

WIPE OUT DEBT OF MEMORIAL CHURCH

John Black Presbyterian Launch- ed Under Favorable Auspices— Call for Permanent Minister.

Large congregations and inspiring sermons marked the opening services yesterday of the John Black Memorial Presbyterian church in East Kildonan. So favorable, indeed, were the auspices under which the new church was launched that after the concert-social, which is to be held tonight, there will not be a dollar of debt on the land or the building. Steps are to be taken at once to obtain the services of a permanent minister, and officers of the church will issue a call as soon as a choice can be made.

The Rev. Dr. Baird, of Manitoba college, occupied the pulpit at the morning service. The theme of his sermon was the way in which the disappointments of life not infrequently turn out finally to be occasions of rejoicing rather than of regret. With reference to the new church, Dr. Baird complimented the congregation on the commodious proportions of the building and the rapidity with which it had been erected after the project was first broached.

The Rev. Samuel Polson, of East Kildonan, was to have assisted Dr. Baird at the opening service, but was unfortunately prevented by indisposition.

The Rev. Dr. John Hogg, of Winnipeg, occupied the pulpit at the evening services, the devotional exercises being conducted by the Rev. Hugh Hamilton. Dr. Hogg showed how Christ had been likened to a cornerstone. There was no gospel, he said, but the gospel of Jesus Christ, and 20th century culture was not sufficient for the salvation of the 20th century soul. The minister felicitously expressed his good wishes for the new church and its congregation.

Collections taken at both services will be devoted to the building fund, and the handsome amounts obtained indicated the warm interest of the congregation. The church's maximum capacity is about 250 persons, and at the morning service the collection was no less than \$172, and at the evening service \$157.50.

Tonight a social and concert will be held in the church. Several clergymen will be present and give short addresses, including Rev. Dr. Wilson, of Augustine church; Rev. D. N. McLachlan, of Elmwood; Rev. J. P. Jones, of St. John's; Rev. H. A. B. Harrison, East Kildonan "Anglican church"; Rev. Hugh Hamilton, Rev. D. H. Jacobs, and the members of the interim session, Dr. Baird, G. H. Greig, Rev. S. Polson, John Sutherland, Magnus Harper and S. R. Henderson.