

REPORT

OF THE

Board of Managers of the Co-
operation of Disciples of
Christ in Ontario.

The progress made by the churches receiving aid from the Home Mission Board has been reported from time to time in the columns of the EVANGELIST and other papers. For this reason a formal and detailed report is not now necessary. The work of the year just ended has been as encouraging as any of the preceding ones, but this does not satisfy us and should not satisfy the advocates of a cause that should take root everywhere and flourish in every quarter.

The following are brief reports from the various missions:

TORONTO.

During the year I have been with the Cecil St. Church constantly as its pastor and preacher, except seven weeks, from the 14th of January to the 6th of March. During this time I was evangelizing in Ohio, my absence being in accordance with an agreement entered upon with the church from the first. Last October, continuing into November, we held a meeting of five weeks, being assisted the last week by Bro. W. D. Cunningham of St. Thomas. I have preached 115 sermons. There have been 47 prayer meeting services; 52 Sunday-school services; 52 Christian Endeavor services; 12 meetings of the auxiliary to the C. W. B. M., and a number of cottage meetings, open air services, etc., of which no accurate record has been kept. There has been growth in every department of the work spiritually, we think, and in nearly every department numerically. I must refer you to the figures in our treasurer's report for the number of additions. The year has been a delightful one as regards our relations as pastor and people. We have seen eye to eye. There has not been a ripple of unpleasantness. Should it please the Lord to continue our relations and our work together thus, we have every reason to hope for a continually growing work.

W. J. LHAMON.

OWEN SOUND.

In making our annual report to the Board, we do so with thanksgiving to the Giver of all good—who has kept us hitherto and will keep us to the end.

Our work is in a healthy and promising condition, with services well attended, and for the year shows an increase over past years. All departments of our church work are well sustained. Financially the year has been

equal to any that has gone before, and by an effort cheerfully borne the many needs of the church work have been met.

The Sunday-school is in good order and doing a good work; last year we reaped a large harvest from this source and hope to do so next year. At present we cannot enlarge it for want of accommodation. During the year we have had fewer additions than last year, and this, with some losses, leaves us a present membership of 85. A detailed report has been sent to the Board. The year has been marked by an awakening amongst our young people, which is making itself felt in many ways for good.

Bro. Lediard has the confidence and love of the membership of the congregation, as well as the respect of our townspeople generally.

Yours faithfully,

C. A. FLEMING, S. C.

COLLINGWOOD.

It is with feelings of thankfulness that we can report a year of greater effort for good in all departments of church work, while our influence for good, as a people, in our town is steadily increasing. Our Sunday services, morning and evening, have also increased in attendance and interest to the people. Besides these two services, Bro. Sinclair preaches each Sunday at a mission point several miles out of town. He holds a high place in the esteem of others as well as our own people, preaching and teaching the word *faithfully*. Some of the good results of his labors are seen in the numerous additions we have had to the church, and we hope long to enjoy his work and labor of love among us.

Our series of special meetings held lately, in which Bro. Sinclair was ably assisted by Bro. Cunningham, of St. Thomas, was the most successful ever held here, resulting in many additions to our numbers, and the church greatly strengthened and encouraged.

We feel greatly indebted to our St. Thomas brethren for their kindness in allowing Bro. Cunningham to come to our assistance during these special meetings.

The Sunday-school is in a good, healthy condition and is gradually increasing in members.

The Young People's Society is doing a good work in the church and is constantly increasing in members and influence. We find it to be a fine means of developing the talents of the church, not only outside work, but also in conducting religious meetings, which it now does with much profit, and we

only wonder the churches were so long in getting the young people to work.

We feel truly thankful to the Board for all the assistance it has given us in the past; indeed, this church owes its existence to the help it has received.

We hoped a year ago that we would not have been under the necessity of asking for any help this year, but our mission point has not met our expectations financially, and we feel that we still are under the necessity of asking some help. We require \$100, and earnestly hope the Board may see its way clear to grant it.

On behalf of the church,

A. M. FRAME, sec.

GEORGETOWN.

In accordance with the custom in all the churches aided by the Board, I here acquaint you with the work in Georgetown. I am sorry I have nothing very good to report. The church here is struggling along with a big debt on the house, and last year's interest is not yet paid, and soon another year's will be due. The church has suffered much in the past through unfaithful ones—we only have eleven or twelve regular contributors, and all, with one or perhaps two exceptions, poor in this world's goods. You can have some idea of our condition. We find it very hard meeting our running expenses. Bro. J. D. Stephens, who labors with us in the Gospel, has not as yet received any aid from the Board since a year ago, and as he does not receive a very liberal salary at the outside, I know it would be very acceptable to him were he to get the amount pledged by the Board last year. The brethren here ask that the Board grant at least one hundred dollars to help the work here this year; if this is not granted, I don't know what is in store. The future, financially, is not encouraging. I trust that the clouds which at present hang so heavily over us may have a silver lining which may soon become visible. Bro. Stephens has worked bravely along amidst all discouragements and is seldom heard complaining. We hope the Board may see their way clear to aid Georgetown in accordance with the request.

A. CHESHER, clerk.

GUELPH.

During the past year the church at Guelph has had a fair measure of prosperity in her spiritual welfare. In the latter part of June Bro. F. W. O'Malley began to labor with the church in this city. In Bro. O'Malley we found a scholarly young man, full of zeal and well able to proclaim the Gospel faith-

fully and intelligently. After some two months' stay among us his health failed and it was with deep regret that his resignation was accepted. Bro. J. B. Yager, of Lexington, was almost immediately chosen as our pastor, and still continues to edify and instruct the people. The congregations from day to day are attentive to his preaching. The number of hearers has increased during the past nine months, showing that Bro. Yager's services are appreciated and that he has, apparently, won the confidence and respect of the people.

We have a morning and evening service every Lord's day. The mid-week prayer-meeting is well attended and is a source of instruction and blessing to many. The church membership now numbers eighty-nine (89).

The Sunday-school is increasing in numbers the past six months, the daily attendance of teachers and scholars reaching as high as 84. The teachers are faithful in their attendance. Contributions are fairly liberal for the Sunday-school, and books and papers are regularly supplied to the pupils.

The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor meets every Sunday evening and is an effective means of interesting young people in religious work. Each member being expected to lead in turn at their public meetings is a further incentive to Bible study in preparing the weekly lesson. It thus becomes a school for the young people. Several members of the Y. P. society are now engaged in a regular course of reading and meet weekly for that purpose.

As our material wealth is not equal to our needs, we are obliged to ask your Board to still continue the grant to the Church of Christ at Guelph, and at the same time we hereby express our thanks for the assistance we received from your Board during the year just closed.

ROBT. McMILLAN.

HAMILTON.

The number of names on the membership roll of this church is now 65. Of these two are non-resident, and a few of them can not be called active members. Still, we do not feel justified as yet in striking their names off the roll, as we have some hope that they may yet be induced to "do the first works." With these small exceptions, this church is able to present a very good record for attendance at meetings, and for contributions to the work. In this city, as in other cities, the grip of hard times is still upon us. How the people manage to raise so much money as they do is a wonder.