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GENERAL ASSEMBLY ENDED.

Committee on Church Union Appointed---Several Reports Received---Members Leave For Their Homes.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon session was chiefly taken up with the discussion of Regina industrial school; the report of the committee appointed to consider the questions in regard to Queen's University; the report on Sabbath school publications, and the general assembly standing committees.

Dr. Sinclair, speaking on the Indian schools, pointed out that the Regina school has prospered in all its departments, but the difficulty of securing students and the reduction of revenue consequent has led to financial embarrassment, resulting in the accumulation of a considerable deficit. The graduates are doing good work. Reporting to the assembly sending a deputation to Ottawa for the purpose of interviewing the government, Dr. Sinclair said that the committee should be prepared to take a reasonable share of the financial responsibility. It was time to ask for an increase in the per capita grant, for the Roman Catholic grant is now much smaller. If the industrial school is abolished it would simply mean the beginning of the end of Indian work there. In every department Indians are employed as instructors. The industrial school inspectors have reported that the industrial training is the only proper method to be used in educating the Indians, but if the industrial school at Regina is abolished the last hope of that sort of training will be lost. The Roman Catholics will come to the front and in future, to the Indians, the school will seem to have been merely a model of Presbyterian submission.

Rev. Mr. McQueen moved that a committee be instructed to press upon the government the necessity of keeping this school in good condition, and that a sufficient amount be granted for that purpose.

The motion was seconded by Rev. W. L. Clay of Victoria.

Rev. J. A. Martin said that after a deficit so large as the one last year, they were not very anxious to undertake any further responsibility.

Dr. Warden moved that Mr. McQueen's motion be referred to a small committee, consisting of Dr. Patrick, convener, Principal Scrimger, Dr. Laird, Dr. Robt. Murray, Judge Forbes, Andrew Elliott, Rev. Mr. McQueen and Rev. W. L. Clay.

The motion carried.

MISSIONARIES' SALARIES.

Dr. McLaren presented the report of the committee re increase in missionaries' salaries. The committee recommended the adoption of a resolution to the effect that owing to the increased cost of living the salaries should be increased, and that the minimum stipend be advanced fifty dollars. The loyal and sympathetic co-operation of every minister and congregation was heartily solicited.

The committee also expressed the hope that in the matter of the Dawson Hospital, the church would give at least $8,000. They could not, however, see their way clear to recommend a grant.

Dr. McLaren moved the adoption of the report.

Dr. Pringle said that it was impossible for anybody not well acquainted with the territory in the Yukon to realize what an important part of the missionary work the hospitals were. He was disappointed, for he thought the committee would recommend a good grant for at least one year. He was also disappointed because he believed that he had opened a door for the church and had presented an opportunity for the Presbyterian church of Canada to take possession of a field readily equipped. He was not personally interested in the Good Samaritan Hospital at Dawson. He had never collected a dollar for it; but he hoped to see it prosper.

Dr. Smith seconded Dr. McLaren's motion and the report was adopted.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY.

Prof. Murray of Dalhousie College, Halifax, submitted the report re the relation of Queen's University to the church. The report recommended that the connection between the university and church be maintained. That arrangements be made whereby the graduates be given a larger representation on the board of trustees. That an additional annual revenue of $20,000 be required exclusive of the contributions at present made in favor of the theological department. That the assembly recommends the trustees to initiate at an early date a movement to procure this additional revenue. That a committee be appointed to co-operate with the trustees for that purpose.

Prof. Murray moved the reception of the report.

Dr. Warden in seconding the motion, said that he thought the church was bound in every sense of the word, to provide everything which Queen's University needs, and the necessary money for the equipment of the institution should be raised without delay. Personal service for the good of the institution should gladly be given as well by every one connected with the church.

The report was adopted.

SABBATH SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS

R. Douglas Fraser, editor of the Sabbath school publications, presented his report, which was highly satisfactory. The circulation has advanced by fifty per cent. The receipts for the past year were $52,513; the expenditures, $43,338.82.

The adoption of the report was moved by Dr. Campbell of Montreal, clerk of the assembly. He recommended all Sabbath schools to use the Sabbath school publications.

Dr. Murray seconded the motion.

Dr. Pringle said that he had heard complaints made to the effect that the subscription price was too high. Personally he had no complaint to make. Mr. Fraser explained that it could not be published any cheaper, and it was as cheap as any paper of the same quality published by other churches.

This report was also adopted.

Principal Falconer of Halifax submitted the report of the committee to strike the standing committees of the general assembly, which was adopted.

PROF. CAMPBELL.

Dr. Fletcher, convener of the committee appointed to confer with Prof. John Campbell in reference to his resignation from the staff of the Montreal Presbyterian College, submitted their report, to the effect that Prof. Campbell emphatically refused to reconsider his action.

Dr. Fletcher moved the adoption of the report and also a resolution expressing the assembly's satisfaction at the work done by Dr. Campbell during his long period of association with the college and the deep regret of the assembly in losing him, and that the college board make such pecuniary recognition of his services as the finances of the college will allow.

Prof. Scrimger seconded the motion and contended that there was no truth in the statements which had been made to the effect that members of the assembly had been influenced by his trial for heresy.

Dr. Sedgewick thought Prof. Campbell ought to have some time in which to reconsider his resignation, at least thirty days.

The motion was carried.

EVENING SESSION.

At the evening session it was decided not to appoint a Sabbath school general secretary this year, but to allow the committee to continue its work in that direction and report at the next meeting of the general assembly.

Several other reports were adopted, and although the assembly was not in a position to finally adjourn, as had for a time been anticipated, considerable necessary business was transacted. The assembly decided to petition parliament with a view to having betting on horse races stopped. The petition will be signed by the moderator and clerk of the assembly.

Just before the assembly adjourned in the afternoon a motion was made to the effect that Rev. J. C. Robertson of Milltown, N. B., be appointed general secretary of Sabbath schools. On resuming business in the evening Dr. Somerville, seconded by Rev. M. McGillivray, moved an amendment to have Rev. Mr. Peck appointed instead of Mr. Robertson.

Principal Falconer referring to the Sabbath school work said that it needed a man of good outlook, broad ideas and earnest desires. A man's qualities should not be canvassed on the floors of the assembly. He felt that Mr. Robertson was such a man that they could not afford to lose him in this work. As far as he could judge Mr. Robertson was the best man before the assembly, and had all the qualities necessary.

Principal Patrick moved that the assembly decline to make any appointment this year. He did not agree with Principal Falconer that the gentleman appointed must be essentially the head of the Sunday school work.

Rev. J. D. Boyd of Kingston seconded Principal Patrick's motion. He thought managers should be put all over the field, after which a secretary could be appointed to help generally.

Principal Patrick's motion was carried. Principal Grant then moved that the committee be instructed to continue their investigation and report to the assembly next year. Judge Forbes seconded the motion, which was carried.

Dr. Ramsay of Ottawa submitted the report on Church Life and Work, which showed that the presence of the young at the church services is spoken of encouragingly in most of the reports. With few exceptions the services of the choir seem to have given general satisfaction. The weakest part of the whole church's life and work seemed to be the weekly prayer meetings.

Rev. Clarence McKinnon moved the adoption of the report. He thought too little attention was being paid to church work. His own church at Sydney was being ground down by mistrust. The real cause of the strikes there was distrust.

Rev. J. A. MacDonald seconded the motion. He pointed out in very strong terms the difficulties under which members have to labor. He realized more fully than ever what it meant for a pastor to prepare two sermons a week, and do whatever else was demanded of him. He believed the preacher should speak God's own message.

Referring to the teachings of the pulpit Mr. MacDonald said that many professing Christians said of politics that as one side was as corrupt as another they did not care to have anything to do with them. All he could say to that was, if there was anything worse than a political grafter and infamous legislator it was the smooth, glib over-pious character. We should not hold ourselves aloof from politics and questions which mean so much to all.

The motion was adopted.

Dr. McLaren moved that a petition be sent to parliament in regard to betting at horse racing, and endeavor to have this thing stopped by law. He had no objection to horse racing, but the betting was simply a tendency to gambling and probably often results in gambling.

Rev. J. A. Turnbull of Toronto seconded the motion and said that in Toronto, for instance, boys pitching cents would be arrested at once, but betting on horse racing is allowed by law.

The report of the hymnal committee was submitted by Rev. Alex. McMillan of Toronto and adopted.

The report of the committee on the reception of ministers was given in by Dr. Armstrong and adopted.

The assembly adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock this morning.

NOTES.

It is fully expected that the assembly will conclude the transaction of all business in time for a final adjournment at noon today. It is imperative that many officials and leading members of the assembly shall leave the city on the evening trains.

The committee appointed to strike the committee on church union, to consist of about sixty members, will report to the assembly this morning. Dr. Somerville is convener.

Yesterday's business was among the most interesting yet taken up by the assembly.

The thirtieth general assembly of the Presbyterian church in Canada is at an end. At 1.45 yesterday the assembly adjourned to meet again in Grant Hall, Kingston, next year.

The assembly was one of the most important and interesting in the history of the church and the business was conducted with the greatest wisdom and unanimity, the debates being taken part in by some of the most prominent scholars and eloquent speakers in Canada. The business yesterday morning, although somewhat routine, was particularly important.

The first item of business was the presentation of the sixty-four names on the union committee. They were adopted and it was decided to draw on the different funds of the church towards paying the expenses of the committee when it shall meet from time to time, probably not oftener than once a year.

It was decided that Dr. Carmichael should accompany, to Ottawa, the deputation to the government in regard to the Regina Industrial School.

Dr. Bryce, convener of a committee on the reception of ministers, submitted certain names which he moved should be admitted. Considerable discussion folowed as to the propriety of admitting Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Roger, evangelists of the far west, who have not had the advantages of a university or theological course. Principal Patrick, of Winnipeg, very strongly opposed such an action, contending that the general assembly was making a great mistake in accepting men of inferior literary attainments.

They were, however, admitted. Prof. Bryce, Mr. McQueen and others pointing out their exceptional spiritual attainments.

It was decided that on account of lack of information the application of Evangelist Forsythe be referred to the presbytery for further consideration.

Rev. J. A. Turnbull, on behalf of a committee, submitted the names of several whom he wished to be considered.

It was agreed to recommend that J. L. McCullough be sent to Knox College for three years, also that W. E. Cosford, take one year's literary course, after which he may enter on his divinity studies; also that Mr. Finley, of the west, and who at one time labored in the province, take a three years' course in literature, theology and other similar subjects.

The presbytery of London was allowed to license R. J. Campbell.

Applications from Andrew Hood and Mr. Wood of Rock Lake were rejected.

The committee recommend that J. M. McAllister, M. A., of Edinburgh, be admitted to the ministry and that J. J. Ferguson, who has completed the first two years in the university and the three years in theology, be given the standing of a theological graduate of Manitoba College. The report of Mr. Turnbull was adopted.

The business in connection with the Sabbath school report was then taken up. Principal Scrimger moved a resolution to the effect that sessions and Sabbath schools be affectionately urged to give earnest attention to the gathering into the Sabbath schools of all children and young people within reach who are not attending some school. To the establishing of a home department. To the oragnization of teachers' meetings. To the introduction, where not now in use, of our Lesson Helps and Illustrated Papers. To the formation of teachers' training classes.

The resolution further approved of the supplemental course and recommended definite arrangements in Sunday schools for systematic giving to the schemes of the church. The resolution was adopted.

A grant was given to the presbytery of Kingston from the Children's Day collections.

J. W. Campbell, in connection with the report of the young people's societies presented at a previous sederunt, moved that the general assembly authorize its committee on young people's societies to prepare one or more handbooks on missions suitable for mission study, classes, mission bands and young people's societies generally, and that organized effort be made toward the establishment and development of young people's societies and young people's work generally. The motion was passed.

The very favorable reports of the committees on aids for social worship, on the distribution of probationers and on the board of trustees of the Presbyterian church in Canada were presented and adopted. The board of trustees in the latter case have appointed a sub-committee, consisting of His Honor W. Mortimer Clark, K. C., Robert Kilgour and Dr. Warden, under whose supervision all investments are made.

The report of the committee on Sabbath observance and legislation was adopted.

An overture re hymns, etc., for choirs, from Orangville Presbytery was referred to the hymnal committee.

The following overture re the 4th centennial of the birth of John Knox was submitted by Dr. Warden, in the absence of Dr. R. Murray, and adopted: Whereas the fourth centennial of the birth of John Knox will take place in 1905, and will afford an opportunity of commemorating the pre-eminent services rendered by that great man to the Church of Christ, and especially to the Presbyterian branch of that great church, it is hereby overtured to the venerable the general assembly of the Presbyterian church in Canada to take the matter into favorable consideration and devise measures for celebrating the event in a worthy and profitable manner.

The report of the committee on the Presbyterian Record for 1903 was adopted. It showed that the receipts for the year were $24,825.93, the disbursements $13,454.51.

An overture re systematic giving for the schemes of the church was received, and a committee was appointed to deal with the matter.

Dr. Scringer then read a loyal address to be sent to His Majesty King Edward and Queen Alexandra, expressing the hope that their lives may long be spared for useful work.

An address was also read, and will be sent to Lord Minto.

D. C. Hussick and A. Eakin were elected to the membership of Knox College, one for a period of two years, the other for three years.

The names of Dr. E. D. McLaren and Dr. Herridge were added to the committee re Morrin College.

An overture re the memorial church at Pretoria, S. A., was submitted and acknowledged. It was proposed to erect a church in Pretoria, to be a memorial to the Presbyterian soldiers who lost their lives in the late war and the sympathy and liberality of the church in Canada is earnestly solicited. Subscriptions may be made through Dr. Warden.

Dr. Herdman, in presenting the report of the Kamloops College, moved that the Home Mission committee (western section) give an annual grant of $700 for five years to the college, which, he said, was doing excellent work. The good work of the Calgary College, Dr. Herdman said, was largely due to the untiring efforts of Principal Macrae, son of the Rev. Dr. Macrae, of St. John.

Judge Forbes moved that the report be referred to the Home Mission committee for consideration. Dr. Somerville moved that the matter be laid on the table. Rev. D. M. Gordon, of Fernie, moved a resolution commending the Calgary College to the sympathy and support of the church for the very great work it is now doing. Prof. Bryce seconded the resolution, which was carried.

Rev. W. A. J. Martin and Rev. D. R. Drummond, of St. Thomas, were appointed delegates to the International Sunday Rest Conference to be held in St. Louis next October. This was done at the request of Rev. Mr. Shearer, of the Lord's Day Alliance.

Dr. Bryce, on behalf of the assembly, expressed his sincere appreciation of the hospitality of the people of St. John, and at the excellent weather which had been experienced. He thought the assembly could readily give to St. John a certificate to the effect that so far as they knew, St. John had no fog.

Dr. Bryce moved the following vote of thanks:

1. To the minister and session and board of mangement of St. Andrew's church, St. John, for the use of the church and its adjuncts for the work of the assembly.

2. To the mayor of St. John for the marked courtesies extended by him on behalf of the city to the assembly.

3. To the pastors and people of St. John who have shown to the members of the assembly such unbounded hospitality, and also to the committee of arrangements, whose careful attention has inured so greatly to the comfort of the commissioners to the assembly.

4. To the choirs of St. Andrew's, St. David's and St. Stephen's churches for effectively assisting in the conduct of praise at the services of the assembly.

5. To the Intercolonial, Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk and other railways for travelling facilities afforded to the commissioners, and

6. To the press for the excelent reports given from day to day of the proceedings of the assembly.

Rev. Dr. Fletcher strongly endorsed all that Prof. Bryce had said and especially in regard to the services which the choirs had performed each evening.

Prof. Dyde said that the people and clergy of St. John had apparently conspired to give the members of the assembly a good time. He felt that good work had been done to promote the cause of Christ.

Judge Forbes, on behalf of the people of St. John, expressed his pleasure at hearing such a distinguished body of men present.

Dr. Milligan thanked the assembly for putting him in the moderator's chair. He said that in all cases he had tried to do his best and felt that the business had gone on as smoothly as possible. He regretted, deeply, the trouble with the missionaries in Central India. He trusted to see all again at the next assembly, which would meet in Grant Hall, Kingston, at 7.30 o'clock in the evening of the first Wednesday in June, 1905. Prof. McLaren offered prayer after which the members sang a hymn and stood with bowed heads while the moderator pronounced the benediction and the assembly stood adjourned.

NOTES.

The committee on church union is composed of the following:—

Principal Caven, convener; Rev. R. H. Warden, D. D., vice convener; Principal Patrick, Prof. Bryce, Dr. Carmichael, Dr. Herdman, Rev. W. L. Clay, Dr. Duval, Dr. Farquharson, Dr. J. L. Murray, Dr. Bettisby, Dr. Somerville, W. J. Clark, J. B. Mullan, W. A. J. Martin, Dr. Fletcher, Dr. Lyle, J. H. Ratcliffe, Prof. McLaren, Dr. R. P. McKay, Dr. Milligan, Dr. E. M. McLaren, Principal Gordon, Dr. M. MacGillivray, Dr. Jas. Stuart, J. Hay, Dr. Armstrong, Dr. D. M. Ramsay, Dr. Herridge, Principal Scrimger, Dr. Mowatt, Dr. Campbell, A. T. Love, President Forrest, Principal Falconer, Dr. Sedgewick, Dr. J. McMillan, Dr. Edwin Smith, Thos. Stewart, Dr. A. F. Carr, Dr. E. D. Millar, James Ross, T. C. Jack and G. S. Carson, His Honor W. Mortimer Clark, Hon. D. Laird, H. J. D. McGregor, Hon. C. H. Campbell, W. Whyte, J. K. MacDonald, J. A. MacDonald, J. A. Patterson, W. B. McMurrich, Prof. Dyde, G. M. MacDonnell, A. G. Farrell James Gibson, D. Morrin, W. Paul, Dr. R. Murray, Prof. W. E. Murray, T. C. James, Judge Forbes, J. F. Stairs.

The committee appointed re Queens University from the different Presbyteries is as follows:

Quebec, Rev. A. T. Love, Rev. Dr. Kellock; Montreal, Rev. Dr. Barclay, Rev. Dr. Morrison; Glengary, Rev. Archibald Graham; Lancaster, Rev. A. Givan; Ottawa, Rev. Dr. Armstrong, Hon. Justice McTavish, Rev. J. W. H. Milne; Lancaster and Renfrew, Rev. John Hay, Alexander Barnet, Hon. Senator Frost, Smith's Falls; Brockville, Rev. C. H. Daly, Rev. D. Strachan, John M. Gill, Rev. D. Boyd, Kingston; Rev. A. H. Drum, Belleville; Rev. J. G. Potter, Peterboro; Hugh Waddell, Peterboro; Rev. D. W. Bert, Beaverton; Rev. J. Wallace, Lindsay; Rev. James Hodges, Oshawa; J. B. Dow, Whitby; Robert McLaughlin, Alexander Neilson, George Gillis, Rev. A. Black, Toronto; Rev. John Neil, D. D., Toronto; Dr. James Bain, Toronto; Rev. Robert Fowlie, Rev. J. H. Edwinson, Cheterham; Rev. R. N. Grant, D. D., Dr. Barton, Orangeville; Rev. S. Childerhose, Perry Sound; Rev. D. MacEachern, Rev. Dr. Somerville, J. A. Black, Owen Sound; Rev. W. Farquharson; Rev. T. McCulloh, Guelph; Rev. W. W. Ross, Guelph; Rev. R. E. Knowles, Galt; Rev. Dr. Fletcher, Dr. Lyle, Dr. Malloch, Rev. G. C. Patterson, Rev. Dr. McMullar, Woodstock; Rev. J. G. Stuart, London; Rev. R. D. Drummond, St. Thomas; Rev. J. C. Tolmie, Rev. Dr. Battisby, Chatham; Rev. A. A. Graham, Rev. E. Currie, Sarnia; Rev. M. L. Leitch; Rev. A. MacAulsey, Stratford; Rev. Dr. Blyth, Huron; Rev. J. Ross, Maitland; Rev. T. Neilson, Bruce.

Most of the members left for home at six o'clock yesterday afternoon. Some, however, are still here and will leave today, while a few will probably stay over Sunday. A large number of friends were at the station yesterday bidding good-bye to those who left.

DIED OF FRIGHT.

How Quebec Murderer Escaped the Hangman.

ST. SCHOLASTIQUE, Que., June 10.—Theophile Belanger was hanged this morning for the murder of his brother-in-law, Antoine Seguin, of St. Eustache on February 12, 1903. Belanger went calmly to the scaffold and before mounting the steps said he was prepared to die.

The drop fell at 8.02 a. m. and the doctor said that as soon as Belanger felt the trap fall, fright caused rupture of the heart. This is the first occasion in Canada in which a man who has been hanged showed no sign of life after the drop had fallen. All the villagers attended mass this morning, the hanging taking place while it was in progress.

The condemned man was a well-to-do farmer. Trouble had been brewing between him and victim for a long time over a board bill. The old trouble reached a climax a year and a half ago when Belanger attempted to force his brother-in-law to leave. His discovery that a life lease stood in the way evidently impelled him to shed human blood.

According to his confession he shot Seguin as he was entering his own barn. Nobody saw the act or heard the shot, but suspicion pointed to Belanger.

A painful episode of the case was the prisoner's declaration after his arrest that he shot Seguin because the latter had dishonored Belanger's grown-up daughter. The story was afterwards declared untrue by the accused.

ITS SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

Portland Methodist Church Will Celebrate Next Week—Need of More Accommodations.

Old Portland church was the first to minister to the spiritual needs of the people of the north end in the long ago, and though fire's ravages have laid it in ashes, and there have been other temporal difficulties warranted to shake to the foundation any church or any congregation ,it is today a vigorous agency for the welfare of mankind, a well-organized and thoroughgoing assemblage of people, doing a noble work and destined to do even more of it.

The trustees and pastor of the Portland street church feel a crisis has been reached in the history of the congregation and that a great deal has to be done forthwith to meet the demands for better facilities. The Sunday school has outgrown its accommodations, the Boys' Brigade has to be looked after, and the Young Men's Association, now a strong arm of the church, must be kept intact.

To overcome these difficulties—or rather to meet these needs—a special financial effort is being made. The young men will proceed with the erection of their building adjoining the edifice, which has been under serious consideration for over two years, and to that end they have guaranteed to raise $2,000. Three hundred of this amount is now in the hands of the trustees. By an excursion on the river Dominion day and other schemes they hope to soon swell this amount very greatly.

NEW INVENTIONS.

Below will be found a list of patents recently granted by the Canadian government through the agency of Messrs. Marion & Marion, patent attorneys, Montreal, Canada, and Washington, D. C.

Information relating to any of the patents cited will be supplied free of charge by applying to the abovenamed firm:

87,345—Jno. H. Poole, Westfield, N. B., non-refillable bottle.

87,346—Jas. Irvine, Hawke's Bay, N. Z., fastenings of packing cases and the like.

87,383—Jno. Berst, Plattsville, Ont., stable fork.

87,423—Edmond Lamoureux, Montreal, Que., shuttle.

87,452—Robt. J. Hunter, Ayr, Scotland, cabinet washstand.

87,482—Pierre Steenlet, Brussels, Belgium, treatment of ores, metals, etc.

87,497—Walter Akins, Heaslip, Man., improvements in stoves.

87,515—Wm. W. Borden, Campbellton, N. B., clothes drier.

87,516—Elhanan Bowman, Elmwood, Ont., snow plow.

87,600—Narcisse J. Gregoire, St. John, Que., electric time switch.

STRANGE PEOPLE IN A STRANGE LAND.

An aged Roumanian couple, attired as Roumanians are at home, walked leisurely along Market square and up King street yesterday afternoon hand in hand, blissfully innocent of the attention they were attracting. Their bright yellow kerchiefs, her flaring blue skirt, his tilted felt hat and gaudy cravat, gave them picturesqueness. All the store windows were taken in by them and a feast of sight-seeing indulged in. In reply to the remark of a funny fellow, a logical citizen said: "Well, I suppose that is about what you would look like in Roumania." Those about laughed.

FIRE AT ST. ANDREWS.

ST. ANDREWS, June 10.—The fire companies were called out today at 11.30 a. m. The fire was in the house owned by T. T. O'Dell estate and was occupied by Theobald Rooney. After a stiff fight of nearly an hour the fire was extinguished. The fire caught on the second flat, over the kitchen, and the interior of the house was badly damaged by fire and water. The loss on the house is covered by insurance. Most of the furniture was got out in a damaged condition.

METHODIST CONFERENCE

Will Open at Fredericton on Thursday Next.

The twenty-first session of the Methodist Conference of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island will meet in the city of Fredericton on Thursday, the 16th inst. Under the name of "The Wesleyan Methodist Conference of Eastern British America," this annual gathering of the leaders of the church met in the same place in 1860, 1868, and in 1873, the presiding officers on the occasion being the Revs. Matthew Richey, D. D., William Morley Punshow, D. D., and Charles Stewart, D. D. Under the name of "The Methodist Church of Canada," the sessions of 1877 and 1882 were held, the chair being occupied by the Revs. John Prince and John S. Phinney. And under its present name in 1890 and 1897, the chief officers being Revs. Howard Sprague, D. D., and Richard W. Weddall, A. B. Great changes have taken place in the meantime. At first conference held in Fredericton of the ministers laboring within the territory now included in its sphere of operations were forty-two ministers and probationers. There are today one hundred and eleven. The membership then was three thousand nine hundred and twenty-six, with five hundred and twenty on trial. The figures as reported last year give thirteen thousand seven hundred and twelve, with two hundred and forty-two on trial. Of the forty-four ministers above referred to only five are now on the conference roll—Rev. Drs. Stewart, Wilson and Chapman, and Teed and Colter. As the conference territory then included Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, and the Bermudas, and a larger amount of business had to be attended to, nearly a fortnight was usually taken to get through, and the ministers rarely got home until after the second Sabbath. In these good old days railroads were, in most places, in the future, and to go to district meeting or conference was a rather formidable affair. One member recalls having driven from Albert to Parrsboro; St. John to St. Stephen, from Marysville to Chatham, and from Fredericton to Woodstock to answer to his name and give an account of his stewardship. Then the ministers sat with closed doors, and laymen had no direct voice in the government of the church, and one used to hear a good deal about ministerial exclusiveness, and how much better things would be done if the laymen were there. Well, the laymen are now on a par with the ministers, but with a few honorable exceptions very few take sufficient interest in the proceedings to be present at the opening and remain to the close. The charitable conclusion is they are so well satisfied with the ministers' way of doing things their own services can be safely dispensed with.

The ministerial session will meet on Tuesday evening, 14th, and will sit with closed doors. At this meeting enquiry will be made as to the moral character, doctrinal soundness, and faithfulness in the discharge of duty of every minister and probationer, concerning which, as far as is now known, all will be found satisfactory. Probationers will be examined, candidates voted upon, the supernumerary list added to by new names, or lessened in number by those, if any, who return to the full work again, and the granting of leave of absence to those who may seek such a relation. Rumor has it there will be several of this class, which, in view of the lack of ministers, will render the work of the stationing committee very difficult.

As General Superintendent Carman goes to the Pacific Coast to attend the conference of British Columbia, he he will not be in attendance at Fredericton this year. This will be regretted by many who look forward with a good deal of interest to his official deliverances in opening the conference, as they deal with matters of public concern. His absence will be somewhat compensated for by the presence of Revs. Dr. Alexander Sutherland and Dr. Chown, and Rev. Mark Guy Pearse of London, England. As many of the members will desire to be in St. John during the tercentenary celebration, an effort will be made to get through with business as quickly as possible, but as it is in parliament so it is in conference, no question of importance can be settled until certain speakers have had their say. Of that class, however, there are not many.

The ministerial members of the conference are as follows:

ST. JOHN SYNOD.

Howard Sprague, D. D., George M. Campbell, Charles Comben, William C. Matthews, Thomas J. Dienstadt, Samuel Howard, B. D., Henry Penna, John A. Clark, A. M., Henry J. Clarke, Fletcher H. W. Pickles, Charles W. Hamilton, Robert Wilson, Ph. D., William J. Kirby, Hedley D. Marr, B. A., John G. Gough, Aquila Lucas, Daniel B. Bayley, B. A., Robert W. J. Clements, Robert G. Fulton, James A. Duke, Edwin Evans, D. D., William E. Johnson, B. A., Artemus C. Bell, S. T. B., Henry Pierce, B. A.

FREDERICTON SYNOD.

Jabez A. Rogers, D. D., George B. Payson, John J. Colter, S. T. B., John J. Teasdale, Robert S. Crisp, Waldron W. Brewer, James Crisp, Alexander D. McLeod, Edmund Ramsey, Matthew R. Knight, M. A., Harry Harrison, A. B., Silas James.

WOODSTOCK SYNOD.

George A. Ross, Charles Flemington, John C. Berrie, John Dystant, Thomas Siebbings, Edwin C. Turner, John B. Young, John A. Ives.

CHATHAM SYNOD.

James Strothard, Hammond Johnson, J. Spicer Gregg, B. A., John F. Estey, Alfred E. Lepage, Jacob Heaney, B. A., John Goldsmith, Herbert E. Thomas.

SACKVILLE SYNOD.

George Steel, Charles Stewart, D. D., Ralph Steadman, D. D., Charles R. Paisley, D. D., Thomas Marshall, Douglas Chapman, D. D., William A. Thomson, Josiah S. Champion, James W. McConnell, B. A., William Fenna, Stephen T. Teed, Henry C. Rice, B. A., Thomas Pierce, William Harrison, John K. King, Levi J. Leard, Isaac N. Parker, Isaac Howie, Joseph Pascoe, Charles Maniton, Thos. Allen.

ST. STEPHEN SYNOD.

John Read, D. D., George W. Fisher, John S. Allen, William A. Spargo, Daniel B. Chowen, B. A., Jabez M. Rice, B. A., William Lawson.

CHARLOTTETOWN SYNOD.

George M. Young, Elias Slackford, Wilson W. Lodge, Wallace B. Thomas, Thomas Hicks, Frank Frizzle, Richard Opie, Stephen H. Rice, Leonard J. Wason, Joseph Parkins, Edward Bell, William Wass.

SUMMERSIDE SYNOD.

Alonzo D. McCully, B. D., Neil McLaughlin, B. A., George M. Dawson, M. A., H. Stanley Young, B. A., George A. Sellar, A. Eugene Chapman, B. A., Frederick A. Wightman, William J. Heward, B. D., William R. Pepper.

Note.—In the above list the names of John Read and Silas James are given, for although deceased, according to Methodist rule and usage they are members of the conference until their decease has been officially declared.

LORD'S DAY ALLIANCE.

Report of Executive Presented at Recent Convention.

In presenting to this convention their annual report, the executive board of the New Brunswick branch of the Lord's Day Alliance would express their gratitude to God for the growth of the organization in the dominion, and for unmistakable evidence of strengthened public opinion in the direction of Lord's day observance. It is a great satisfaction to see from the triennial report of the Dominion L. D. A. how greatly the work has been extended during the past three years. Since the year 1901 the number of branches has risen from 210 to 525, an increase of almost 150 per cent., and in the matter of membership even greater progress has been made, there being at the present time 25,000 names upon the roll. In the light of these figures there is every reason for hopefulness.

Shortly after the last provincial convention came the decision of the Privy Council in the special test case submitted by the Ontario government, a decision which practically declares all Provincial Lord's Day Acts which have been passed since confederation, invalid, on the ground that they constituted an interference with the criminal code, and therefore dealt with questions that come properly only within the jurisdiction of the dominion law.

The effects of this decision are naturally very widespread, but inasmuch as they have been clearly indicated in the Lord's Day Advocate (Sept., 1903), it will be sufficient if attention is briefly called to its working in the province of New Brunswick.

In our own province the effect of the Privy Council's decision is very serious; more so, perhaps, than in any other province, and we are thrown back upon the anti-confederation Lord's Day Act, which, while fairly comprehensive, is so worded that much would depend in proceedings upon the interpretation of magistrates and judges. For the information of the public we subjoin the act as it appears upon the statute book:

"Whoever shall openly desecrate the Lord's day, commonly called Sunday, by shooting, gaming, sporting, playing, hunting, drinking or frequenting tippling houses, or by servile labor (works of mercy or necessity excepted), shall for every offence pay a fine not exceeding forty shillings, or be committed to gaol for a term not exceeding four days."

Immediately subsequent to the time of our last convention several questions of Sunday labor of a seemingly unnecessary character came before the attention of your executive, such as lime-burning and the winter port work, but, on the advice of legal authority, action was suspended until fresh legislation could be secured, in the form of a Dominion Sunday Observance Act. This, we are glad to know, will probably be passed in the no distant future, inasmuch as the government have decided to introduce a dominion law at an early date. As a precautionary step this measure will be referred to the supreme court, and, if necessary, to the privy council, for approval. While this entails some delay, yet in the long run the results will be satisfactory, as we shall have a law from which there will be no appeal.

Partly owing to the breakdown in our provincial act, and partly owing to the difficulty of securing executive officers who can spare the time required for personal supervision of the work, your board regrets that it cannot report a great deal of progress. Nevertheless the number of branches has been increased from 16 to 21. Reports from the branches show that in two cases Sunday is generally well observed, whilst the most serious complaints from the others are against the railroads for an unnecessary amount of work, and in St. John also against vessels. On the whole, your committee is encouraged to believe that the fact of the organization's existence has had a salutary effect upon public opinion in the province.

We have received with great regret the news of John C. Copp's death, the most efficient treasurer for the Dominion L. D. A. from its inception.

Your executive recommend that for the current year ending Dec. 31st the N. B. Alliance undertake to contribute the sum of $400 to the Dominion Alliance. To this end the various branches are urged to make every effort to complete their finances, and remit their contributions to W. J. Parks, provincial treasurer, with the least possible delay.

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Chas. H. Fletcher