

## FINAL SESSION OF THE MARITIME PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD LAST NIGHT

**Delegates Left Early Today—Committee to Confer With Anglicans and Baptists re Bible Instruction in Schools—Allocation of Synod Budget Passed—Several Addresses on the Forward Movement—Home Mission and Minimum Stipend Reports Adopted.**

The final session of the Maritime Presbyterian Synod opened last evening at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church with a large attendance of delegates and members of St. Paul's congregation present. Members who were lodging at points outside the city during the Synod were notified that the special train carrying them to their homes would leave at 6 o'clock local time this morning. They were informed that a dining car would be attached to the train in order that they might not inconvenience the homes in which they lodged by asking for an early breakfast.

### No Action re Clerk.

The sederunt opened with the usual religious exercises. The following resolution was passed:

"In view of the fact that the General Assembly has a committee at work on the re-organization of the administration of the Church, this Synod declines to take any action at present on the resignation of Dr. Thomas Stewart, our Senior Clerk."

### Bible in Schools.

Rev. F. S. Dowling moved that an educational committee be appointed from the Synod to confer with a committee of the Anglican and Baptist churches for the placing of the Bible in the public schools. This was seconded and carried.

Rev. J. A. Nicholson, of Dartmouth, W. B. Grant, Rev. Frank Milligan, Dr. J. C. Robertson, E. F. Smith and others delivered addresses on the Forward Movement. Rev. James Ross, Moderator of the Synod, delivered the report of the Home Missions Society and on the Minimum Stipend, and Dr. Peter Walker gave a stirring address on Co-operation.

The Synod closed with many resolutions of thanks to St. Paul's congregation for the splendid entertainment during the stay of the visitors in this city.

### The Forward Movement.

Rev. J. A. Nicholson, of Dartmouth, delivered an address upon the Forward Movement to be started in the various Presbyteries on the return of the members of the Synod. This subject was divided into nine different sections, as follows: Intercession, Family Worship, Personal Evangelism, Religious Education, Life Service, Wanted Help, Missionary Education, Stewardship, and Money.

### W. B. Grant.

Mr. W. B. Grant was then called to give an address on the Personal Evangelism contained in the Forward Movement. Dealing with the Church relationships to these subjects, the speaker contrasted the Church of today with that of Apostolic times and the Church of the Mission Fields.

The Church of today, he stated, had not seen the vision as clearly as early members, because the members could not understand and could not distinguish between the true and the nominal Christian. This question had to be finally settled and the false Christian idea eliminated. People had come to the conclusion that the church was antiquated and of no deciding force in this modern world. They thought that the Church was here only to hold up exterior. The speaker stated he objected very strenuously to the many corollaries drawn by many people from the Word of God. People need to feel that God is the instrument to keep the Church right. They were commanded to follow in their Master's footsteps and perfect both themselves and the world. God demands that ministers convince men of their duty to shape the world according to his own ideas. Every force within the Church should be concentrated upon the saving of every life. The conditions in home and every-day life should have problems confronting them overcome.

### Rev. Frank Milligan.

Following this, Rev. Frank Milligan was called upon to give a further address, upon this subject. The speaker recalled the fact that if a new era, a forward movement was started, it must first be imprinted upon the hearts and minds of the young, as seventy per cent of the decisions for Christ were made by young boys and girls. They were subject to many influences, good and bad, such as the home, the community and the church. Whatever may have been done, more and more religious education must be laid upon the home and also upon the community. The total abolition of religious training in schools has nearly been accomplished, much to the shame of the Church.

The religious education of the young the speaker stated was one of the most pressing problems to be faced, and what was needed was a new sense of the value of child-life. New principles were needed, as well as great convictions and greater strength in applying them. The second thing needed was a clearer vision of the needs. On one of the charts of the church's figures it is found that only 50 per cent of the children ever enter the church. The sessions of the churches must realize that the responsibility of oversight rests on them. Teachers must know their children and find the cooperation of the parents in the homes. The Sabbath school must be attended to, the speaker stated, in order that

the children could be led to the path properly. "What measure of effort has your church put forward to assist the young people in their devotional duties?"

### Dr. J. C. Robertson.

Dr. J. C. Robertson, of Toronto, General Secretary of Sunday Schools and Young People's Associations, was then called upon to address the assembly on the challenge forwarded to the

young people by the Church. The work, the speaker stated, concerned young people from 16 to 24 years old, whose interest in church work was profound. The Church was the place to formulate acquaintances with each other and today the Church should be the starting point in the foundation of Christian homes. The Society should be self-operated and self-governed to enable the members to meet the demands of the church. The day of opportunity for the young people was at hand and preparations were being made that they might grasp the opportunities and accept the challenges held forward to them.

### The Synod Budget.

Before the next speaker on the Forward Movement was called, Rev. J. A. Nicholson explained the allocation of the Synod budget, depicting the need of funds. He moved its adoption, and the motion carried.

Mr. Thomas Rogers, of Sydney, appeared before the Synod on behalf of the Budget Committee's allocation for the Maritime Provinces. Mr. Rogers has been on the budget-committee for some years and understands his work

thoroughly. He explained the need of the money and gave a spirited appeal on behalf of more funds to carry on the work.

### Mr. E. F. Smith.

Mr. E. F. Smith, Inter-Church Secretary of the Forward Movement, was next called upon to give the Synod an idea of the inter-church accomplishments in the Forward Movement.

These were extensive, covering as they did the work of the various denominational committees. They were provoked by a friendly rivalry to greater efforts, which have accomplished much and which will accomplish still greater results. The work was for the nation and the nation's welfare.

A resolution moved by Dr. J. A. Clark, of Halifax, seconded by Rev. J. A. Nicholson, was passed re the Synod's unanimous reception of the Forward Movement, pledging to do their utmost to carry it through successfully.

Dr. Fullerton next moved that Prince Edward Island co-operate with the provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia in the Interdenominational

Movement. This was carried.

### Home Missions.

In the absence of Rev. Dr. D. MacOdrum, of Halifax, Rev. James Ross, Moderator of the Synod, delivered the report of the Home Missions Society. The retired Moderator held the chair during the delivering of the report.

Rev. Mr. Ross's report was clear and satisfactory and was listened to with a good deal of interest on the part of the Synod. The Moderator then passed from Home Missions to the discussion of the Minimum Stipend, stating that all the fields had been asked to sustain themselves and were reporting great progress. As a Synod, the Presbyterian Synod of the Maritime Provinces had a larger number of augmented congregations than any of the other seven Synods of the Dominion of Canada.

### Co-operative Efforts.

Dr. Peter Walker then addressed the Synod on Co-operative Efforts, especially of Methodists and Presbyterians in Nova Scotia. The report on co-operation was brief as the hour had already passed for the closing. However, a good deal of discussion took

place on this question, many asking what the final outcome of co-operation would be.

A motion that the Synod's committee on Home Missions be put in charge of Co-operation was put before the meeting and passed.

A few other subjects which had been stood over from previous meetings were discussed and finally concluded, and after several resolutions of appreciation of the good will of the Synod towards St. Paul's Church for excellent entertainment, the Synod came to a close.

Mr. Ernest Lapointe, M. P. for Kamouraska, was the unanimous choice of the Liberal convention held yesterday to choose a candidate for the vacant seat in Quebec East caused by the death of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. He asked for time to consider the matter.

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