

Editorial and Contributed.

THE GENERAL BOARD.

NOTWITHSTANDING the somewhat protracted session of the General Conference, which had just been brought to a close, and the desire of its members to return to their homes, thirty-three members of the General Board of Missions answered to their names when the roll was called in the parlor of Dominion Square Church, Montreal. No better evidence could be given of the deep interest felt in the work of this the most important of our Connexional Committees. Dr. Carman presided with his accustomed ability, looking none the worse from the strain of Conference work. After devotional services, the Rev. T. G. Williams, D.D., was elected Secretary; A. J. Donly, Esq., Journal Secretary; and W. H. Lambly, Esq., Assistant Secretary. The General Secretary read the Minutes of the Committee of Finance for the past year; also submitted a statement of income and expenditure, and balance sheet with auditors' certificate. The Rev. John Kay and J. J. Maclaren, LL.D., were appointed a committee to examine the legislation of the General Conference, in so far as it might affect the action of the Board.

Apart from the question of appropriations, which always captures the close attention of the Board, the most important matter discussed at the recent session was the opening of a new mission in some heathen country. The resolution adopted is published in another column, and we refer to it here only to say that opinion in the committee was unanimous and cordial. Every member seemed to feel that a clear providential call had been uttered, which they were bound to heed. In the conversation which arose upon the subject, the Rev. Geo. J. Bond, B.A., of Newfoundland, urged upon the Board the advisableness of establishing a Medical Mission in Palestine, where the openings were encouraging and the needs great. Ultimately the following resolution respecting Mr. Bond's proposal was adopted:—

Whereas, from information laid before this Board by the Rev. Geo. J. Bond, B.A., it seems exceedingly desirable to establish, as soon as practicable, a mission in Palestine; and whereas, in view of the decision of this Board to organize, in the near future, a new mission in China, the General Missionary Society will have as heavy a financial responsibility as they may prudently assume for the present; and whereas the claims of the women of the Holy Land cannot fail to appeal strongly to the Christian sympathy of their sisters in this country, therefore, be it

Resolved,—"That this General Board of Missions respectfully calls the special attention of the Woman's Missionary Society to the inviting field open in Palestine and Syria for the employment of Medical Missionaries, and the establishment of one or more Girls' Schools; and believing

that the initiation of a Methodist Mission in the Lord's land would not only be immediately fruitful of great good to the field entered upon, but would be the means of evoking wide-spread enthusiasm among our people interested in missions, desires to commend the whole matter to the prayerful consideration of our Sister Society."

The desirableness of having an agent of the Society in the North-West, as the channel through which all communications with the Board and the Mission Rooms respecting Indian affairs should be made, was discussed, and on motion, the Rev. John McDougall was appointed to the position. It was further ordered that a committee be appointed to draft a memorandum of the agent's duties and powers.

A number of letters, resolutions and memorials from the Japan Mission Council were considered; and action taken. In regard to extending the work, it was resolved, that in view of the fact that two new missions (Kanazawa and Nagona) had been already authorized by the Committee of Finance, there be no further extension of the work this year. Respecting allowances to children, it was ordered that the sum of \$100 per child be granted for the present year, and that the Committee of Finance be instructed to consider carefully the sliding scale of salaries submitted by the Japan Mission Council, and to report thereon at the next meeting of the Board.

It was decided to discontinue the mission to the Blood Indians in the North-West, and Rev. John McDougall was authorized to negotiate a sale of the mission property.

Respecting Indian day schools in Ontario, the following resolution was adopted:—

"In harmony with a recommendation of the Report of the Committee on Missions, adopted by the General Conference, this Board is of opinion that it is advisable to relinquish our day schools on the Indian Reserves in the Province of Ontario in all cases where it can be done without prejudice to our mission work; therefore,

Ordered,—"That the two schools on the Grand River Mission be placed under the control of the School Board of the Six Nations Reserve as soon as satisfactory arrangements can be made to that end, and that the Committee of Consultation and Finance be authorized to deal with this and all other cases of Indian schools as they arise."

The following were appointed the members of the Committee of Finance for the current year:—

The General Superintendent and officers of the Society *ex-officio*.

Ministers.

Rev. G. R. Sanderson, D.D.
 " A. E. Russ, M.A.
 " W. S. Griffin, D.D.
 " J. S. Williamson.
 " Wm. Williams, D.D.
 " S. G. Stone, D.D.
 " J. F. German, M.A.
 " H. S. Matthews.
 " John Kay.

Laymen.

J. J. Maclaren, LL.D.
 W. F. Hall.
 A. J. Donly.
 A. Johnson.
 Ald. J. B. Boustead.
 W. G. Smith.
 J. S. Deacon.
 J. T. Moore.
 Dr. Lavell.