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HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS ARE

Considered at the Meeting of the Synod on Wednesday Night—Eloquent Addresses Given by Leading Members of the Court.—The work in Trinidad and Corea.

FOURTH SEDERUNT.

Wednesday Evening, Rev. Thomas Stewart speaking of the Home Mission report in the hands of the members of the Synod referred to the hopeful as well as the discouraging signs. In Sydney, Glace Bay etc. the work is enlarging rapidly. He advised no stinting of financial assistance to the Sydney Presbytery and advised a superintendent of home missions as in the Presbytery of St. John. In the whole field were 74 laborers with 209 stations with an average of 10700 people in attendance. There were 3076 families in the field which means as much as our ordinary presbytery families. Though our work is small in comparison with the West it is not small as compared with the whole field. There has been a large advance in the amount given. He compared the work now with that of ten years ago showing the growth during that time. This year ending in February the Home Mission committee ask \$16,500 for the East alone leaving the West to the people's generosity.

Rev. Mr. Ross, Superintendent of Missions for the Presbytery of St. John reported on the work in the Presbytery of St. John. Thirty four laborers had been employed during the past year. They supply one hundred preaching stations and minister to at least ten thousand people. The growth during the past two years has been more marked than for ten before. Now trade is buoyant, farmers are prosperous and the population is increasing. Were it not for the increase in the mission fields there would be a decrease in the number of Presbyterian families in New Brunswick. During last year only one new field has been opened in a district near Moncton. Another is ready to be opened and will be so next spring.

It is true we are losing numbers of young men but they are not lost to the church. Numbers have gone to California, Winnipeg and the Yukon. Though they have gone from us they are working in other parts of the church. A great trouble is the scarcity of men. In a short time there will be twenty vacancies and no more than three or four can be filled. Work in these must then be stopped. The work in the colleges is not promising as the number of graduates next spring will not be large. Let every minister press the need for men and show that there is no higher occupation than the mission field. He showed that Home and Foreign Missions were reciprocal and should not be separated.

Rev. Mr. McNair moved the usual resolution. In referring to the motion he spoke briefly. We have been told the church has grown wonderfully and what are the causes? One is perhaps due to the convenors, Dr. McMillan the past and Rev. Thomas Stewart the present one whose name is second to none. Splendid men are being sent to the field. The people too, have contributed handsomely and Forward is our motto. Some say we should retrench for the home mission fields are not giving much to the churches. But there must be no backward step. Forward is to be our watchword. We are committed to this enterprise and there must be no retrograde movement. He quoted figures from St. John Presbytery to show that from the financial standpoint Home Missions pay.

Rev. Clarence McKinnor, Sydney in seconding the motion spoke in admiration of the present convenor's work during the past year. In referring to the discussion of the morning and the pessimistic view regarding sabbath desecration, intemperance etc. he did not concur in the explanation given viz the introduction of the Higher Critics in our colleges. He felt it derogatory to the Synod that during the day each had to assert his soundness before he would be heard. Is the statement true that some ministers are not sound in their theology? He thought if the roll were taken it would be found that those brethren whose soundness were questioned have the most converts and had the younger people of the church flocking around them. The keynote to success in our missions is in our workers. Let us get the best men whether in our college or in the west. We want alertness and more suppleness. The hour calls for energy, alertness and self sacrifice. We have a magnificent task before us and whether the remuneration be large or small we shall have the happiness of seeing our part in the great superstructure whose Maker and Builder is God.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Rev. E. D. Miller, Yarmouth regretted the absence of Rev. Mr. Falconer whose place it became his duty to take. Generally speaking the work is in a prosperous state in the foreign field.

In the New Hebrides, in the great Trinidad mission, in Demarara, away in Corea, in all those places the work is meeting with grand success. We are not worthy of the greatness of the blessings and we must not be discouraged if the cost is great. By the removal of Dr. Grant and the illness of Dr. Martin the Trinidad field has been greatly weakened. Refer

ence was also made to the gratuitous work of John Grierson who has added greatly to the material advancement of the field. Speaking of the work of the Women's Societies he assured the audience that there has been a very good year and the amount raised and contributed will be in advance of last year. One of the congregations St. Davids of St. John N. B. had undertaken to support a lady missionary in Corea.

The church is face to face however with a serious deficit. It amounted to \$12,600 at the close of last year on the first of March. Only a result of last year's work and the rest is the result of former years. Much of this was caused by an extraordinary demand for new buildings which may not occur for some time again. This deficit retards the progress of the work because it was necessary to delay the sending of missionaries till the way appeared clearer. Dr. Grant has been called home in order that fresh from the field he may bring to the church the facts in connection with the operation of the field and that a deeper enthusiasm may be kindled among the church.

During the last few years there has been a steady increase in the contributions from the W. F. M. S. On the other hand the congregational work has not been so thoroughly organized. It is to be feared that in some congregations the pastors and elders are allowing the work to be carried on by the ladies alone. What is to be done in regard to these matters. The Foreign Mission Board is not responsible for this debt. The Synod has been behind the Board and is responsible for the satisfactory progress and also the deficit. We must go forward and expand. We must grapple with the situation with fuller faith and full self sacrifice.

Let every minister put systematic organization into the work as the W. F. M. S. have done and if we undertake the work in the spirit of self sacrifice we shall be successful. The ministry and the people alike can do better by larger contributions towards those schemes, both home and foreign of the church. Including he moved the resolution adopting the report.

Rev. J. W. McKenzie, Thorburn, Pictou Co. in seconding the resolution spoke of the great interest he had always felt in the mission work. The debt of which we have heard should not discourage us when we consider our strength and the prosperity of our country.

T. C. James held that it was not honest for the Presbyterian church to send out another missionary when such a debt is hung over the church.

The Ex Moderator, Rev. Mr. Cumming having taken the chair Rev. Dr. Grant addressed the synod on the work he is doing in the Provinces. He instanced cases where success has been met with as a result of his visits. The responses are generous and the ministers are most hearty in the work. The churches are in sympathy with the work and soon we shall see results that shall be satisfactory to us. He suggested that the congregations be kept thoroughly versed in missionary work. The Acts of the apostles occupy nearly one seventh of the new testament and why cannot one seventh of the discourse be directed to the missionary work. Let us feel we are carrying the heathen into the presence of our God and our work will be enthusiastic. Let us persistently urge the systematic giving by congregations. This has been practiced in Trinidad and Dr. Grant gave illustrations to show the

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success of systematic giving in Trinidad. In Trinidad there are in all six missionaries on the ground. The church has 126 buildings, 10 of them churches. There are 58 day schools with an average attendance of 3000 scholars and 76 Sunday schools with 3636 scholars. There are 43 catechists and last year there were 483 baptisms, some infants and some adults. Latterly nearly all the cost of school work is borne by the Government. The people are sighing for something better than they have got. Shall we give it to them or shall we withhold it?

John Grierson, in speaking of mission work in Corea told of the ten or eleven millions in Corea out of thirteen million who have never heard the gospel. He eulogised the W. F. M. S. for the systematic way in which they conducted their work and drew a lesson for the churches in their work.

He told of the marvellous work of the gospel in the East and the many fields that are awaiting the laborers. East missionary has more than 2 of a million in the field. It is utterly impossible to carry on such a work alone. The Lord has been blessing the work all along the time. The work is growing and hundreds are waiting for the gospel. The Coreans have a tremendous curiosity—a desire to know. They know their Bible and one Corean Christian is worth a dozen in this country. These are the kind of people committed to us and it will be awful if we are not faithful to our opportunities.

At ten o'clock the Synod was prolonged a quarter of an hour to hear Mr. Grierson and it was with great regret that the Synod adjourned at 10.15.

SEVENTH SEDERUNT.

(Thursday evening)

Seventh Sederunt of the Synod met at 7.30 After devotional exercises the minutes of the afternoon session were read and adopted.

The report on Young People's Societies was submitted by Rev. A. S. Morton of St. Stephen N. B. We have in our Synod now 201 Societies, five years ago we had 325 Societies. We have 6600 members now while five years ago we had 11400 members. But we must not let these figures discourage us for in spite of them the church has never done better work than she is now doing. All the great schemes of the church are being supported as never before and in other respects quite equal or superior to anything that we have had in other days. Mr. Morton moved the adoption of the report, and was seconded by Rev. Anderson Rogers of New Glasgow, who said he believed that many who in other days were counted as members of the Christian

(Continued on page 6.)

MERRY, HAPPY BABIES.

There is no greater treasure on earth than a healthy, happy, merry baby. Anything therefore that will keep the little one in this condition is a priceless boon to mothers. Mrs. Wm. Bull, Maple Creek, N. W. T., tells how she accomplished this end; she says: 'I am happy to say that Baby's Own Tablets have done my baby a world of good. She was badly troubled with constipation and very cross and peevish, but since using the Tablets she is all right. I give her the Tablets once or twice a week and she is now such a merry, happy little thing that there can be no doubt Baby's Own Tablets are just the thing for little ones.'

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Very heavy frost last Saturday night blighted the tomato vines—but on account of the vines being very heavy, the fruit was not injured to any extent. As the crop is a failure with most every one, the demand for what we have been very brisk and they are leaving us at the rate of 40 barrels a week, and now have comparatively speaking, only a few barrels left. The cucumber vines are totally destroyed, but we have procured some very nice small plum tomatoes, these with small onions make very fine pickles. We are expecting 30 barrels of onions Friday, we regret very much that we were unable to fill orders for onions on Tuesday market. We have never refused an order for them before. We also have to arrive 50 barrels more next week. Our Market Stalls are open every day. Customers from the country as well as from town will please bear this in mind. Saturday night safe still continues.—J. J. Gay & Son. 81 91 w 11 Pat & Ex.



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