

## MINISTERS CONSIDER MISSIONS.

### Western Work and That Among Foreigners in Toronto Especially.

Rev. Ernest R. Weeks of Winnipeg addressed the Congregational Ministers' Association yesterday morning regarding the work in that city. The Laymen's Missionary Movement was discussed, and the feeling was expressed that the Congregational laymen of the city should organize in connection with the movement. The question of ordaining Mr. Grove Smith of Blakeney Tabernacle, London, England, was considered. Mr. Smith has been preaching for some time in Congregational churches, but it was decided to defer his ordination till further information about him is received.

The Methodist preachers heard Rev. G. Merlino tell of the work at the Italian mission on Agnes street. The six thousand Italians in this city made better citizens, he said, than most people thought. They came to Canada to stay, and what they needed was education and Christian influence. These the Agnes street church seeks to supply in the "institutional" way, with night school, kindergarten, reading room and library.

The association provided for more careful pastoral charge over the young men and women coming to the city to attend colleges.

Rev. John Locke of Orangeville was introduced.

The Baptist ministers discussed plans for mission work among the foreigners in the city. A committee was appointed to look into the matter more fully. Rev. O. H. Schutt of Century Church, read a paper on "The Simple Life," in which he drew attention to the luxurious and extravagant way some people live, to the detriment of their moral and spiritual life. The complexity of modern church life interfered, he thought, with attaining the ideal simplicity. Rev. J. B. Kennedy of Memorial Church led in the discussion. An address on western missions was given by Rev. W. T. Stackhouse, the Superintendent of that branch of the work.

The Presbyterian Association considered the question of social and moral reform. Rev. Dr. Shearer expressed a hope that the law might be amended so as to prohibit race-track gambling. He also thought that reasonable influence should be brought to improve the law in that and other respects. The relations of the Church to labor and to the liquor traffic were also touched on.