THE PROBLEM

problem of the west, as Principal Patrick, the new head of Manitoba College, styled it, lies very heavily upon the heart of the Assembly, and yesterday afternoon this great problem was faced, and the decision taken to replace the late Rev. Dr. Robertson by not one, but three, Superintendents of the work. The taking of this decision may be counted a species of triumph for the men who are in a sense the leaders of the church. The recommendation of the men whisaion Committee to this effect, it is known, was received by the church at large with a certain degree of hesitancy, the step seeming a daring one. tancy, the step seeming a daring one When the recommendation came up Rev. Dr. Warden, the Convener of the committee, supported it in a speech of committee, supported it in a speech of great force. Addressing the Assembly at quite unusual length for him, employing all his mastery of facts and detail, and speaking in terms of the utmost gravity, he pressed upon the Assembly the urgency of the situation at this critical juncture. Mr. Charlton re-echoed his words, and then Principal Patrick, the successor of the late Rev. Patrick, the successor of the late Rev. Dr. King in Manitoba College, presented the "problem of the west" to the Assembly with such mastery, power and commanding cloquence that the work begun by Dr. Warden was completed. Hesitation was fairly overborne, and amid a thrill of very real emotion the recommendation was passed by an abrecommendation was passed by an absolutely unanimous vote.

Principal Forrest concluded by moving a resolution expressing gratification at the good work done by Queen's and increase of numbers of candidates for the ministry. He moved a resolution adopting the report, expressing pleasure that its condition was so satisfactory, thanking the benefactors, and urging ministers to look out in their congregations for suitable candidates for the ministry.

God's holy word in some of the colleges; he did not want to go into particulars. The church was tolerating and winking at that which, in black and white, was unsettling the faith.

Rev. Dr. Thompson of Sarnia suggested that it would be better to wait till the reports of all the colleges were presented.



amid a thrill of very real emotion the recommendation was passed by an absolutely unanimous vote.

In the morning the affairs of the colleges were discussed, reference to Queen's eliciting a beautiful eulogy of Principal Grant, penetrating in insight and exquisite in phrase, from Principal Caven. In the course of the afternoon a pleasant interlude was afforded by a fraternal visit from delegations from the Anglican Synod and the Methodist Conference. The evening was devoted to foreign missions, an inspiring meeting being held.

College Reports.

The affairs of the colleges were discussed at the morning sederunt of the General Assembly. Rev. Dr. Gordon of Halifax presented the report of the Presbyterian College, Halifax. The college has had a fairly good year financially. The debt against the fund a year ago of \$1,448 has been paid. All expenses have been met and the adverse balance on March I was only \$124. The receipts for the year were \$13,200. as against \$10,905 for the preceding year. The income from investments was \$8,046, as against \$6,913 for the previous year. The expenditure was \$11,876. The debt on the new college building has been somewhat reduced. The report was adopted.

Rev. W. T. Herridge reported verbally on behalf of Morin College, Quebec, an institution which has become practically defunct. Rev. E. Scott, one of the Board of Governors, stated that he had received no call to a meeting of the board this year; last year it was decided to keep open nominally by con-

that its condition was so satisfactory, thanking the benefactors, and urging ministers to look out in their congregations for suitable candidates for the ministry.

Rev. Dr. Black, in seconding the motion, dwelt at some length upon the falling off in candidates for the ministry, and recited a number of reasons which might be responsible for the decrease.

Rev. Dr. McMullen of Woodstock agreed that, the church was faced by all ministers and elders. He quotest opinions that the majority of educated opinions that the major

d from the church nominally, even as t had in reality been separated from he church since 1875. The theological aculty, on the other hand, would be brought into close relations with the

itself and the university. This was not decided upon.
Rev. Dr. Ross of Montreal suggested a motion that the committee appointed to confer with the trustees of Queen's University be instructed to intimate that, while the General Assembly desires to leave the trustees free to take such action as they think advisable, yet the church would cordially welcome a continuance of the relations between ruled out of order.

Principal Forrest's motion was carried and the Assembly adjourned.

The Home Mission Problem.

The Home Mission Problem.

The first thing which came up in the afternoon sederunt was the question of appointing Superintendents for the home misison work in the west. Rev. Dr. Warden presented the recommendation of the western section of the Home Mission Committee, that a field Superintendent be appointed for each of the two Synods west of Lake Superior, and a General Superintendent in addition. The doctor's speech in presenting this was extremely cogent and powerful. He sketched the enormous growth of the work and the urgent need for such appointments. He pointed out the number of Superintendents employed in portions of the field with far fewer congregations and smaller area than the west, and enlarged upon the enormous opportunities of expansion which confront the church. He urged that every new group of settlers entering the country should within the first year have a man furnished them. From a monetary point furnished them. From a monetary point of view the salaries of the proposed Superintendents would be more than made ground by the reductions to be expected in the grants for augmentation through the stimulus they would give to the congregations. On the result of this vote depended in no small degree the future of the church in the whole Do-

Mr. Charlton Seconds It.

Mr. John Charlton, M.P., seconded the motion. He was greatly impressed with the magnitude of the territory and the work. They stood on the eve of a crucial time. The last section of virgin arable land on the continent was about to be filled. The church must put forth its utmost efforts to hold that country.

Principal Patrick.

Principal Patrick of Manitoba Col-Principal Patrick of Manitoba Collego spoke to the motion, this being his first appearance in the General Assembly, and his reception heing exceedingly hearty. His address in support of the proposal was a deliverance of great power, breadth, discernment and originality, and placed him instantly in the recognition of the Assembly as one of the leaders of the church. His first words dealt with the great inrush of population into the Northwest Exaggerated estimates had been made of the numbers pouring in, but it was cerdefunct. Rev. E. Scott, one of the Board of Governors, stated that he had received no call to a meeting of the board this year; last year it was decided to keep open nominally by conducting a few classes on high school lines. A committee was appointed to investigate the affairs of the college, especially with a view to ascertaining whether the church had any claim to any portion of the endowment.

The report of the Presbyterian College. Montreal, was presented by Prof. Scrimger. The college has had a pros. Perous year, the receipts being \$15,715, and the expenditure \$85 less than this. During the year a bequest of \$10,000 was received for the scholarship endowment fund, in addition to \$1,400 for the endowment fund, in addition to \$1,400 for the endowment fund the sum of \$35,157, of which \$30,000 came from the century Fund and \$5,000 from Mrs.

John Redpath of Montreal.

Fewer Theological Students.

Fewer Theological Students. possible. As for the foreign element, if they were of Scandinavian or German origin they were satisfactory. As for the Galicians, Rev. Dr. Robertson had held that so far as physique was concerned they were admirable, while concerned they were admirable, while with regard to thrift, economy, diligence

ands, and that the only unexhausted ertile land on the continent belonged to Canada. The stream of settlement, Canada. The stream of settlement ne believed, would flow steadily and be

and the selling before the college of the college o

The Foreign Element.

Principal Patrick went on to discuss the foreign elements in the west. Two important bodies might in a sense be set aside, the Mennonites and the Doukhobors, for they were unlikely to receive accessions from abroad. He wished that



REV. PRINĆIPAL PATRICK, Manitoba College.

the Manitoba Government would insist the Manitoba Government would insist upon compulsory education, for the more rigid Mennonites were becoming daily more illiterate. It was a sad thing that a people of such purity and dligence should be actually more illiterate than when they settled in Canada. With regard to the Doukhobors, he urged Canadians to think generously of a people of such high moral character, of such genuine religion, and who had made such vast sacrifices. In this connection

chicklines to think generously of a keep ple of such ligh moral character, of such grantine religion, and who had made such vast sacrifices. In this connection Principal Patrick urged that advances about he made to the German churches. They expected their people to become Causadians, and they should seek to laws at their Presbyteries?

Next Principal Patrick discussed the question of the Galicians, entering into the currous and complicated matter of the currous publicated in the currous and complicated matter of the currous publicated in the currous publicated in the currous and complicated matter of the currous and complicated matter of the fact that commands. The currous publicated in the currous publicated in the currous and complicated matter of the currous and the currous and complicated matter of the currous and complicated matter of the currous and the currous and complicated matter of the currous and complications.

The report of such sale publications.

The report of such sale publications of the currous publications and the currous and complications and the currous and complications and the currous and curr

wards the General Assembly. He discussed the question of Christian unity with much tact, arousing hearty applause by expressing the hope that the time might come when every Christian minister wherever he saw a temple erected to God could go in, join in its services and officiate at its altar. Rev. Prof. Clark and N. W. Hoyles, K.C., also delivered pleasant addresses. Rev. Dr. Cleaver delivered an excellent address, in the course of which he alluded to the need for co-operation, and Dr. Mac. Intension of Rev. Dr. Warden it was decided to appoint a committee to nominate delegations to pay fraternal visits to the various church courts such as the General Synod of the Anglitican Church, of standing similar to the General Synod of the Anglitican Church, of standing similar to the General Synod of the Anglitican Church, of standing similar to the General Synod of the Anglitican Church, of standing similar to the General Assembly.

Sabbath School Publications.

The report on Sabbath school publications was presented by Rev. Dr. Warden.

The report noted enlargements and the content of the description of these in increase in the famine as two centres was also recommended.

The report noted enlargements and the content of the content of the central of the concentration of these children into one of the graduates of the school has been for some time in South Africa, with the 2nd C. M. R. fighting the the schools and espoing out of the father the schools and sping of affairs was reported. A notable event was the going out of the father the schools and event was the going out of the father the schools and ferson. Dr. Falconer moved the adoption of the report.

Encouraging Reports.

Rev. Dr. M. R. P. Mackay seconded this, presenting the report for the western section, embracing the missions of Formosa, Central India, Honan, Shanghai, the Chinese in Canada. The fears entertained as to the effect of the death of Rev. Dr. Mackay had happily proved the content of the macked as the content of the work. In Central India an increa

Foreign Missions in the Evening.

The evening sederunt was devoid to statistics as to the extent, title, etc., of the property held by the congregations. The report was accepted.

Fraternal Greetings.

At this juncture fraternal delegations representing the Church of England and the Methodist Church were received. The Anglican delegation was composed of Ven. Archdeacon Allan, Rev. Canon. Sheraton, Rev. Prof. Cody, Dr. N. W. Hoyles, Mr. J. C. Morgan and Col. O'Brien. The Methodist delegation consisted of Rev. Dr. Cleaver and Dr. J. J. Maclaren, K.C. The delegations were received with cordiality.

Archdeacon Allan read the resolution which had been passed by the Anglican: Synod. He had pleasure in being the induced of the mission are flour, bearer of an elive branch of peace to-lief and and Demerara good progress was reported. The educational institutions by a furricane of the mission was been restored. The first was noted and Demerara good progress was reported. The delegations were received with cordiality.

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Foreign Missions in the Evening.

Foreign Missions, and the church was schools and Young People's Sceicties, an amount which was regarded as disappointing schools and Young People's Sceicties, an amount which was regarded as disappointing schools and Young People's Sceicties, an amount which was regarded as disappointing schools and Young People's Sceicties, an amount which was regarded as disappointing schools and Young People's Sceicties, an amount which was regarded as disappointing. From the W. F. H. S., To-tone, the provided had been passed by the Angle of the extern section of the extern section of the report of the enstern section of the report of the enstern section of the report of the enstern section of the report of the work among the missions in the New Horlands. The foreign mission reserve receipts were \$57,320, of which \$29,545 came from the fu

rears as it had not been moved in centuries. The people, he said, know the folly of the Government in seeking to exterminate foreigners, and were disposed to listen to the gospel as never before.

before.

Rev. W. A. Wilson, a returned missionary from central India, gave a sketch of the work in that region. Rev. Mr. Malcolm, from China, spoke briefly. Rev. Thurlow Fraser, who is going

Rev. Thurlow Fraser, who is going out to Formosa, spoke briefly.

The Moderator then addressed the gentlemen who are going to the mission field, Messrs. Thurlow Fraser, J. H. Bruce, Archibald Ewing, D. G. Cock and Dr. Gilbert, telling them that they had the support of the church in addressing themselves to the difficult work before them, and bidding them Godspeed.

The Work in China.

Rev. Murdoch Mackenzie was the final speaker, his address being a series of pictures setting forth with singular vividness and power the scenes of missionary life in China, and the need of the Chinese for the Gospel. He concluded with an exceedingly graphic and moving description of the troubles of two years ago, and a peroration of great eloquence.

years ago, and a perontion of great eloquence.

This afternoon an excursion will be held to Ningara.

At the Assembly communion service, which will be held at 4 p.m. to-morrow in Bloor Street Church, to which others than commissioners will be welcome a collection will be taken un maid of the collection will be taken up in aid of the Atlin work. The sum of \$500 is required.