

*Diocese of Saskatchewan—Clerical—*Rev. Edward Matheson. *Lay—*none.

*Diocese of Athabasca—Clerical—*Ven. Archdeacon McDonald, Rev. R. Young, (of Rupert's Land), acting at the request of Bishop Bompas. *Lay—*none.

*Moosonee—*Unrepresented.

The Dean, as convenor of the committee appointed by the last Provincial Synod to prepare a draft of rules of order for the guidance of the House submitted the following report and moved the adoption of the same, seconded by Ven. Archdeacon Pinkham.

"To the Lower House of the Provincial Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land.

GENTLEMEN:—Your committee on Rules of Order for the guidance of this House beg leave to recommend for consideration the Rules of Order adopted by the Provincial Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada.

Notices of motion were read, by Ven. Archdeacon Pinkham for a committee on changes in the constitution, by Rev. R. Young in reference to Canon Anson, Ven. Archdeacon McDonald respecting the subdivision of the Diocese of Athabasca; by Rev. R. Young for the publication of the sermon of the Bishop of Saskatchewan; by Rev. Mr. Pentreath for a delegation to the Provincial Synod of Canada; by the Dean for the appointment of a financial committee; and by Rev. Mr. Fortin of thanks to the C. P. R. Company.

The Permanent order of Proceedings for both Houses as used by the Provincial Synod of Canada, was then adopted in a slightly annexed form.

MESSAGE FROM THE UPPER HOUSE.

The following resolutions were then received from the Upper House for consideration.

First, resolution respecting the sub-division of the Dioceses of Rupert's Land and Saskatchewan.

First, Whereas the Bishop's of Rupert's Land and Saskatchewan have consented to the separation from their dioceses of such portions of their respective dioceses as lie within the district of Assiniboia in the Northwest Territories as defined by the Dominion Parliament and set forth in the map under date 15th March, 1883.

Therefore the Provincial Synod hereby forms the said Province of Assiniboia into a diocese to be known at present as the Diocese of Assiniboia.

Second; The Provincial Synod hereby authorizes the Metropolitan to inform the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury Primate of this Province, of the formation of the Diocese of Assiniboia, and to request the Primate to appoint a Bishop for the said diocese as soon as His Grace is satisfied with respect to the provision for the support of the said Bishop.

Third—That the new diocese of Assiniboia is hereby placed under the episcopal jurisdiction of the Metropolitan until a bishop shall have been consecrated, and that in the meantime the Provincial Synod would suggest that the Metropolitan should issue a commission as soon as convenient to some clergyman who should act as his commissary in organizing missions, and in the general superintendence of the diocese.

The resolution was carried by acclamation in the Lower House, on motion of Archdeacon Pinkham, seconded by Canon O'Meara.

The mover stated that the resolution was in accord with the feeling and thinking of some of the clergy and laity for some time past. It was a matter for sincere congratulation that the House of Bishops had so speedily arrived at the unanimous opinion which had come down to the Lower House in the resolution. It was only a short time since immigration had begun to pour into that part of the country, and the Bishops particularly the Bishop of Rupert's Land, with whom the idea had originated, were to be congratulated on having taken steps so early.

The seconder was in favor of the resolution, from having himself been in some of the most important centres of the new district. From what he had seen he was convinced that there was great need of church extension, which was to be accomplished through episcopal extension.

Rev. O. Fortin supported the resolution. He agreed with Canon O'Meara that the growth of the Church depended largely upon the extension of the Episcopate and the frequent visits of the Bishops. It was quite impossible to carry out their system if the Bishop had to proceed over thousands of miles of territory, so that he could make only one episcopal visit in three years. He knew the question of support was to be considered but he thought that if the bishops were to act also

as missionaries, like those of the early days when every city had its own bishop, the desired result might be obtained.

Rev. Mr. Pentreath was very glad that the Bishops, who were our natural leaders, had seen the wisdom of such a step at this early period of our history. He was strongly in favour of smaller Dioceses and increased supervision. If the Church was to advance in this country as it ought, we wanted more chief missionaries vested with Episcopal Powers, who contained within themselves the Three Orders, of Bishop, Priest and Deacon, and who would be centres around which clergy and laity could rally.

The Dean was heartily glad that such a step had been taken at the present time. A two-fold benefit would result. The new Diocese of Assiniboia would create a new centre of Church work, and bring a new claimant before the supporters of missions. This would lead to the securing of increased financial support. It would enable them to concentrate the men and means of their own diocese upon a more limited field. He believed the necessary means would be soon forthcoming, and they would have the pleasure of welcoming a new Bishop, perhaps, to their next Provincial Synod.

Ven. Archdeacon Cowley thought there could be no two opinions regarding the matter. For his own part he felt very thankful indeed that the step had been taken, not seeing how the Church could possibly grow unless there were this Episcopal extension.

The second resolution had reference to the change of Boundaries of the Dioceses of Saskatchewan and Athabasca; and was as follows:

Subject to the assent given in writing to the Metropolitan, of the Bishops of Saskatchewan and Athabasca, the whole of the District of Alberta in the North-West Territories as defined by the Dominion Parliament, set forth in the map under date 15th March, 1883, shall be comprised in the Diocese of Saskatchewan and the whole of the District of Athabasca, shall be comprised in the Diocese of Athabasca, Carried unanimously in the Lower House on motion of Canon O'Meara, seconded by Canon Matheson.

"Subject to the assent, given in writing to the Metropolitan, of the Bishops of Rupert's Land and Saskatchewan, the whole of the District of Saskatchewan in the Northwest Territories as defined by the Dominion Parliament and set forth in the map under date, 15th March, 1883, shall be comprised in the Diocese of Saskatchewan." Carried unanimously on motion of Rev. O. Fortin, seconded by Capt. Kennedy.

The following was added as a rider, on motion of Archdeacon Pinkham, seconded by Rev. Mr. Pentreath.

That while heartily concurring in the proposition to include the Districts of Alberta and Saskatchewan in the See of Saskatchewan, this House desires to express to the Upper House its most earnest wish that their Lordships could see their way to recommend the setting off of the District of Alberta into a separate Diocese, to be placed, until the circumstances are such as to justify the appointment of a bishop, under the episcopal supervision of the Bishop of Saskatchewan. Carried by acclamation.

Resolution respecting a Church Literature depot:

The Provincial Synod, considering that it is most desirable to form at Winnipeg a Provincial depot for service books and Church Literature and tracts, especially such as are published by the S. P. C. K. and the Sunday School Institute, hereby nominates the following committee to endeavor to form such depot without delay, namely, the committee that has been appointed by the Diocesan Synod of Rupert's Land for the same purpose.

Agreed to in the Lower House on motion of Rev. O. Fortin, seconded by Mr. A. H. Whitcher.

Resolution concerning a proposed alteration in the Constitution:

That clause 5, article IV. of the Provincial Synod be rescinded.

Agreed to in the Lower House on a motion of Archdeacon Pinkham, seconded by Mr. S. L. Bedson.

A resolution from the Lower House, moved by the Dean, seconded by Canon O'Meara, was accepted by the Upper House, instead of one sent down by the latter, to provide for more frequent meetings of the Provincial Synod, as follows:

That in view of the rapidly changing circumstances of the country it is desirable that special meetings of the Provincial Synod under the discretionary power given to the Metropolitan, should be called, and the Synod hereby requests the Metropolitan to convoke such special meetings to consider from time to time pressing business.

RULES OF ORDER.

A message from the Upper House was read as follows:—

"The House of Bishops approve of the proposed order of proceedings."

MOTIONS.

On motion of the Dean, seconded by Rev. Mr. Young, the Provincial Treasurer was respectfully requested to have printed a statement of the accounts of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, and to append the same.

Ven. Archdeacon McDonald moved, seconded by the Dean, the adoption of the following motion regarding the subdivision of the Diocese of Athabasca:

Whereas, the Bishop of Athabasca has expressed for years an earnest desire for the division of his diocese, from finding it perfectly impossible, adequately to superintend it, owing to its vast extent and the long period that must elapse, wherever he is resident, before communication can pass between him and a great part of his diocese.

Whereas, from this reason, during the proposed presence of the Bishop of Athabasca for two years in the north of his diocese, called for in the circumstances of that part of the diocese, it has seemed necessary to the Church Missionary Society—the Society carrying on all missions in that diocese—on the application of the Bishop of Athabasca to appoint a Presbyter of the Diocese of Rupert's Land to visit the southern part of the diocese, and give his help in its superintendence.

Whereas, also, there is believed to be a large extent of fertile land fit for settlement in the part of the diocese forming the proposed civil Province of Athabasca, likely soon to be open to immigration, for which it is most desirable for the Church to be prepared.

Therefore the Provincial Synod resolves; First, That with the consent of the Bishop of Athabasca, expressed in writing to the Metropolitan, a new diocese be separated from the present Diocese of Athabasca, the northern boundary of which shall be the sixtieth parallel of latitude from the western boundary of the present Diocese of Athabasca up to the one hundred and eighteenth parallel of longitude; then along it northerly to the sixty-third parallel of latitude; then easterly along this parallel of latitude to the eastern boundary of the present diocese.

Second. That if the income of the Bishop of this new diocese be made up by an arrangement of the Church Missionary Society from its funds, the appointment of the Bishop be left with the Church Missionary Society.

Third: That if a portion of the income of the Bishop be from the Church Missionary Society, and all or most of the clergy to be included in the diocese be missionaries of that Society, the appointment of the Bishop be left jointly with the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Primate of this Province, and the Church Missionary Society. The motion was carried and a motion passed by acclamation in connection with it as follows:

Moved by Canon O'Meara, seconded by Canon Matheson, and resolved,

That this House recommends the formation of a new Diocese of Southern Athabasca, in accordance with the request of the Bishop; and that the House of Bishops the urgent necessity of proceeding at once to take such steps as may be necessary for the appointment of a bishop for such new diocese.

Ven. Archdeacon Pinkham, in moving a resolution referring to Canon Anson, said that the gentleman had resigned a very valuable living and a sphere of very great importance and usefulness in the Mother Country for the purpose of devoting himself to the interests of the Church in this country. The example would have an invigorating effect all along the line of the Church of England, and have the effect of stimulating others to make sacrifices. He then moved, seconded by Rev. R. Young, and it was resolved:

That the Provincial Synod has heard with much interest of the proposed dedication of himself by the Honorable and Reverend Canon Anson for the missionary work of the Church in the Northwest of Canada and prays that by God's blessing his services may be of great benefit to the work of Christ and of the Church in this country.

It was resolved, on motion of Rev. E. S. W. Pentreath, seconded by Ven. Archdeacon Pinkham,

That whereas the Provincial Synod of Canada is to meet next month in Montreal, and it is desirable to strengthen the relations between the two Synods of Canada and Rupert's Land, the Upper House be requested to name a delegation to attend the approaching session of the Provincial Synod of Canada.

On motion of the Dean, seconded by Rev. O. Fortin, the Synod then adjourned to meet again at 9.30 o'clock to-morrow.

(To be continued.)