

the decision of pastor Best, and also that of the Brandon church, relative to his acceptance of the position of Superintendent of Missions and general missionary for Manitoba and the North-West. The church objected to their pastor's resignation, but consented to his giving such time during the winter, as the country might require, to open up and arrange fields for missionary labor, and that he should spend from 1st of May to the 1st of October in the general work, during which time the church would provide for his absence with student missionary labor. The Board, satisfied that this was all that could be expected under the circumstances, agreed to the terms.

Accordingly our Missionary Superintendent entered upon his duties the 1st of February last, and with the exception of the month of April, which he spent with his own church, his time has ever since been at the disposal of your Board.

Your Board regrets an alarming decrease in the contributions of our Ontario and Quebec churches. The assurances made by pastors and churches led us to expect a more liberal response to our appeals. Instead of this the contributors have fallen below former years. This we believe, however, is not attributable to decreased interest in our missions, but to other causes. Were not our Ontario churches so taxed in other directions, our cause would have been nobly sustained. We feel assured that even now when all our needs, as well as our successes, are presented there shall be an enthusiastic response. We value the friendship and good will of our dear brethren who have helped us, and are thankful to Almighty God for the offerings they have sent us.

Our own people in this country, too, have been generous to a fault. It is marvellous the work they have accomplished almost wholly unaided, as they have been. It exhibits the oneness of their spirit and aim which has characterized all their deliberations and efforts. It has shown that the Baptists of Manitoba are united in their policy and work, and prepared to make any subscription to give the gospel of Jesus Christ to this country. But this strain upon them is too great. They are already bearing burdens and making sacrifices for the work's sake which they cannot longer endure. Outside help is now a necessity if we would secure either the safety or progress of our work, and this Convention must take immediate steps to obtain a greater co-operation and support for our missions from the Eastern churches.

1. For the want of means we are already occupying fields that are altogether too extensive for any one man to successfully work and meet the increasing demands of country and people. Deloraine and White-water, Boissevain, Killarney and Riverside, Morden, Manitou, Callidar and Thakland, Rapid City, etc., are all fields too large to work to advantage. The co-operation of our Eastern churches would have enabled these missions to have possessed additional laborers, and the spiritual results would have been tenfold. But Manitoba Baptists could do no more, so the present arrangement had to go into effect.