

Sabbath School, and the Church of Christ to instruct the people in things spiritual, without the aid, interference or control of the State;

*Be it Resolved*, That this Convention of Ontario and Quebec is unable to join with the Anglican Synod, or any other body, in asking the Government of Ontario to make provision for religious instruction in public schools, either during or outside of school hours, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the correspondents thereof.

(8) *Re National School System*. This was referred back to the Committee, with instructions to state, in a preamble, the historic position of Baptists *re* the same.

*Whereas*, in Ontario and Quebec, schools are supported by the Government in which the Roman Catholic dogma is sought;

*And whereas*, the Catholic Hierarchy, especially of Manitoba and Quebec, are making strenuous efforts to control the Federal Government in order to enforce on Manitoba a system of Separate Schools in which the Roman Catholic dogma will be taught by Government support;

*Therefore resolved*, that we, in Convention assembled, the representatives of the Baptist Churches of Ontario and Quebec, again place on record our historic belief in the doctrine of the separation of Church and State. We stand for the equal rights of all citizens, and believe that a National School System, free from any sectarian religious teaching, is not only the one system based on equality of rights, but the one which is in the highest interests of the country.

We protest against the State undertaking to provide for the teaching of the doctrine of any Church, Protestant or Catholic, and declare such undertaking a serious intermeddling of the State beyond the sphere of its authority.

We further express the hope that, in order to bring about unity and harmony in our national life, the day may not be far distant when the Constitution of this country will be so revised that special favors shall be granted to no class or section of the people.

(9) *Newspapers*—with special reference to the *Star* and *Witness*.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be tendered to the press of Montreal for the full and accurate reports of the proceedings of this Convention, especially to the *Star* and *Witness*, which have donated a liberal supply of their papers to the Convention each evening.

(10) *Prison Reform*.

1. That we, as a body, affirm our cordial sympathy with Prisoners' Aid Association in its persistent and patient philanthropic effort to improve the condition of the prisoners confined in our penal institutions.

2. That we again urge upon the Governments of the Dominion and the Provinces the necessity, in the interests of public morals, of a careful classification of prisoners according to age, sex, degree of offence, and frequency of conviction.

3. That we approve of the erection, by the Province of Ontario, of an institution for the scientific treatment of chronic drunkards.