

This paper is issued at the beginning of every month. Its purpose is to be a record of events of local interest, and a medium of information to persons attending the services. Any member of the congregation having items of interest to contribute, will kindly drop such communications in the St. Andrew's box in the vestibule of the Church.

St. Alban's Cathedral, Toronto

Monthly Notes

NUMBER 134

TORONTO, CANADA

JULY, 1899

RESIDENT CLERGY.

THE DEAN.—THE RIGHT REVEREND, THE LORD BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE, See House.

THE PRIEST VICAR—REV. A. U. DE PENCIER, Well's Hill, head of Howland Ave.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS.

Holy Communion 8 a. m. on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays.

Holy Communion, 11 a.m. on the 1st and 3rd Sundays.

Morning Prayer and Sermon at 11 a.m.

Evensong and Sermon at 7 p.m.

Sunday School at 3 p.m.

Young Women's Bible Class at 3 p.m. in the Chapel.

Baptisms at 4 o'clock (notice to be given.)

For the season the Woman's Auxiliary has discontinued its regular weekly meetings. A bale of useful Clothing, Quilts, etc., was recently forwarded to a Mission in Athabaska for distribution among the Indians. The Girl's branch will continue their Meetings for a few weeks on Monday evening, not in the Chapel, but at the residence of the Vicar.

The Chancel and Altar Guilds respectively, meet on notice.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew holds the regular Chapter meeting at half-past 9 o'clock in the morning the second and fourth Sunday of the month in the Chapel of the Cathedral.

Be constant at the services of the Church. It is a gracious privilege. *Come!* because it is a duty you owe to yourself—your family—your friends—to the *indifferent*. Consciously and unconsciously beneficial influence will be the result.

SERVICE ACCOUNT

JUNE

RECEIPTS

Offertory : Average \$31.11.....	\$124 43
" Synod Service	18 30
Subscriptions to Interest.....	42 00
Balance 30 June.....	102 16
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	\$286 89

EXPENDITURE

Balance 31st May.....	\$101 87
Clerical Stipend.....	62 50
Organists Salary.....	25 00
" Expenses.....	2 50
Choir Laundry.....	4 00
Sexton's Salary.....	20 00
" Expenses.....	3 20
Petty Repairs.....	1 60
Lighting.....	3 42
Interest.....	44 50
Synod : Misson Fund.....	18 30
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	\$286 89

THE DAY SCHOOL

The School was closed on the 29th inst for the summer vacation, altogether it has been a most encouraging year, both in regards to the numbers in attendance, and the progress and steady work throughout. On the roll we have thirty-one boys; out of this there has been an average attendance of about twenty six.

Owing to this number going to press so soon after the closing for the holidays, we are not able to publish the usual monthly report. However we will have the standing of the boys ready for the next issue, together with the name of the boy winning the medal for general proficiency and also the other prize winners.

MONTHLY NOTES

LAY REPRESENTATIVES

(Communicated)

The Synod meeting (which has just been brought to a close) is always a matter of interest to churchmen, and though we of St. Alban's are not permitted to send representatives in so far as the laity are concerned, that fact does not prevent us from watching its proceedings each year, knowing as we do that the general prosperity of the Church depends to some extent upon the work there accomplished.

It will not therefore be out of place to glance at the composition of the Synod and the qualifications of its members.

Commencing then with the clerical members, it appears that every clergyman in charge of a Church or Mission is entitled to take his seat in the Synod; so that on all questions that come up for discussion the clergy are fully represented, and are from their educational advantages and frequent opportunities for public speaking, always able to present their views on the different matters that arise to the best possible advantage.

Now as regards the laymen. Their qualifications are as follows: they must be men of twenty one years of age or upwards; must be communicants of at least one year's standing; must have communicated at least three times during the twelve months previous to the election; and must be duly elected by the vestry of the Church which they represent.

The vestry, it may be explained, consists, in Churches where they have rented pews, of all pew-holders, who are not in arrears for rent or other Church dues up to Easter. In free Churches, that is, in Churches where there are no rented pews, it consists of all men of upwards of twenty one years of age, who have applied before the twenty-second day of the January previous to the election to be placed on the vestry list and have delivered to the Church-wardens of the congregation of which they are members the following declaration.

"I solemnly declare that I am a member of the Church of England and of the congregation of— Church (naming it); that I am of the full age of twenty one years; that I am an habitual worshipper with the said congregation and have been so for three months next preceding January the first instant; that I am not registered as a member of any other congregation; and that during the three months above mentioned I have not voted, nor do I intend to, as a member of any other congregation at an election of Lay representative in the next Synod."

If however the name of the party is already on the list of those who were entitled to vote at the last election, it is not necessary to repeat the above declaration.

The vestry thus constituted is, as we know, called to meet on the Monday following Easter Sunday in each year, and at that meeting, or at an adjourned meeting according to the readiness or unreadiness of the financial report of the Church's affairs, the Church wardens are elected and appointed and then the lay representatives are elected for the next Synod.

So it would seem that the Church-wardens are charged with the duty of looking after, and managing the temporal affairs of the Church while the lay representatives are supposed to interest themselves in the more spiritual matters that arise in connection with Church affairs, and especially, to make it their business to attend the meetings of the Synod and take part in its deliberations. Therefore, as we Churchmen follow from year to year the discussions in Synod and see how large a portion of its limited session is taken up with financial affairs and the best methods of managing them, we feel compelled to make an addition to the division of duties as above indicated and say that Church-Wardens have the management of the local finances of each parish while lay representatives appear to devote most of their energies to a share in the management of the finances of the diocese at large, leaving spiritual matters to take second place.

If the money matters appear to have the upper place in the Synod, the representative legislative body of the Church of England in this diocese, how is it with the local governing body in each parish, that is, the vestry?

I think it would be found that a typical meeting of the Vestry in a parish where nothing out of the ordinary had occurred during the preceding year would be something like this. At eight o'clock, the time when the meeting is supposed to commence, the members begin to drop in at the place appointed. Five minutes later several little groups of vestrymen are to be seen discussing the probabilities as to who will be the incoming Churchwardens, and what will be the complexion of the report of the out-going ones, rosylined or gloomy. By ten minutes past eight probably both Churchwardens are present, the Rector taking the chair. The meeting is then opened with prayer and the vestry clerk or some other appointed person reads the minutes of the last Easter meeting which are duly confirmed and pass into history. The way is now open for the Churchwarden's report. If they have been prompt men of business, it will be forth coming and will be read for the enlightenment of the assembled vestrymen and, through the reporters, for the information of the public. If, however the Churchwardens resemble one of the early Saxon kings in that they are unready, or, if the officers of the Church in the exercise of their discretionary power, decide in conjunction with their Rector that it would be better not to read the financial report at this particular meeting, then it will be found by the vestrymen that through some accident or unavoidable delay the report is not at hand and that part of the proceedings will have to be taken up at an adjourned meeting. In either case they can go on with the election of the people's warden and the appointment of the Rector's warden. When this is over and it is found that one of the two or three lay representatives is retiring or, it is thought desirable to have one or two new ones, one of the older members of the Vestry usually nominates a disappointed aspirant for Churchwarden for the position, adding a few complimentary remarks as a salve to the wounded sensibilities of the would be warden, and the nomination being duly seconded with the addition, perhaps, of a

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little more ointment applied for the same purpose as before, he is unanimously elected as lay representative.

This being the last business brought before the Vestry the Rector now makes a few congratulatory remarks about the retiring Churchwardens, the way in which they have performed their duties, and, also, about the wise choice the vestry has made in electing those for the incoming year. The vestry then adjourns, every man feeling that he has done everything that can be expected of him as a vestryman and a churchman.

In this attempted description of an ordinary vestry meeting, I have tried to keep as near to an unvarnished outline of the bare facts as possible, so as not to give a wrong impression to those who have never attended such meetings. And I would now ask if there does not seem to be something wanting in these proceedings? If there is not something left out that is necessary to round off and complete the year's business as it is brought up before each vestry? It will be perceived that the church officers, whose duty is to manage the temporal affairs of the parish, to deal with the dollars and cents contributed by each vestryman and churchman of the locality, are required every year to give a detailed account of the manner in which they have discharged their duties, and are thus made to feel, during the whole of their tenure of office, their individual responsibility to those who elected them.

The natural result is that churchwardens are, with rare exceptions, faithful to the trust reposed in them and perform their duties so as to benefit as much as possible the church of which they are officers.

Let us now turn to the lay representative being required by the vestry to give an account of the manner in which he had performed his duties in so far as the Synod is concerned? It is quite possible that when the rectorship became vacant and the lay representative together with the Churchwardens waited as in duty bound upon the Bishop to recommend some Clergyman as being acceptable to them as Rector, they might be required by the vestry to give an account of their stewardship. But that is a thing of rare occurrence—an event that but seldom happens—and so perhaps because the lay representative's duty is just then closely connected with the home and local surroundings of the vestrymen, he is held down to a sense of his responsibilities; while, in his ordinary Synod duties that are intended to benefit the whole diocese and only affect the vestryman's parish indirectly and to a small extent, he is allowed to do just as he pleases and to feel that the probabilities are in favor of his not even being spoken to about the matter by any of the vestrymen.

Now I will venture to assert that any business firm who sent out a representative to transact business for them, and permitted him to come home and resume his ordinary duties, without even inquiring what he had accomplished during his absence would not deserve to have their business done properly and might with reasonable certainty be expected soon to go to the wall. Yet hard-headed business men, who would be the first to condemn the folly just referred to, go on year after year in the same foolish course in their vestry work for the simple and solitary reason as far as I can see that it is only church work.

It is no wonder that under such circumstances the Synod reports are often unsatisfactory—that the actual work of the Synod is performed by just a few—that the lay representatives as a whole take little interest in the various questions that come before the Synod—that appeals by the Synod often find but a feeble response in the various parish churches—and, in short, that legitimate church work languishes throughout the diocese. How can it be otherwise when there is an important piece of perpetually unfinished business in every vestry in the diocese—when every parish seems to proclaim to its sister parishes, "I take care that the business that concerns me is properly done and duly accounted for, but as for the business of the diocese at large, what do I care how it is done? I elect men to attend to it as a matter of course, but I never trouble myself as to whether they do it or leave it undone"!—now what is the remedy for this state of affairs? I cannot imagine our Church as ever contemplating, that one part of the parish machinery provided for carrying on its affairs should be developed and used according to the special needs of that particular parish, and that the other and not less important part of the same machinery should be just started on its way and then permitted to come to a standstill before it had completed its revolution, or produced the result for which it was designed.

The remedy I think is this—let the vestry of each parish require from their lay representatives every year a report of the different matters that came before the Synod of which they were members, and of the position they individually took on each question. And in order that this be not done in a perfunctory manner let there be an adjourned meeting of the vestry for this purpose so that there can be a free exchange of views between the vestrymen and their representatives on every important question. Then to make this lead to something more than barren results let the Clergy educate their people up to their duties and their privileges as members of the grand old Church of free-born Britons, whose sympathies have no bound and whose duties are world-wide.

I admit that there are difficulties in the way arising from the luke-warmness or indifference both of the clergy and of laity, but it is inconceivable that when intelligent churchmen think out this matter and perceive the inconsistency of their present conduct they will permit such small obstacles to stand in the way of duty.

It is competent for any member of a vestry to move that an adjourned meeting be held for the purpose of receiving the report of their lay representatives in the last Synod, and if he has previously spoken to some of his fellow vestrymen about it and mentioned his intention to the Rector, I think he would have no difficulty in getting his motion carried. But if such a one is afraid that there will be no report ready he can, instead of taking the above course, move that upon the following Easter and each succeeding one an adjourned vestry meeting be held for the purpose of having and discussing such report, and that the lay representatives be instructed each year to prepare it for that meeting. Such a course, I believe, to be perfectly legitimate and would in time produce great results.

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If however, no layman can be found to do this, perhaps some of the clear-headed, broad-hearted Clergy will take the initiative and thus develop their parish machinery on the lines that seem to have been intended to be followed but which from some cause or other have not been.

Some of the effects of such a movement faithfully followed up, and developed would be: To disabuse the minds of laymen of the idea that is now prevalent that they are regarded by Church authorities as knowing and caring very little about Church matters, and are only regarded as being of value in proportion to the amount they give towards the maintenance of their Church. To make them better acquainted with their Church system, with its methods of carrying on its work, and its consequent superiority over the systems of the various denominations; To impress upon the minds of laymen the fact that they have the privilege and the right to elect from among themselves men to represent them and their views in the Synod of their church; and to melt down the icy barrier that seems to separate church people of different schools of thought and those of one section of the country from those of another section, bringing them to realize that they are all members of the same great Church having common interests, common aims, and whose prosperity is to be desired and to be worked for by all true hearted laymen.

Fellow Churchmen, let us see if something can not be done in this direction.

T. H. T.

SUCCESS IN PRAYER

The Bishop of Exeter says—I remember asking a very old friend of mine who I think as far as I have been permitted to know Christian men was mightier with God than almost any man I ever met "Do tell me the secret of your success in prayer." He said "I will tell you what it is I say to myself" Is that which I am asking *for promised?* Is it according to the mind of God? If it is I plant my foot upon it as upon a firm rock and *I never allow myself to doubt* that my Father *will give* me according to my petition.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew of St. Alban's conceived the plan of taking a census within the precincts of the Cathedral from every house. Issuing cards for the information required which were left at each house to be filled in. We are pleased to learn that the enquiry has been so far very satisfactory and it is hoped that by our next issue we shall be able to fully report the completeness of the work, and when this work is done we are assured that it will be of great advantage to all interested. It is desired that all attending the Cathedral will obtain and fill in a Card returning it to the Vestry.

The Sunday School Picnic will take place this month and it is hoped that the liberality of the Congregation will again be available for the needs of the Children's Summer Festival. We trust the generous friends of the School will bear in mind that the work of the collectors of the anniversary contributions may be greatly relieved by a ready and voluntary response.

ST. ALBAN'S FIELD DAY

The sports of the Athletic Association were held on the Cathedral Athletic grounds on Wednesday the 21st having been postponed to that date from St. Alban's Day.

The afternoon sports proved a very great success both from an athletic and social point of view, a large number of the friends of the boys and others being present. The events, of which twenty or more were brought off, proved very interesting and were, in all cases, well contested; the entries in some, especially those for the younger boys, being so many that the races had to be run in heats.

The results of the events were as follows:—

1. 75 yard race, 8 years and under—
1st McLean; 2nd McDonald; 3rd Mince.
1. 100 yard dash, 10 years and under—
1st Flint; 2nd Hilliard; 3rd Burrows.
3. 100 yard dash, 12 years and under—
1st R. Hilton; 2nd Sinclair; 3rd Smith.
4. 100 yard dash, 14 years and under—
1st Klingner; 2nd Pangman.
5. 100 yards dash, 16 years and under—
1st Crane; 2nd D. Andras.
6. 220 yards Race, 14 years and under—
1st R. Reade; 2nd Klingner; 3rd Holt.
7. $\frac{1}{4}$ mile Bicycle Race, 12 years and under—
1st R. Hilton; 2nd Chadwick.
8. Three Legged Race, under 12 years—
1st R. Hilton and H. Davison.
9. Three Legged Race, over 12 years—
1st R. Hilton and H. Davison; 2nd A. Fellows and L. Reade.
10. Sack Race, under 16 years—
1st R. Hilton; 2nd A. Ledger; 3rd B. Ledger.
11. 100 yard Dash, open to men—
1st Fisher; 2nd Cameron.
12. Wheelbarrow Race, 12 years and under—
1st Stirling and Henderson; 2nd Flint and Jessop.
13. High Jump, 10 years and under—
1st Holland; 2nd Flint.
14. High Jump, 13 years and under—
1st A. Fellows; 2nd Klingner; 3rd R. Andras.
15. High Jump, open—
1st D. Andras; 2nd Crane.
16. Pole Vault, 10 years and under—
1st D. Hilton.
17. Pole Vault, 13 years and under—
1st Fellows; 2nd Pangman; 3rd R. Andras.
18. Running Long Jump, 13 years and under—
1st R. Reade; 2nd A. Fellows.
19. Running Long Jump, open—
1st Crane; 2nd J. D. Andras.
20. Hop, Step and Jump, 14 years and under—
1st R. Reade; 2nd A. Fellows; 3rd Holt.
21. Hop, Step and Jump, open—
1st D. Andras; 2nd Crane.
22. Throwing Cricket Ball, juniors—
1st Hornibrook; 2nd Pangman; 3rd Robinson.
23. Throwing Cricket Ball, open—
1st Chas. Edwards; 2nd R. Jessop.
24. Putting Shot, open—
1st Cameron; 2nd J. D. Andras; 3rd W. H. Garrett.