

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

REV. JOSEPH McLeod, D.D., EDITOR

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 9TH, 1901.

Much space in this issue is, necessarily, given to the report of Conference proceedings.

No secular paper, however good, can fill the place of a religious paper in a family; and no religious paper of the so called, non-denominational sort can fill the place of the paper which represents the branch of the church to which the family belongs.

Of the six hundred teachers sent from the United States to the Philippines, four hundred were Roman Catholics. Of course this was brought about by the influence of the Roman Church with the U. S. government. Protestants stand by and let Rome manage affairs. It is done in a large way in this country, too.

A Baptist pastor in Indiana is contemplating the discipline of all members of his church who do not pay their share of church expenses. They have covenanted to do their part. They may very well be, at least, asked why they fail to keep their promise. If non-paying church members should be called to account there would be a busy time in the churches. Why not?

The political censorship of the press in Russia, which is so well known everywhere, is, it appears, accompanied by a less-known ecclesiastical censorship which seems equally intolerant. A translation of the Bible into the dialect known as Little Russian was recently prepared for the press, but its publication in Russia was forbidden by the Church. The work was then offered to the British and Foreign Bible Society, which, of course, accepted it.

The enrolled christians in Japan number 12,000. Of these one-third are Protestants, and the others are divided between the Roman and Greek churches. The Christians exercise a marked influence in the country—an influence altogether out of proportion to their numbers. They have never had less than four times their proportionate number of members in the Diet. Three percent of the army officers are christians, and a good proportion of the naval officers, also. Three of the chief daily papers in Tokio are largely in Christian hands, and several others have christian editors. Every year from two thousand to three thousand Japanese leave the Christian schools, after an average course of four years. Their influence is greatly and increasingly felt. The Buddhists are quite alarmed, and are forming societies of various kinds according to the pattern of christian societies, in the hope of checking the growing christian influence.

The union of Christian bodies that are substantially one in faith and practice goes on, especially in countries where the forces of unbelief are combined against Christianity. Different Presbyterian bodies—which yet continue separate at home—have become united in heathen countries. The Christian Intelligencer tells about such unions in China and Japan and India. And Mexico is now to be included in the list. The Presbyterian Church, North and South, have each had prosperous missions there. Now the churches connected with the two bodies have been consolidated with the consent of their respective General Assemblies, and the Presbyterian Synod of Mexico has been formed of the united churches. Missionaries will continue under the direction of the foreign boards of the respective bodies at home, but the churches organized will be under the new Synod. This is as it should be.

And why not like union at home? The forces of evil are as strong, and are a unit against the teachings and work of the churches.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

MAKING PROGRESS.

Good progress is being made in Europe by the cause of temperance. In Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Norway the Good Templars organization is flourishing, steadily winning converts to total abstinence.

GETTING READY.

The Ontario Prohibition Alliance is getting ready for the Provincial elections. A call has been issued urging temperance voters to support only such men as can be depended on to press for advanced legislation concerning the liquor traffic.

The liquor traffic men are already well organized, and, putting party politics aside, will vote only for those who will protect and foster their traffic.

IS IT A CRIME?

Referring to the investigation to be made into the conduct of the men who appeared in Khaki before the Duke of York at Ottawa to receive their South African medals, the Mail and Empire asks the question that has been in many people's minds, "Has it become a crime in this country to be proud of having served the Empire in South Africa?"

DECREASING BIRTH-RATE.

In all European countries, except Russia, the birth-rate is decreasing. In the United States, also, it becomes steadily lower. In India and China the birth-rate is rapidly increasing. These facts, as the Canadian Baptist suggests, points to possibilities not pleasant to contemplate. Is the white race bent upon self-extinction? Are the yellow and brown men, whom the whites have so despised and deprecatd, yet to supersede their boastful superiors?

SMALLPOX.

Smallpox is pretty well spread over the United States. The latest official announcement says that the endeavors to prevent its spread do not seem to be very successful. The number of new cases reported between June and September was 9,797, nearly three times as many as were reported in the corresponding period of last year. The death rate, however, is smaller, which would seem to indicate that it is a mild type of the disease which prevails.

FIGHTING MALARIA.

An English society sent a representative to look into and devise means of dealing with malaria in West Africa. He has set on foot extensive operations for the extinction of mosquitoes, which are now proved to spread malaria. In Lagos, of which Sir William Macgregor, a distinguished medical man, is Governor, systematic efforts against malaria are being made. The country is fertile, and the native race—the Yorubas—is a fine one, and capable of high civilization. But fever is the great enemy. Forty-two per cent of the children die in their first year. But sanitary work is going on, and it is believed that West Africa can be made as healthy for Europeans as India is.

FIRES AND FAMINE.

The terrible village and forest fires which every year devastate such large regions in Russia have this year been more than usually serious. A German writer places the damage to buildings this year at £7,500,000, and estimates that 160,000 buildings have been consumed. The loss through forest fires is perhaps incalculable, and in addition we must reckon the damage to crops and herds. Travellers on the Volga report that for two days, between Kazan and Samara, they were unable to see the sun owing to the thick clouds of dark smoke which brooded over the river from the burning forests to the West. It seems to be the general opinion that Russia is threatened with serious famine during the coming winter and spring. One thing is certain, the entire Volga region reports an unusually bad harvest, and no stocks of grain from last year. The Governors of the afflicted districts have been urged to send in faithful reports of the condition of affairs within their jurisdictions, but the faithful reports may not always be followed by the necessary assistance. Fifteen million pounds sterling (150,000,000 roubles) is the sum which the Ministry of the Interior thinks will be necessary to meet the people's wants until the harvest of 1902 is reaped.

GAMBLING.

A recent number of the "Women at Home," an English periodical for women, has an article on the gambling habits of society women which reveals

a portentous state of affairs amongst what is called "the smart set." The vice of gambling, it says, now afflicts modern society more than has been the case for upwards of a hundred years. The passion for gambling has spread to even quite young girls. One well-known society leader is believed to have lost upwards of £7,000 in the last three months, while another popular hostess was forced, some time ago, to send her jewels for sale to Paris. Girls hardly out of the schoolroom contract "debts of honour," and "it is generally known in society that one man of note has had to sell part of his estates to pay his wife's debts." The article declares gambling to be poisoning the very lifeblood of society at its source. For the first time in the history of England young women have been touched with the gambling fever. At various gambling games during the last twelve months would, it is averred, have gone some way towards paying for the war. The picture is altogether the reverse of reassuring.

The United States Postal authorities are contemplating the reduction of the letter postage rate to one cent.

About 30 women converts to Mormonism, gathered from various parts of Maine, started for Salt Lake city lately. Eight Mormon Elders, who had been in the State since June, accompanied them.

Jews are suffering severely from the new restrictions on their admission to Russian Universities. Only 8 of 268 new students at Kharkoy are Jews, and only 32 out of 518 at Kiev.

New Zealand is the land of experiments. The government is going to run the coal mines for the benefit of the whole community.

Ontario won all the medals at the Pan-American Exhibition, offered by the American Pomological Society for the best exhibit of fruits, open to all America. Forty entries were made, and the display was considered first-class. Ontario also took sixty per cent of the prizes for cattle.

The wheat in all parts of Russia, except the Southwest, is said to be a poor quality. According to the arrangements now being made, the coronation of King Edward next year is to be thoroughly British. Foreign Sovereigns, and representatives of foreign States, will accompany the King and Queen to the Abbey, but the grand feature will be the presence of prominent members of every British Colony, and a small contingent of troops from each Colony.

ABOUT NEWSPAPERS.—Says the N. Y. Advocate: When a newspaper prints that which it knows to be untrue, gives it a startling headline, thus calling special attention to it, thereby deceiving the public, is it not guilty of obtaining money under false pretenses? The time apparently has about come when something should be done to rid ourselves of a newspaper press that is openly and glaringly misleading. The function of a newspaper is to furnish news, not to fabricate items nor to deceive the public. The call for a press that will print that which is true was never more imperative than today.

TEN NEW EDITORS.—It was announced several months ago that the editor of The Ladies' Home Journal contemplated making some sweeping changes in his editorial staff. Up to the present time ten new editors have been added to Mr. Bok's corps, and fifteen new departments planned for The Journal, a majority of which make their initial appearance in the October number.

RELIGIOUS FANATICISM.—Paralleling the wonderful development in the science of medicine and surgery are various protests against the use of means in the treatment of disease which arise from fanaticism and delusion. The extravagances of Christian Science, sacred relic cures, Dowisism and various faith cures have been duly exploited. Another sporadic outcrop of this fanaticism has occurred in Maine in a sect styling itself the "Holy Ghost & Us." It declares drugs to be the devices of Satan and refuses to employ a physician in case of sickness.

UNIVERSITIES.—The number of students in the six largest universities in the States is: Harvard, 4,288; Michigan (Ann Arbor), 3,700; Minnesota, 3,410; Georgia, 2,295; Chicago, 3,183; California, 3,035. These numbers, except in the case of Harvard, are due by the schools are co-educational; in Chicago nearly half the students are women, and in some of the other schools a majority are women.

GENERAL CONFERENCE

Continued from page one.)

encouraging." There has been no revival. "Special meetings were begun, but had to be discontinued on account of sickness. The churches have officers who are a great help to the pastor, as well as of great value to the churches."

Rev. A. D. Paul has been pastor of the Gibson church since last Conference. He reports that he has enjoyed the work. There was revival. Twenty-five were added to the church. Progress has been made spiritually. The church is now building a parsonage. Bro. Paul will remain another year at Gibson.

Rev. F. S. Hartley is pastor of the Fredericton Junction and Tracy Station churches. "He reports some times of spiritual uplift. Two persons have been united to the Tracy churches. At present spiritual interest is dull. There is good attendance at meetings but lack of spiritual life and absence of christian service." Besides the services at the churches, bro. Hartley has preaching stations at Little Lake, Three-Creek and Traceyville, which he visits regularly.

Rev. S. J. Case reports thus: "My labors for the year have been chiefly in New Hampton, N. H., in the two-fold capacity of pastor and teacher. The school work progressed successfully. The church work, also, seemed successful. During the winter months we enjoyed a revival season which extended through both the school and the community. My services with the church closed on the last Sunday in July, and on Sept. 26th I shall begin study at the Yale Divinity School."

Rev. M. L. Gregg has for the year had the pastoral care of the Bath, Wicklow, Beechwood, Upper Kent, River De Chute and Lower Perth churches. He has, also, given some attention to Maplehurst, Mineral and Rowena churches; and has established a preaching appointment at Beaconsfield, preaching there every four weeks. It has been a good year. At Bath nineteen were added to the church, and one was added to Upper Kent church. "Upper Kent, though a small church, is doing excellent work." At Lower Perth, as a result of special meetings held by bro. W. O. Keirstead, thirteen were added to the church. "Young Peoples' Societies have been organized at Lower Perth and Bath. These organized bands of consecrated young people have greatly encouraged and aided the pastor. The church edifices at Bath and Lower Perth are now undergoing repairs. A new church building is also in course of construction at Beaconsfield. Rightly cared for this field has a bright future."

Licentiate Puddington spent the year with the Brown's Flat-Westfield pastorate. Two were added to Brown's Flat church, and one to the Westfield church. He is now leaving the field, having been there two years. He says "the field is in better condition in all branches of the work" than when he went there.

Licentiate Rideout has been in charge of the Marysville pastorate. It consists of Marysville and Penniac churches, with Mount Hope (a union church) as an outpost. He reports thus: "Penniac is supplied every other Sunday morning, and since June 1st Mount Hope has been similarly supplied. The rest of the time has been spent at Marysville. The work has been prospered on the whole. Special meetings were held in March; twenty eight were baptized, and thirty-five were added to the church. The cause at Penniac and Mount Hope is low, but in Marysville the church is in a flourishing condition."

Licentiate H. H. Ferguson has been in charge of the Apohaqui-Millstream pastorate. The pastorate includes five churches, viz., Apohaqui, Lower Millstream, Upper Millstream, Snyder Mountain and Keirstead Mountain. He preaches three times each Sunday. Each of the churches has a conference, a prayer meeting and a Sabbath school. The pastor has endeavored to be present at the conference prayer meeting of each church. There has been revival in four of the churches, and twenty-two converts have been baptized. The pastor has sought to teach his people the need of maintaining the various branches of denominational work, and with good effect. He reports that he has enjoyed the work, and has been much helped by the encouraging words and other tokens of sympathy and love from a warm hearted people.

Licentiate Milbury is at Bates College. He was acting pastor of a church at West Paris, Me., during part of the year.

Licentiate R. W. Ferguson assumed the care of the pastorate which includes Petitcodiac, Corn Hill, Portage, Lower Ridge, and

Graves Settlement, on Nov. 1st last. It was his first experience of pastoral work. He reports that the churches were in a very low state spiritually—no prayer meetings and no conferences. "Graves' Settlement church had about decided to give up church-organization. Special work was begun there. Results good. Eleven were converted, backsliders were renewed, and there was a general quickening of spiritual life, shown in attendance at the re-established prayer meetings and conferences, and increase of financial support—from nothing to \$85.00. Special meetings were held, also, at Corn Hill, Portage, Lower Ridge and Petitcodiac, resulting in blessings to all. Six were converted at Corn Hill, sixteen at Portage, and eight at Petitcodiac; members were renewed in spirit, prayer meetings and conferences, are held regularly in all the churches, with continually increasing interest." Bro. Ferguson is to remain another year, during which, he says, "we hope to erect a new church at Corn Hill, contributions to the amount of \$1,000 being already assured; and, also, a building at Graves Settlement, where the people worship in a school house." Besides special services, he has, he says, "averaged 25 regular church services every month, having regular monthly mid-week preaching appointments at Anagnance, Spring Hill, Pollet River, and Anagnance Ridge."

Licentiate H. M. Manzer reports that from last Conference till the beginning of 1901 he laboured in Tobique river field. The work was hard, but God was with him, and he believes that his work was not in vain. Since the new year he has had charge of the school at Riley Brook, and is doing what he can here to help along God's work. The Sabbath school has gained much; it was kept open during the winter months—an unusual thing. He holds a service occasionally, and assists any minister who visits the field. During the summer vacation he took Bro. Gregg's appointments one Sabbath; another Sabbath he assisted Rev. J. J. Barnes at Campbell Settlement and Middle Southampton; and one Sabbath of the vacation he spent at Arthurette. He thinks of giving up his school at the end of the year, and will be ready for work again. He regrets that he cannot attend Conference. His future, he says, he leaves in God's hands, and trusts the judgement of the brethren.

FINANCIAL. The following table shows the contributions for all purposes reported by one hundred and fifteen (115) churches:

Table with columns: Totals, Other Funds, W. M. Soc., M. S. Soc., Conf. Fund, Foreign Miss., Home Miss., Church Buil., Ch. Exp., Salaries, District. Rows 1st-7th and Totals.

The foregoing table does not fully state what even the reported churches have done in support of the several branches of the work. It merely gives the aggregate of contributions so far as the churches made returns to the District Meetings.

CHURCH PROPERTY. The property owned by one hundred and three (103) churches is valued at \$155,325. The amount expended in the improvement of church property this year was \$6218.45—by thirty-eight (38) churches. Only twelve church properties have debts—their debts aggregating \$5,634.35.

NEW BUILDINGS. Three new church buildings were dedicated during the year—one at Newburgh, C. Co., in Nov. 1900; one at Castalia, Grand Manan, in Jan. 1901; and one at French Lake, S. Co., in June 1901.

Besides these, several church buildings have been improved. Two parsonages have been erected—one at Wilson's Beach, Campo-Bello; and one at Southampton, York Co.

COMPARISONS AND AVERAGES. payments this year for all purposes (\$27,016.83), are \$3192.16 more than last year. They show, therefore, a per capita increase. Last year average contribution per resident member of the reported churches was \$3.95; this year it is \$4.18.

The increase by Districts is: 1st Dis., \$484.46; 2nd, \$796.76; \$443.07; 4th, \$33.94; 7th, \$248. The decrease by Districts is: \$262.89; 6th, \$682.03.

The increase of payments is: Salaries, \$618.11; Current expenses of churches, \$219.51; Buildings, \$2061.89; Conference Fund, \$56. Home Missions, \$33.68; Aged Ministers Fund, \$13.35; Other Funds, \$634.55; the decrease of payments for Foreign Missions, \$150. Ministerial Students Fund, \$13.1 and W. M. Society, \$163.32.

The increase in support of ministry, (\$618.11), is in three tracts only—the 1st, 2nd and 4th, which show an increase of \$109. while the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th tracts show a decrease of \$47. The largest increase is in the 1st District; the largest decrease is in the 5th District. The highest average per resident member for salaries is \$2.56, in the 7th District; the lowest is \$1.62, in the 5th District. The average for salary per resident member of all the supported churches is \$2.23.

The salaries of pastors are a large. Thirty-six (36) pastors ministered to ninety-nine (99) churches receiving for their support \$1,047.41—an average of \$390.00.

The average salary in each District is as follows:—1st Dis., \$348.2nd Dis., \$485.18; 3rd Dis., \$338.4th Dis., \$295.56; 5th Dis., \$256.6th Dis., \$411.36; 7th Dis., \$528.

For local church purposes average payment per resident member is \$3.74—an increase of 30c over last year; for general denominational purposes the average is 44cts. per resident—a decrease of 11cts. from last year.

Three churches contributed everything in the local and general list—North St. John, Sussex, Lower Millstream.

The Home Mission money contributed by fifty-eight (58) churches, with 4045 resident members—an average of 7 1/2 cents per member;

the Foreign Mission money fifty-five (55) churches, with 19 resident members—an average of 9 1/2 cents per member;

the Conference Fund by (90) churches, with 5466 resident members—an average of 9 3/4 cents per member;

the Students' Fund by (8) churches, with 562 resident members—an average of 3 1/2 cents per member;

the Aged and Sick Ministers Fund by ten (10) churches, with 790 resident members—an average of 3 1/2 cents per member.

The foregoing are the average payments of resident members to the churches which paid anything to the objects specified. The average payment per member of the whole resident membership reported is—

for Home Missions, 4 1/2 cents; " Foreign Missions, 4 1/2 cents; " Conference Fund, 8 1/2 cents; " Students' Fund, 9 1/2 cents; " Aged Ministers Fund, 3 1/2 cents. Of the reported churches, seven (57), with 2420 resident members, make no mention of payment for Home Missions; sixty (60), with 3364 members, paid nothing for Foreign Missions; twenty-five (25), with 999 members, nothing for the Conference Fund; one hundred and seven (107), with 5903 members, nothing for the Students' Fund; one hundred and five (105), with 5675 members, nothing for the Aged and Sick Ministers Fund. Thirty-one (31) churches that they have gained in financial strength since last year; four (14) churches have lost in respect; and seventy (70) have not, presumably, remained as they were. There are in the foregoing figures some gratifying facts, among them—that a larger number of churches reported than last year; that there was an increase in number of baptisms; that so many churches were growing in spiritual life; the increase of payments for support of christian work; the smallness of church debts; that three new houses of worship have been dedicated; that two parsonages have been built; and that, all things considered, the interests of the cause are gained somewhat during the year. There are, also, some things that are not so gratifying, among them—that a number of churches not reported this year—some of them having failed to report several years;