is not proposed to make the change to uniformity com-