

# PROCEEDINGS OF FREE BAPTISTS IN ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

With United States Body Not  
Practicable at Present.

Session at Waterville, Carleton, Trans-  
Canada Business-Committee  
pointed-Address on Importance of  
Sunday School Work, Delivered by Rev.  
O. Kierstead.

## STATEMENT OF LOSSES AND INSURANCE.

Shediac, N. B., Oct. 15 (Special).—By  
far the worst and most disastrous fire that  
ever occurred in Shediac, broke out this  
morning about 6.30 and swept away the  
main business portion of the town.  
The fire started in Mrs. Annie Cormier's  
barn and quickly spread to her store be-  
tween O. M. Melanson's block on the west  
and the post office block on the east.  
Both of these blocks were attacked by  
the flames and soon reduced to ashes, the  
fire taking in the north side of Main  
street, from Lawton's drug store to with-  
in four buildings of C. O. Hamilton's old  
stand.  
Loss \$150,000.  
A conservative estimate places the loss  
at \$150,000, with R. C. Tait and O. M.  
Melanson considerably the heaviest los-  
ers.  
After the alarm of fire had been given  
by Mrs. Cormier, citizens rushed to the  
scene and, soon the fire brigade with fire  
engines and hose were at work, while  
a self-organized bucket brigade  
was working industriously to stay the  
progress of the flames, but to no avail.  
To add to the discouragement offered  
by the extent of the fire the supply of  
water in the tanks soon became exhaust-  
ed, and by-standers looked with fear on  
the threatened destruction of the business  
portion of the town.

Help from Moncton.  
Realizing the critical aspect of the  
disaster, the fire department was com-  
municated with shortly before 7 o'clock,  
and Mayor Given promptly gave permis-  
sion to extend aid and a relief force was  
organized. General Manager Pottinger, of  
the L. O. R., also promptly ordered a  
special train which left Moncton at 7.45,  
carrying the fire engine, hose reel, the  
chief, and a company of the department, and  
a company of the Moncton brigade to Shediac.

They arrived on the scene about 8.15  
and got quickly to work, but by this time  
the fire had made great havoc and was  
threatening the Watford House and the  
Shediac Hotel and shoe factory just west  
of it.

Scarcity of Water.  
Scarcity of the supply of water greatly  
handicapped the firemen in their work.  
They soon had the tanks pumped dry and  
then had to seek a supply from the river.  
But they succeeded in saving the Watford  
House and this prevented the flames from  
reaching the shoe factory.

The fire was confined to the north side  
of the street, but besides leveling all the  
business houses in the area described, it  
swept away the warehouses, sheds and out-  
buildings besides one or two dwellings be-  
tween the stores and the river.

Windows in buildings on the south side  
of Main street were broken by the intense  
heat and it was only by great effort  
with carpets and such like that the fire  
was prevented from spreading to that side  
of the street.

Out at 12 O'clock.  
By 12 o'clock the fire was under control,  
having been checked in the easterly di-  
rection at R. C. Tait's building, occupied  
by Magistrate Jerrico and having exhaust-  
ed itself in other parts of district. At  
12 o'clock the fire was out and the citizens  
and Moncton firemen who had been bat-  
tling with the flames for hours could  
celebrate their labors worthily. Several of  
the sufferers are left practically without a  
dollar, while all others suffered severely,  
some being practically ruined.

Mr. Melanson's Heavy Loss.  
O. M. Melanson, who is probably the  
heaviest loser, estimates his loss at \$80,-  
000 over and above his insurance. His  
losses include a large store containing  
\$25,000 worth of stock, a warehouse,  
100x40 feet, three stores filled with stock  
and about 4,000 barrels potatoes in the  
cellar, one-third of the stock of potatoes  
was saved.  
An unoccupied dwelling house to the  
rear was also destroyed. Some stock was  
saved, probably \$1,000 worth, but Mr.  
Melanson estimates his stock loss at \$80,-  
000. He had about \$15,000 dollars insur-  
ance on buildings and stock.  
R. C. Tait's loss includes buildings,  
\$7,000 and stock \$21,000. His insurance is  
\$4,000 on stock, \$4,000 on buildings.  
The building owned and occupied by W.  
A. Russell, barrister, and Doctor L. J.  
Belliveau was destroyed; the office furni-  
ture was partly saved. The insurance  
on the building is \$600. The property  
was valued at \$1,200. The loss on fur-  
niture is covered by insurance.  
Mrs. Gallant's millinery, valued at \$1,200 on

building and \$2,000 on stock. Her loss  
over and above insurance is \$1,000.  
Mrs. Gallant also owned the post office  
block building in which was also the  
People's Bank of Halifax. This block was  
insured for \$3,000. The loss above insur-  
ance is \$1,200.  
E. Paturel, who lived over the post  
office, has loss of \$300 or \$350 on fur-  
niture.  
The Poiriers in Poirier's brick block,  
between the Watford House and the  
People's Bank, lost the building and stock  
over insurance. The insurance on the  
building is \$4,000.  
Stom Poirier, general store keeper, is  
nearly covered by insurance. He had  
\$1,200 on his stock.  
Alex. McNeill, general grocer, lost his  
building valued at \$1,200. He carried  
some insurance.  
Wm. Bourque, barber, in the McNeill  
building, is probably covered by insur-  
ance.  
Louis Comeau's building was burned.  
The loss over and above insurance is  
\$600.  
Val Landry occupied the Comeau build-  
ing as a saloon and is probably covered  
by insurance.  
Mrs. Annie Cormier, in which building  
the fire started, has loss of about \$800  
above insurance. The insurance on her  
stock, \$1,500; loss \$500 or \$600 above in-  
surance.

Stewart White on building and stock  
lost, above insurance, about \$800.  
Maudell Goss's building, occupied by  
himself as a saloon and billiard room and  
residence, was burned. The building was  
worth \$1,000, stock about \$300. He has  
no insurance, but he got to it the flames  
were beyond control.  
This gives the losses and insurance as  
nearly as could be ascertained today.

Origin Mystery.  
How the fire originated is mystery. It  
was first seen by E. Paturel, who lives  
in the post office building. The blaze  
was then in Mrs. Cormier's barn. Before  
it could get to it the flames  
were beyond control.  
Even then, if the town had anything  
like adequate fire protection, the spread  
of the fire could have been prevented, but  
the fire apparatus consists of a hand  
engine and hose. Four water tanks sup-  
plied by a small pump are situated along  
Main street, but the supply of water was  
totally inadequate for fighting such a  
fire.

Shediac people realize this now and  
leading citizens who suffered severely are  
emphatic in declaring that sufficient ap-  
paratus for fighting fire must be secured  
at once.

Former Fires.  
Twenty-five years ago, Oct. 12, 1879,  
the business portion of Shediac was fire  
swept and another disastrous fire occurred  
in 1885. O. M. Melanson's store burned out  
in 1879 but escaped in 1885.

Messrs. Tait and Melanson ex-  
press determination to resume  
business as soon as possible, and doubt-  
less when they and others build, more  
substantial brick structures will take the  
place of the destroyed buildings.

The fire business men will probably  
also resume as soon as possible, the dif-  
ficulty being at present to find places to  
do business in.

Insurance Held in St. John.  
At the St. John fire insurance office  
The Telegraph learned that policies on  
burned buildings or on stock at Shediac,  
held by companies here included: Sun,  
\$3,000 on the post office; \$500 on the  
buildings of Messrs. Melanson and White;  
\$2,300 on the stocks of Messrs. Melanson  
and White; \$1,000 on R. C. Tait & Co.'s  
stock; \$300 on R. C. Tait & Co.'s store,  
and dwelling; \$200 on the combined  
dwelling of O. M. Melanson and J. E. La-  
Blanc; \$2,000 on the stock of Messrs. Mel-  
anson and White; \$500 on the stock and  
warehouse of Messrs. Melanson and  
White.  
Norwich Union, \$700 with Mrs. Dinah  
J. Cormier; \$2,000 on stock of O. M.  
Melanson.  
Hartford, \$2,000 on R. C. Tait's stock.  
Adna, \$500 on the stock of O. M. Mel-  
anson; \$1,500 on stock of R. C. Tait.  
Phoenix, \$2,000 on the stock of W. A.  
Russell, \$1,000 on the stock of L. J. Belli-  
veau; \$1,000 on the stock of W. A. Russell.  
Queen, \$1,000 on stock and building of  
R. C. Tait; \$1,000 on the stock of W. A.  
Russell; \$1,000 on the stock of L. J. Belli-  
veau; \$1,000 on the stock of W. A. Russell.  
British American, \$1,000 on R. C. Tait's  
stock.  
Phoenix of Hartford, \$1,000 on R. C.  
Tait's stock; \$1,500 on building of  
Poirier.  
Guardian, \$700 on estate of A. J. Cor-  
nier; \$400 on his stock; \$100 on his fur-  
niture; \$200 on building in rear.  
Ortana, \$1,000 on Melanson's stock  
(partly re-insured); \$300 on Melanson's  
building; \$500 on the furniture of the  
People's Bank; \$400 on property of Louis  
Comeau; \$1,000 on law library and office  
furniture of W. A. Russell.  
Anglo-American, \$1,000.  
Canadian, \$500 on Melanson's store,

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Sunday School Work, Delivered by Rev.  
O. Kierstead.

Waterville, Oct. 11.—When the F. B.  
conference resumed today it was moved  
by Rev. G. W. Foster and seconded by  
Rev. F. G. Francis that the correspond-  
ing secretary's report be adopted; moved  
by Rev. J. B. Daggett, seconded by Rev.  
J. Henderson, as an amendment, that it  
lie on the table till Monday morning.  
The amendment carried.

The delegate from the Nova Scotia con-  
ference, Rev. A. M. McNinch, was then  
introduced and expressed the pleasure his  
conference had in receiving the representa-  
tives of this conference—Rev. Henry  
Perry and Rev. Dr. McLeod—and also his  
own pleasure in being present after an  
absence of eight years.

He said their condition was about the  
same as ours—plenty of work and few  
workers and urged more friendliness than  
had hitherto been.

On motion of Rev. Doctor McLeod,  
Rev. Dr. McLeod was invited to a seat  
with this conference.

Rev. Doctor Mosher, of Boston, pres-  
ident of the general conference of the  
Free Baptists of the United States, was  
introduced. He said as a boy he thought  
of coming to this province as coming to a  
foreign country, but he was glad to have  
been here for more than twenty years in  
democracy and freedom and friendliness  
and all things of that kind that one state  
has to offer to another state his own coun-  
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of the Free Baptists of the United States.  
He extended again the invitation which  
had been extended to him to join the  
conference with the U. S. Free Baptists  
as Nova Scotia.

The tendency of the times was toward  
consolidation in religious work as well as  
business life and he urged it was carry-  
ing out the command of Christ when he  
said "that they all might be one."

Rev. Doctor Anthony, of Lewiston,  
(Me.), associate delegate with Doctor  
Mosher, was introduced. He said, having  
been here three times before he felt he  
with this conference in teaching, in doc-  
trine and in substance of truth, and urged  
union because it meant advancement and  
enrichment.

He rejoiced to hear of the advancement  
of this denomination as told in the cor-  
responding secretary's report, and urged  
that more and more work be done in  
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D. McLeod Vice stated his pleasure  
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than were heretofore in existence, should  
be entered into with the brethren of the  
United States. It was resolved on this  
motion, seconded by Rev. A. A. Ridout,  
that they be invited to a seat with this  
conference.

Rev. W. H. Perry, the delegate from  
this conference to the Nova Scotia F. B.  
conference, reported a pleasant reception  
by the brethren there.

Rev. J. A. Cahill, of the Baptist bod-  
ies, being present, was invited to a seat with  
this conference.

He said he was a union man and that  
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he would make any personal sacrifice in  
order that the bodies may all be one.

Rev. G. W. Foster believed the time  
had not come yet for union because there  
were differences in doctrine as far as he  
could see.

The committee on nominations was as  
follows: Revs. Gideon Swin, S. J. Ride-  
out, and J. B. Daggett.

The evening session was devoted to  
Sunday school work and prayer by  
Rev. Dr. McLeod, Rev. G. Swin, from the  
nominating committee, reported the  
following committees:

On resolutions—Revs. Swin, Van-  
wart, Hart and Messrs. Shaw, Blood-  
worth, Davis and McNeill.  
On Collections—Revs. Henderson, Barnes  
and Alder Smith.  
On deceased brethren—Revs. McLeod,  
Phillips, Noble, Currier and Barnes.  
On appeals—Rev. L. A. Fenwick and  
Messrs. Goss, McLeod, J. Patterson, D.  
J. Perry, and J. L. Newton.  
On correspondence—Rev. J. B. Daggett,  
Watson, Gaudin and Green.  
On district meetings—Revs. Paul, Pro-  
sser, Foster, Fenwick, S. J. Perry, B. H.  
Nobles and B. D. Daggett.

The Sabbath services were:  
Waterville church—9 a.m., prayer meet-  
ing led by Revs. T. S. Vanwart and J. N.  
Barnes; 11 a.m., annual sermon by Rev.  
F. G. Francis; 3 p.m., preaching by Rev.  
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should teach the sacredness of the ballot  
and that all church members in office  
should be of the opinion that they should  
under the discipline of the church.

The Women's Mission Society held their  
council meeting this afternoon. The pro-  
ceedings were made more interesting than  
usual because of the presence of Miss  
Gaudin, of Kings county, (N. B.) re-  
turned missionary from Bahrora, India. This  
president, Miss Gaudin, and the following pro-  
gram was carried out:

Reading Scripture, Mrs. Second.  
Prayer, Mrs. Johnson.  
Address of welcome, Mrs. Second.  
Response, Mrs. J. C. Smith.  
Address by the president.  
Address by Miss Gaudin.  
Introduction of Miss Hart, of this

A. McNinch, N. B. delegate; 7 p.m.,  
preaching by Rev. Prof. Anthony of  
Lewiston (Me.).  
Hartland F. B. church—11 a.m., Rev.  
A. J. Prosser; 7 p.m., Rev. A. A. Ride-  
out, Jacksonville; 11 a.m., Rev. Dr. Mc-  
Leod; 7 p.m., Rev. Mr. Parker.  
Jacksonville—11 a.m., Rev. Mr. Hart-  
ley.

Woodstock—11 a.m., Rev. W. O. Kier-  
stead; 7 p.m., Rev. C. G. Phillips.  
Lindsay—11 a.m., Rev. A. D. Paul.  
Rosedale—3 p.m., Rev. R. W. Fergus-  
son.

It was resolved that the next session  
of the conference be held with the church  
at Lower Millstream, Kings county.  
Rev. Dr. McLeod, Rev. B. H. Nobles,  
and D. McLeod Vice were appointed a  
committee to prepare a handbook for the  
delegates.

The secretary was instructed to have  
3,000 copies of the year book published.  
Rev. W. O. Kierstead gave an address  
on "Why is Sunday School Work so  
Important." He said it was important  
because children will form habits and  
therefore care should be taken that the  
habits are good; also because the  
children are the future, not only that  
evil will bring punishment but that "God  
is Love."

It is important because it puts before  
the child a high ideal, and also because  
it gives him Christ for a companion in  
all the ways of life. "He is a friend, He  
dies for us and He will be with us all  
the time."

We should teach by being filled with the  
Holy Spirit, then by word and by ex-  
ample filling the child with the same ex-  
citing influence.

The motive of all Sunday school teach-  
ing and work should be to lead scholars  
to Christ. "Hold Him up for them as He  
has said He will draw all men to Him."  
"Don't try so much to lift men up as  
to lift Christ up and then they, clinging  
to Him, will be also lifted on the plane  
where He stands."

Rev. M. L. Gregg gave a partial report  
on Sabbath schools, showing an advance  
all along the line.

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Prayer, Mrs. Johnson.  
Address of welcome, Mrs. Second.  
Response, Mrs. J. C. Smith.  
Address by the president.  
Address by Miss Gaudin.  
Introduction of Miss Hart, of this

place, who has offered herself as a mis-  
sionary.  
Recitation, Miss Wiley.  
Report of corresponding secretary, Mrs.  
C. W. Weyman.  
Report of treasurer, Mrs. Vince.  
Report of society's home missionary,  
Rev. J. N. Barnes.

The report of the corresponding sec-  
retary told of the prosperity of the work  
in Uluda and the widows' home and  
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The treasurer's report showed the fi-  
nances in a most flourishing condition,  
amount raised during the year having  
been \$1,844; expended, \$1,400; balance on  
hand at present, \$1,762.

At the close a memorial service was  
held in memory of the late Jane Weyman,  
of Lower Millstream, Kings county, long  
identified with the work of the society.  
Rev. C. G. Phillips was the principal  
speaker.

Waterville, Oct. 15.—Wm. Peters, treas-  
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Rev. C. G. Phillips was the principal  
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