

News of the Churches.

FREDERICTON JUNCTION — TRACEY.—The churches at Tracey and Fredericton Junction held a picnic on Wednesday in aid of their parsonage fund. Although the day was unfavorable, the picnic was a success. About \$225.00 was netted.

J.B.D.

VACANT PASTORATES.—Several pastorates are in need of pastors for next year, among them the following: Campobello, Charlotte Co.; Norton-Midland, K. Co.; Southampton, York Co.; Deer Island, Charlotte Co.; Millstream, Kings Co.; Victoria-Connell, Carleton Co.; Penobsquis, Kings Co.; Lincoln-Rusia-gornis, S. Co.; Wickham-Bellis, Blissville, S. Co.

If there are other pastorates in need of pastors for next year we would like to be notified. And if furnished with the names and P. O. addresses of the brethren in the vacant pastorates, with whom correspondence may be had about the matter, they will be published.

LINCOLN-RUSIAGORNIS.—Again a year has almost gone, and I am reminded that I have not written the INTELLIGENCER. The work on this pastorate is moving on much the same as ever. Owing to sickness, I was laid aside for a few months in the spring, and the work was carried on, as far as preaching went, by some of the brethren as opportunity allowed. Since the middle of June I have been at work trying to fill in the gap and do what I can. I am retiring from the field at the end of the year, not feeling strong enough as yet to do the work that should be done on such a large field—I would gladly exchange with anyone who would wish to meet the people here. May God bless the one who shall take up the work here next year. In the two years that I have worked with the churches of this pastorate I have met nothing but kindness. God bless them. As a proof of their kindness we were very pleasantly surprised at our home on the 15th, when we received a donation of \$30 from the Lincoln church.

Again, I pray, that God may direct someone—and the right one—to this field, and that all may receive good.

E. H. COCHRANE.

Aug. 19th, 1903.

CLARK'S HARBOR, N. S.—Rev. T. O. Dewitt arrived here last week, and is visiting his many old friends, who are pleased to see him again. He preached for us last night, and a large audience heard him declare the gospel, which he did with marked clearness and sympathy, although some of the old time physical energy is absent, due to his recent injury and illness. He will preach again for me the last Sunday in this month, while I am at Conference.

An effort is now being made to pay off our church debt of \$900.00. Perhaps some good brother may have more money than he knows what to do with; if so send it this way for church debt, and we will thank you much.

Aug. 17, 1903.

A. H. McLEOD.

THE SEVENTH DISTRICT.—With the exception of the three churches in St. John city, and the one at Beaver Harbor, all the churches in the Seventh District are on the islands of Charlotte Co. The annual meeting of the District is, therefore, usually held with one of the island churches, that being more convenient for them. This year the meeting was held on Deer Island. There are four Free Baptist churches on the island—Fair Haven, Chocolate Cove, Lambert's Cove, and Northern Harbour. The session was held in the Lambert's Cove church, beginning Friday evening, 14th inst., and closing Sunday evening, 16th inst. The attendance was not as large as some years, due to the fact that the men at many places were busy fishing. The ministers present were: Revs. C. T. Phillips, J. McLeod, D. Long, A. J. Prosser, S. J. Perry, M. L. Gregg, R. W. Ferguson, and A. M. McNitch, and Licentiate J. C. Nelson and J. G. Perry. The first meeting opened at 7.30 p. m., Friday, Rev. D. Long presiding. Prayer by Bro. Phillips. Reports from several churches were read. At 8.15 there was preaching by Rev. S. J. Perry, and business was resumed at 8.50. Other reports of churches were read and committees were appointed.

Saturday at 8 a. m., prayer meeting led by Bro. Gregg. Business began at 8.30. After roll call and reading of minutes, the officers for the ensuing year were elected.—Rev. R. W. Ferguson, Chairman, and Rev. C. T. Phillips, assistant. Bro. E. W. Slipp for the committee on Sunday school reports presented the following:

1. Reports have been received from the schools at Wilson's Beach, St. John, North, North Head, Grand Manan, White Head, Lambert's Cove, Seal Cove, Northern Harbor, Chocolate Cove, Beaver Harbor, Waterloo street, Saint John.

2. Scholars enrolled, 1,218; average attendance, 925. Teachers, 107; average attendance, 86.

3. Money raised, \$646.00; value of school property, \$763.00; volumes in libraries, 1,158.

4. Scholars united with the churches during the year, 65; all the schools are kept open all the year.

The committee calls attention to a growing lack of knowledge of the Bible, and urges upon all S. S. workers the necessity of the scholars learning the ten commandments and other special portions of the Word of God so necessary to a holy life and a happy eternity.

There was an interesting and helpful discussion of S. S. work, participated in by brethren Peters, Long, Morrell, Slipp, Ferguson, Irvine, McLeod, Phillips and others.

At 10.30 the Conference meeting of the session was held, led by the pastor, Bro. Wilson. It was a good meeting, nearly every person present speaking of the blessings of the Christian life.

Business was resumed at 1.30 p. m. After routine the summary of the reports of churches was presented by Bro. Prosser, showing that reports had been received from 12 churches, having a total membership of 1,749; that \$6,698 had been paid by these churches, \$475.00 of which was collected by the W. M.

Society; that the prayer and conference meetings are fairly well attended; that there are four young people's societies in the District; that missionary sermons were preached in eight churches; that the church property, including three parsonages, is valued at \$35,450; and that 68 members were added during the year. The committee urged the pastorless churches to endeavour to secure pastors, and commended the INTELLIGENCER to all Free Baptist families.

There was discussion of the several features of the report, the membership returns receiving considerable attention, the inaccuracies of the census being pointed out. Touching this the following resolution was passed:

The ministers and delegates of the Seventh District hereby put on record our regret that the census taken in 1901 was very incorrect and does injustice to the Free Baptists; and we feel that the Census Commissioner should have given attention to the facts presented by Dr. McLeod and rectified the wrong. We also desire to express our appreciation of the labors of Dr. McLeod in exposing the errors.

Bro. Phillips, from the nominating committee, reported the following delegates to Conference: Brethren A. Cosseboone, T. Graham, A. F. Kierstead, C. McNichol and Colby Smith; substitutes, brethren J. M. Small T. Robinson, R. Logan, C. Savage and J. S. Clark.

Brethren Long, Phillips and Slipp were elected members of the District Executive.

The location of the next annual meeting was left with the executive.

For forty years the late Dr. Hartley had been a regular attendant at the sessions of this District, and in every way showed his care for the churches of the District. Appreciation of his services and sorrow that they would see his face no more in these gatherings was expressed in the following resolution:

Whereas, Rev. G. A. Hartley, D. D., who was at the organization of this District, and was a member of it, and a regular attendant at its sessions for forty years, has since the last session passed to his eternal reward;

Therefore resolved, That we put on record our profound sense of loss in his death, and our high appreciation of his long and faithful and successful service in the ministry of the church of God, and especially of his deep interest in and labors on behalf of the churches of this district.

The Clerk was directed to send a copy of the resolution to Mrs. Hartley.

The Clerk of the District, Bro. Wm. Peters, has filled the office since the organization of the District, forty years ago. The brethren very heartily adopted the following resolution expressive of their regard for him and his valuable services:

The members of the Seventh District meeting realize that they owe a debt of gratitude to the highly esteemed clerk of the district, Bro. Wm. Peters, who for so many years has been a most efficient officer, always present, giving careful attention to all the business. It is our hope and prayer that it may be God's will to spare our brother to us for many years.

Bro. Peters feelingly acknowledged the resolution, telling of the joy he had had in serving his brethren and the cause of God.

Bro. Jessie Harvey presented a license to preach given by the church at Seal Cove. He was examined, and the meet-

ing voted to recommend the church to continue the license till next year.

Rev. R. W. Ferguson was appointed to preach the next annual sermon. A vote of thanks to the people of Lambert's Cove for their hospitable entertainment of the members of the meeting was adopted.

Saturday afternoon the business meeting of the W. M. Society was held, and in the evening there was a public missionary meeting under the auspices of the Society. A report of this will be furnished for the W. M. Society department. At the close of the missionary meeting brethren Long and Phillips presented the claims of the denominational paper. The Treasurer, Bro. J. R. Webb, presented his report, which was adopted. Adjourned.

The Sunday services were as follows: Prayer meeting, 9.30 a. m., led by Licentiate Perry; preaching, 11 a. m., by Rev. Dr. McLeod; 2.30 p. m., Rev. C. T. Phillips; 7.30 p. m., Rev. D. Long. Fairhaven, 2.30 p. m., Rev. S. J. Perry; Chocolate Cove, 7 p. m., Rev. M. L. Gregg; Lord's Cove, Disciples Church, 7.30 p. m., Rev. R. W. Ferguson; Campobello, 7.30, Rev. Dr. McLeod. The Lord's Supper was administered at the afternoon service at Lord's Cove. There was a good attendance at all the services, and a good interest. The weather throughout was delightful, the people were exceedingly kind, and everything contributed to make a pleasant session, and let us hope, a profitable one. Rev. A. J. Prosser, who, in addition to his own work at Campobello, has given considerable attention to the Deer Island churches, and Bro. J. C. Wilson, who has been supplying them lately, had carefully superintended the arrangements for the meeting, and were constantly solicitous for the comfort of the members during the session.

MINISTERS.—Rev. David Patterson has not made any engagement for next year. His address is Jenkins' P.O., Queens Co.

Rev. F. G. Frances, of Norton, N. B., has accepted a call to the Chegoggin, N. S., pastorate, and will go there in October. The Norton pastorate is in need of a minister for next year.

Rev. A. M. McNitch is now settled at Grand Harbor, in charge of the Grand Manan churches.

Rev. J. N. Barnes passed through Fredericton Thursday, on his way to Stanley.

Licentiate W. O. Kierstead has tendered his resignation of the Blissville pastorate.

Rev. S. J. Perry called at the INTELLIGENCER office last Wednesday. He was enroute to Southampton, where he spent last Sunday.

Rev. R. W. Ferguson supplied for Rev. S. J. Perry at Hampstead last Sunday.

Rev. Gideon Swim supplied the Waterloo Street Church, St. John, on the 16th inst., Bro. Phillips being at the District Meeting.

The church, St. John, west, was supplied by Rev. H. H. Ferguson on Sunday, 16th, Rev. R. W. Ferguson being absent at District Meeting.

Rev. D. Long's pulpit, St. John, north, was occupied by Rev. Mr. Beatty on Sunday, the 16th.