

and W. E. McIntyre, of the Union Committee of the Baptist Convention, was enjoyed. Their addresses breathed true Christian love, and made a marked impression on the Conference. They helped us. Dr. Gates gave a succinct account of the union movement for twenty years, and made a clear statement of the spirit, motive and purpose of the Convention in the amendments of the Basis. Bro. McIntyre was able, from his intimate knowledge of the Baptist field, as Home Mission Superintendent, to show that in many places great advantage would come to both bodies by union, and that the whole work would be strengthened.

The tender and brotherly spirit of the addresses of these brethren gave them great effectiveness.

Revs. Dr. Manning and H. F. Adams, of the Baptist committee, had intended to be present, but were prevented, to the regret of those who know and love them.

Rev. E. Bosworth, Field Secretary of the Grande-Ligne Mission in the Province of Quebec, visited the Conference for the first time. He made a good impression, and awakened an interest in the important work he represents, which we believe will steadily grow.

The young men ordained—Revs. T. D. Bell, E. H. Cochrane and J. C. Wilson—are in every way worthy. Bro. Bell has been in charge of the Tobique field for more than a year, and has done excellent work, as is heartily testified by all who know of it. Brethren Cochrane and Wilson, while students at the University, have faithfully and with good results served as pastors of churches near Fredericton, and have won the love and confidence of the people amongst whom they have labored. These three brethren give promise of much usefulness. They have the sympathy and confidence of their brethren in the ministry, and their prayers that they may be abundantly blessed in the work to which they have consecrated their lives.

The charge to the newly ordained ministers, by Rev. T. S. VanWart, was with characteristic terseness and earnestness. He gave them much good advice, both as to their work—its spirit and methods, and as to their personal life in business and other relations to men.

Two ministers were received from the Nova Scotia Conference—Revs. D. Patterson and R. Heine, and are welcomed to the work. Bro. Heine is pastor at Keswick; Bro. Patterson has not decided on his field of labor for the year.

Of the eight young men licensed to preach, three—G. D. Milbury, E. W. Kirkpatrick and J. G. Perry—are at Cobb Divinity School; H. M. Manzer is N. B. University; H. R. Boyer and W. H. McCutcheon are intending to enter the University next month; G. F. Bolster is pursuing his studies at Sussex, while caring for the churches of the Norton pastorate;

and J. J. Bonnell is in charge of the Deer Island churches.

The entertainment by the good people of Tracey was most hospitable. The pastor, Rev. J. B. Daggett, was untiring in his efforts to have everybody well located, and he succeeded.

The weather was pleasant with the exception of one day, Thursday, when there was a great rainfall. That being a special day, not usually included in the Conference session, it may be said that there was not "the usual Conference rain" which some people have got the habit of talking of when the Conference session approaches. The rain talk is largely a habit, anyway, and the rain a thing of the imagination, for as a matter of fact fair weather sessions are much more frequent than rainy ones.

News of the Churches.

NOVA SCOTIA CONFERENCE.—In the *Daily Telegraph* of Thursday last appears the following letter from Rev. Edwin Cornell:

To the Editor of the *Telegraph*,—

SIR,—Some one has blundered. The account given in the *Telegraph's* Monday-report of proceedings of the Free Baptist Conference is so far astray in its statement of the condition of the Nova Scotia Free Baptists as to call for prompt correction. Both the headlines and the substance of the Nova Scotia delegate's report may have made an excellent foil for setting off the happier case of our brethren in New Brunswick, but they do injustice to us of Nova Scotia.

My knowledge of our field and the work done enables me to make the following summary:

We have more than forty meeting-houses, worth at least \$60,000, and a joint interest in half a dozen more. In thirty-seven of these regular preaching was sustained all or a part of the time last year. We have nine parsonages and one building, worth about \$10,000. And in general our equipment for work was never better. From the records and my personal recollections, I can say that, aside from the fact of a present dearth of ministers, we were never in a better condition or had a better outlook. Many of our strongest churches are in the fishing settlements, and have suffered by the exodus to New England, but compared with other denominations in the same sections, have lost nothing. Rev. Mr. Merrill, the delegate, was not present at our yearly meeting in August, and any pessimism in his tone was warranted only by the remarkable, and, we trust, temporary break in pastoral relations, referred to in the following report at that meeting on the state of the denomination:

"The present gathering indicates continued interest and zeal in the Lord's work. The corresponding secretary's report shows a measure of revival and increase in membership, and an equipment for work of no small account. Tested by the reports from our different societies, our denomination is in a condition requiring most careful and wise and zealous consideration, with a view to definite action. With an inviting and enlarging field of work, the fact is that about one-quarter of our churches are like sheep without a shepherd. By death, removal and other causes, our active ministry has been

diminished this present year; there is no representative of our body on the mission field, and no young man offering for the ministry. The home mission work has not met the encouragement it deserved and needed, the foreign mission sentiment has suffered no apparent change. The loyalty of the denomination to its faith is undimmed."

That report was challenged as underrating our condition, and after sharp debate was adopted as showing just where our weakness lay. Does any careful reader think that it denotes either extinction or absorption as our immediate fate? Before the session closed our foreign mission board has accepted and assumed the support for the mission field of a man and his wife, engaging also to send them to medical school for a year. We are also in treaty with the Baptists for united home mission work on common grounds.

As to union with the Baptists, I believe I can define the prevalent conviction among us by saying that unnecessary disunion is schism and sin.

With thanks for space,

EDWIN CROWELL,

Clerk F. B. Conference of
Nova Scotia.

Yarmouth, N. S., Sept. 20, 1904.

MINISTERS.—A letter to one of the ministers from Rev. G. Swim, who is in Montreal, says he is encouraged to believe that the treatment he is receiving will benefit him.

Rev. J. E. Gosline has resigned the Barrington, N. S., pastorate. We have not heard where his next field will be.

Rev. A. H. McLeod has tendered his resignation of the Clark's Harbour, N. S., church.

Rev. W. H. Perry was quite ill during the session of Conference, requiring the attention of a physician. He was not able to be at any of the meetings after Saturday. He was able to go home Wednesday, and we trust he is quite recovered by this time.

Licentiate Boyer preached last Sunday at Lincoln, Waasis and Rusiagornis.

Rev. A. D. Paul went to Presque Isle, Maine, Saturday.

Rev. F. C. Hartley preached his farewell sermon in Fredericton last Sunday. He and Mrs. Hartley were presented with \$35.00 in the Sabbath school. They move to Houlton, Me., Thursday of this week.

Rev. J. H. Erb started for his Texas home last Monday.

Rev. C. T. Phillips closed his ministry in St. John last Sunday. He will go to Hartland the last of the week.

OTHER DENOMINATIONS.

—The legality of the election of the new Anglican bishop of Nova Scotia having been questioned, the matter has been referred to a judge of the Supreme Court for decision.

—Rev. C. D. Schofield, rector of Hampton, has been called to Sydney, C. B.

—Rev. Mr. Searing, of Boston, conducted a mission to the deaf in St. John last week.

—Rev. C. W. Foster, the new curate of St. Ann's Church, Fredericton, was ordained in the Cathedral last Sunday by Bishop Kingdon.

General Religious News.

—According to the *Zion's Herald*, the Methodists have gained 2,804 in New England the last fourteen years, or 1.4 per cent., the Congregationalists 22,398, about 10 per cent., and the Baptists 19,377, or about 15 per cent. The present membership is: Congregationalists, 252,334; Baptists, 149,827; Methodists, 148,554. The Congregationalists have always been the leading denomination in New England from the earliest settlement of the Puritans and Pilgrims, but the Baptists have now advanced into the second place.

—Less than two years ago a Young Men's Christian Association was formed in the city of Mexico for city and railroad English-speaking men. It now has 549 members, having become by common consent the general headquarters of the "American colony" of the city of Mexico. The association occupies one of the great old mansions of the city, which is built about a hollow square, in which is a garden with fountains and fruit trees. The demand for membership on the part of the Spanish speaking young men has become so great that a branch is required for them, and has been organized with Hon. Ramon Corral, vice-president of the Republic, as chairman of the advisory board.

—In view of the World's Baptist Congress, to be held in London next year, it is interesting to note the strength of the denomination in the United States and its spread to all parts of the world. The last summary of statistics shows a total of nearly 51,000 Baptist churches in the United States, a number which will probably now have risen to 52,000. Judging from the increase throughout the world of the last few years, the total next year will probably be 62,000 churches. The membership of these churches—again estimating from the recent increase—will approximate to six millions, with forty-five thousand pastors and two and three-quarter million Sunday scholars. In the British Isles the number of the Sunday scholars is greater than that of church members, but in the United States it is below.

Marriages.

RYDER-JONES.—At the residence of the bride's parents, Beaver Dam, September 16th, by Rev. C. W. Sables, Mr. Herman J. Ryder, of Fredericton, and Miss Emily Jones, of Beaver Dam.

JONES-COSMAN.—At the residence of George Cosman, Springfield, Kings Co., N. B., September 14th, by Rev. David Long, Miss Adelia M. Cosman to Merritt W. Jones, of Springfield, Kings Co.

HETHERINGTON-GAMBLE.—At 75 King street, St. John, by Rev. C. T. Phillips, Mr. Blake Hetherington and Miss Janet Mabel Gamblin, both of Cody, Queens Co.

CORNING-PALMER.—At the residence of Mr. Adolphus Corning, Chegoggin, N. S., August 31st, by Rev. F. G. Francis, Frank Corning and Flossie Palmer.