SUPERINTENDENCY NOW DIVIDED

Chief Executive Office of the Methodist Church in Canada Partitioned—One for the West—Another for East

QUESTION DEBATED AT TIMES WARMLY

Growth of the Church's Work Necessitates Change Advocates Believe—Reports of Committee Received

By a vote of two hundred and twelve to ninety-two, the Methodist General Conference decided yesterday that in future the church will have two General Superintendents, one of whom will be stationed in the West. The report of the committee on general superintendency recommended that there should be three general superintendents, one stationed east of Ontario, one in Ontario and the third west of Ontario. The committee further recommended that one of these general superintendents should be elected for eight years and the other two for four years each.

A prolonged debate in which many of the leading delegates took part, arose on the reading of the report. Mr. J. A. M. Aikens, K. C. of Winnipeg, the chairman of the committee on superintendency, in explaining the reason for its recommendations pointed out that it was impossible for one man to fulfill the duties of superintendency as outlined in the Discipline. The general superintendent was supposed to visit every district in the church and to aid, where possible, the deliberations of the different conferences. Canada was a nation in the formative period. Inside of nine years the population of the West had increased from 300,000 to 1,500,000. In one year there had been 39,000 homestead entries. The Methodist Church would be amply repaid for anything it could do in the nature of supervision by playing its part in moulding a good type of citizenship in Canada. Presbyterianism occupied its strong position in Western Canada today on account of the untiring general superintendency of Dr. Robertson. In the next four years, said the speaker, conditions would arise which would require the best possible supervision. Two types of people were in the upbuilding, one in the East and the other in the West. Between the two lay a wilderness, eight hundred miles in breadth. It would require the utmost efforts of the church to preserve coherency between its adherents among both peoples. The committee had come to the conclusion that Western Canada should be well superintended and kept in touch with the East.

Pleads for Continuation.

A strong and inspiring plea for the continuation of the system which provided for one general superintendent was made by the Rev. Dr. Thomas Manning of London, Ont. The speaker said the case for three general superintendents had been presented in a very crude manner. There seemed to have been no due consideration of what the change would signify. The conference was asked to elect three general superintendents on vague suppositions as to what wer the needs of the church. It was said that the coming in to the Dominion of so many different types of nationalities created problems with which the church would have to grapple. But were there any problems today that were really new? The formative period in the West was similar to the formative period in the East. The East was now settled and he was not aware that it had lost anything through lack of supervision on the part of the Methodist Church. In the glamor of a new country it was easy to say that new problems were arising but where were they? If these problems were new there was no form of organization which could overtake them. The Methodist Church had at present more officials in its organization than the Dominion Government. In his opinion the duties of the general superintendent were to be found in what previous holders of the office had done. To enlarge these duties it was neccessary to change the constitution of the Church. At present the holder of the dignified position had not the power of a chairman of a district board. If the conference wished to carry out reforms as far as the supervision of the church went, then the general superintendency must be given more power. That, however, he did not consider the policy of the Church. It was not wise to confer high power on one man. The strength of the church should lie in the initiation of pastors. In the missionary and education branches there were sufficient officials to carry on the work effectively.

At this point the Rev. Dr. J. Speer Anteliff of Acton, Ont., seconded by the Rev. W. J. Smith of Hamilton, moved an amendment to the report to the effect that two general superintendents be appointed. The mover said that circumstances had, and might again arise, when the general superintendent might wish to seek counsel with some one on a similar plane with himself. The conference could not refuse the appointment of two men on the grounds of expense. He suggested that one should be stationed in Toronto and the other in Winnipeg.

The seconder of the amendment pointed out that through there only being one general superintendent he had been overloaded with official duties. In his opinion it should be apparent to everyone that two general superintendents were necessary. Where a necessity existed the question of expense should be a mere bagatelle.

Speaking in favor of the committee's report, the Rev. O. Darwin, of Regina, said that it was impossible for one general superintendent to cover all the districts. The different districts should be visited. At conference and district meetings which the holder of that office had attended his presence had acted as an inspiration. It would be a Godsend to districts in the West to have a man of ripe judgment and mature experience visiting them periodically. From the standpoint of finance the expense entailed by the appointment of one or two additional general superintendents would be repaid a hundredfold.

The Rev. G. J. Bond, of River John, N. S., declared himself in favor of the committee's report. Supervision and co-ordination were needed in the church. The creation of three general superintendents would mean three great titular powers in the Church who in their office would bind Methodists together from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Opposes Proposal.

The Rev. Dr. R. N. Burns of Toronto, said he considered that previous speakers were exaggerating the influence which would be exercised if there were three general superintendents. The conference would be making an unwise move in voting for the addition unless there was an increase in the scope and power of the general superintendency. The present boards and general officialdom of the church were solving the problems which arose. Unless greatly increased power were given to the general superintendency no good results would follow an increase to its personnel. In the West there were sufficient splendid superintendents who were doing good work for the Church.

Paying a high tribute to the manner in which Dr. A. Carman had filled the office, the Rev. Dr. E. B. Ryckman of Kingston, said that one general superintendent was all that the present policy of the Church required. The General Superintendent in his opinion had done all the work which the Church had mapped out for him. Whatever districts he had visited, and he had gone wherever he possibly could, he had brought inspiration to their counsels.

The Rev. Dr. A. Stewart of Wesley College, Winnipeg, dealt glowingly on the growth of the West and the need of an enlarged supervision in Church affairs. Dwelling on the prospective growth of the country he pointed out that the last great west was unknown to the Canadian people. In the Mackenzie River district, he said there was as much land suitable for the cultivation of crops as in the area which lay between the Great Lakes and the Rocky Mountains. The present general superintendent of the Church had been as efficient in the discharge of his duties as any other man who could possibly have been chosen. But how many times had he attended conferences held in the West? To the best of the speaker's recollection there had been conference after conference at which the general superintendent had not been present. He considered that the duties of the office were too great for one man. There should be appointed and the prerogatives of the office increased.

The Rev. Dr. W. H. Heartz of Amherst, N. S., said the contention of the western delegates for a general superintendency was a correct one. There were also district features in the east which called for the appointment of a general superintendent. Such an appointment there would be of considerable value to the church in the great educational movement now in progress at Mount Allison University.

Judge S. A. Chesley of Lunenburg, N. S., said that the division of the superintendency would divide the prestige of the office. The proposal was similar to asking Sir Wilfrid Laurier to divide his premiership.

The Rev. W. H. Emsley of Napanee supported the committee's recommendation. He had knowledge of conditions in the West, he stated, and knew that supervision in the work of the church was needed.

Would Divide Methodism.

The contention was put forward by the Rev. Dr. J. S. Williamson of Niagara Falls that the proposed division would have the effect of dividing instead of uniting Methodism. If the proposal were adopted it would mean the putting in of the wedge which would lead to disruption.

Winding up the discussion Mr. Justice Maclaren of Toronto, said that it was unfortunate for the church that there was more prohibition than duty assigned to the general superintendency. There seemed a prejudice against having power to the office. Since the Union of the Church in 1884 its machinery had grown largely. While the church had doubled in strength, the duties of the general superintendent had increased threefold. In view of this there should be an increase in the personnel of the general superintendency.

The committee's recommendation that three general superintendents should be appointed was defeated by a large majority. The Rev. Dr. Antcliff's motion for two was then put and carried, as stated in the opening paragraph. The report of the general superintendency committee has been sent back for redrafting in view of the action taken by the conference. In the report the scope of jurisdiction outlined was consequent on three general superintendents being appointed.

The report of the committee on Church Union, which recommends the continuation of negotiations looking to the amalgamation of Methodists, Presbyterians and Congregationalists will be considered on Thursday, and promises to develop a lively discussion.

In the course of yesterday afternoon's session the Rev. Dr. Howard Sprague, of Sackville, president of the New Brunswick, conference, made a strong plea for financial aid from the delegates to the Methodist cause in Campbellton, the town which was recently practically wiped out by fire. He pointed out that the Methodist church had been destroyed, and that the homes of all its members with the exception of two had been wiped out. The conferences of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island had held a joint meeting within five days of the catastrophe to consider what could be done, and he now had come from that conference to the august body sitting in Victoria to ask the latter what aid it would give.

Mr. J. Gibson, of Ingersoll, here interpolated by asking, "What do you expect to get from us?"

In reply Dr. Sprague said he hoped to get all that the individual members of the conference were willing to give.

The Rev. W. S. Griffen, of Toronto, moved, seconded by the Rev. T. E. Bartley, of Toronto, that the sum of $2,000, a portion of the balance of the Union Church Relief Fund, should be devoted to the needs of Methodism in Campbellton. This motion was not put, but referred to the committee, which has the disposition of the balance in question in charge.

A clerical and lay delegate of the superannuation fund were appointed as follows: Clerical, the Rev. Dr. W. S. Griffen, of Toronto; lay, Mr. E. Gurney, of Toronto.

The committee on missions presented a brief report recommending that the composition of the board be increased from six ministers and six laymen to eight ministers and eight laymen. The recommendation was defeated.

A matter to come up for discussion within the next few days is the recommendation of the commission on rules with regard to the famous footnote in the discipline which came up in connection with the report of that commission on Monday. Paragraph 35 of the discipline reads: "Note—The general rules are to be understood as forbidding neglect of duties of any kind, imprudent conduct, indulging in sinful tempers and words, the buying, selling or using of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, dancing playing games of chance, encouraging lotteries, attending theatres, horse-races, circuses, dancing parties, patronizing dancing schools, taking such other amusements as are obviously of a misleading or questionable moral tendency, and all acts of disobedience to the order and discipline of the church."

The commission recommends that the following be substituted therefor:

"Par. 35. Note.—Mr. Wesley framed these rules with no thought of legalism after the manner of the ceremonial requirements of the Jewish economy and with no idea that their outward observance would satisfy the claims of the Christian religion. His aim was personal holiness and spiritual power. These rules in his conception of them were not in any wise a human code to be imposed arbitrarily on the societies, but as they were drawn from the text and essence of the Holy Scriptures they were regarded by him as an indication of the godly life the Methodist people ought to live. He did not attempt to enumerate all the sins to be avoided, nor all the duties to be performed, but to give a summary which under the appellation of "general rules" should be of great value to every honest seeker of salvation. Prominent in the design of Mr. Wesley was the guarding of inexperienced converts against the evil influence of worldliness and dissipating amusements, which are quite as dangerous in our day as in his.

"The observance of these rules, their prohibitions and injunctions, he deemed to be essential both as evidence of spiritual life and for the administration of discipline."

HEAVY DAMAGES AWARDED BY JURY

R. Phillips Gets Verdict for $15,000 on Account of Wounds Received in Keystone Canyon Fight

SEWARD, Alaska, August 23.—R. Phillips was awarded judgment for $15,000 damages and costs against the Copper River and Northwestern Railway Company by a jury in the United States district court today.

The suit grew out of the famous battle two years ago between rival railroad construction crews for the possession of Keystone Canyon. Phillips sustained a gunshot wound during the battle, and alleged that as a result he is physically incapacitated from engaging in manual labor. He sought to hold the Copper River and Northwestern Railway, a Morgan-Guggenheim corporation, responsible for his injury, and the jury found in his favor.

The attorneys for the company immediately filed a motion for a new trial on the grounds that the verdict is excessive and that the jury was prejudiced against the company. Judge Gushman allowed three days, in which time the attorneys may file affidavits to substantiate the allegation of prejudice, and remarked that he considered the award of $15,000 damages substantial.

During the progress of the trial, secret service agent Bryan was taking notes of the evidence. Bryan is in Iaska to investigate the charges of bribery in connection with the last trial of Edward Hazy, at Juneau. That case also grew out of the Keystone Canyon tragedy. Bryan is said to possess sufficient evidence to warrant indictments in connection with the bribery charges.

ON LONG JOURNEY

Three Little Children of Prisoner Lofsted on Way to Their Relatives in Sweden.

VANCOUVER, Aug. 23.—Among the passengers on the steamer Camosun, which arrived at ten a. m. from Prince Rupert, were three Lofsted children, bound home to Norway. It will be remembered that a few months ago a Norwegian named Lofsted was found guilty of manslaughter in respect of the death of his wife, and was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment at the last assizes. Three small children were thus left to look after themselves, but Prince Rupert people interested themselves in the case, and the three small children are on the way home to relatives in Norway. The eldest is a girl of ten years of age, and she is looking after the others with a motherly air that won her the love of all aboard the Camosun.

Australian Penny Postage

MELBOURNE, Aug. 23.—Penny postage within the commonwealth will probably be introduced in the new year.

Vahcouver Man Found Dead

VANCOUVER, Aug. 23.—About 6 o'clock Sunday morning the body of a man supposed to be that of S. Cummings was found in a shed in the rear of the Vancouver Transfer company's stables. Death had taken place some hours before the discovery was made, and the only means of identification was by a cheque in one of the pockets of the deceased's clothing. It is likely that an inquest will be held.

Stage Upsets

QUESNEL, Aug. 23.—Slipping into a rut, the heavily laden stage from Ashcroft to Soda Creek, was overturned a few days ago near Ten-Mile Spring, the passengers were dumped out and the pride of Al Young, the driver, was broken—the acetylene lamp. Mr. Stewart, a member of the James Smith survey party, who was a passenger on the stage en route to the Peace River district, was severely bruised by falling from the coach, and could not continue the journey with his companions.

TWO HUNDRED NOT HEARD FROM

Fears That Large Crew of Fire Fighters in Coeur d'Alene District Have Fallen Victims to Forest Fires

SLIGHT RAINFALL GIVES SOME HOPE

Flames Still Eating Up Forests in Many Directions—Enormous Loss of Timber in Four States

SPOKANE, August 23.—Light rain began to fall this evening in Wallace and other Coeur d'Alene mining towns that have been scorched or threatened by the fires, and the weary fire fighters took new hope. Nothing but a long and heavy downfall will quench the flames that are eating up the big trees of northern Idaho, northwestern Montana and northeastern Washington. However, state militia and United States troops are on the way to do battle with the flames.

The United States forest supervisors in Idaho and Montana are unable to get into communication with 900 of their rangers, but it may be that many of them are unharmed. The most sensational rumors of loss of life continue to be circulated, but it is impossible to verify them, and it seems likely that, aside from losses among the rangers, the number of deaths in the three states will not be 100. A list this evening of the known dead, compiled in Spokane, contained only thirty names.

The Idaho militiamen are on the way from the encampment at American Lake, near Tacoma, to the Coeur d'Alenes. President Taft notified Governor Brady today that he would send to Idaho all the troops available, but that United Etates soldiers could not be used for police duty. Governor Brady will go to the front, also. A number of Idaho towns are in danger.

Great Timber Losses

The fire is destroying much timber in the national forests of the great mountain chain whose crests form the northeastern boundary of Idaho, and which chain is called the Bitter root, Coeur d'Alene and Cabinet ranges, in their progress northwesterly from the continental divide of the Rockies. These mountains, and all of the panhandle of Idaho, are thickly clothed with pine, spruce, red fir and hemlock, and most of the country burning has never before felt the breath of fire. The timber cannot be excelled anywhere in North America, except near the Pacific ocean.

It will require decades to restore the devastated portions of the forests. Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, after his recent tour of the national forests, stated proudly that they were being conserved, as all the forest fires then burning were among trees privately owned. The forests through which the fire has passed are killed, but the timber is merchantable if removed at once. Now in the United States, big corporations, notably the Chicago, Milwaukee and Puget Sound Railway and the Coeur d'Alene lead and silver mines, which use much timber in their workings, are the chief sufferers. It is difficult to give figures on the timber losses, which may reach $10,000,000.

It is estimated that more than 1,500 settlers in Montana, Idaho and Washington have lost their homes and everything in them.

The present summer has been one of the driest ever known. Fires lighted by settlers to clear lands, and locomotives of railroads are held responsible for a great many of the fires.

New Fires Reported

BUTTE, August 23.—Governor Norris has ordered out state troops to fight the forest fires.

WALLACE, Idaho, August 23.—The report of 56 dead bodies being found at Independent Creek, south of Murray, is entirely false.

SPOKANE, August 23.—Wardner and Burke, Coeur d'Alene mining towns, were menaced today by forest fires which caused a suspension of business while the men went out to fight the flames. They are out of danger tonight.

COOLIN, Idaho, August 23.—A furious fire is raging at the head of Priest Lake, where two hundred men are fighting it. Fanned by high winds through dead timber, a fire at Hughes Fork burned over an area ten miles long in one night. A government camp at Gold Creek was engulfed by fire, and Ranger Samuel Byres, in charge, was compelled to order his men to withdraw, abandoning camp and provisions.

BUTTE, August 23.—Advices from Cut Bank, Mont., in Teton county, say that heavy rain is falling there.

Fear for Two Hundred

SPOKANE, Aug. 23.—Interest tonight in the Idaho forest fires is centred upon the fate of forest ranger H. F. Kotkey and two hundred men who have not been heard from since Friday night, when they were fighting the flames in the Coeur d'Alenes, near Wallace. Kotkey, a graduate of the Yale forestry school, is one of the most valued men in the forest service, and Supervisor W. B. Weigle feels sure that he would have sent word to his chief if communication were possible. The missing men were in a section where the flames have since burned most fiercely. Searching parties have started in several directions from Avery, Idaho.

Ranger Vandyck, on Independence creek, and Ranger Darrick, at Saltese, Mont., both reported tonight. It had been feared that Vandyck and his crew of 75 men had been cut off. Latest reports from Montana concerning the six hundred missing rangers are more hopeful.

A revised count of the known dead in and near Wallace gives 38 bodies, only 17 of which have been identified. In most cases the bodies recovered are so charred as to be beyond recognition.

List of Dead

A special to the Spokesman-Review from a staff correspondent at Wallace gives the following official list of the dead in the Cosurd'Alene mining country:

At Wallace: Joseph G. Boyd; an unknown man, thought to have been a car repairer named Curtis, and two unknown persons whose bodies have been found.

At Placer Creek: William Learmouth, of Winnipeg; Jos. Fene, Harry Manson, and three unknown men.

At the Bullion mine: Val. Nicholson, Larry Ryson, Leslie Selers, Aaron Benson, Hillsdale; Lou Holmes, Spokane; Tom Welch, Spokane; Ernest Elgin, Wallace.

On Big Creek: Joe Beauchamp and Richard Ames, homesteaders; M. J. Elliott; D. E. Brown, Upton Smith, of Kellogg; Ed. Cameron, of Pine Creek and six unknown men.

At Mullen: One fire fighter and two prospectors, names unknown.

At Saltese: William McKay, fire fighter.

On Pine Creek: Three unknown men.

The Spokesman-Review correspondent at Wallace telegraphs: "For a time tonight the storm raged as fiercely in Wallace as in other places of the Canyon. It was only a sprinkle, but it made the day more hopeful than any since the fires closed in on the Coeur d'Alene towns on Saturday. Heavy clouds all day gave rise to the hope that it might rain, and while only a drenching downpour could aid the forest fire situation, even today's drizzle was welcomed as lessening in some degree the tinder-like state of everything inflamable."

Burke, which of all the canyon towns, is the most easily reached by fire, is taking precautions. Although the blaze has never been nearer than two miles to the town buildings, every bit of wood has been soaked with water, and not even heavy rain could have drenched it more completely. The plant that gives Burke's water supply has been safeguarded by chopping away brush on every side, and by stationing men with water buckets along every foot.

Idaho lumbermen when asked for estimates of the damage, say they have no basis from which to reckon. United States Supervisor Weigle says any estimate will be a mere guess. The fires tonight cover a larger area than ever before, and the loss cannot be told until the havoc ceases.

Oregon Situation

PORTLAND, Aug. 23.—It is estimated here that forest fires this season have caused a loss of over $7,000,000 in Oregon. The forestry service believes the government by the far the heaviest loser. District Forester Chapman, who returned to Portland today, considers tonight's favorable conditions in southern Oregan, but a lull in the storm. Nothing but a heavy and general rain can stop the continued destruction. The forester calls attention to the tremendous damage to young growth, seriously affecting the forests of the future.

A new fire threatens the homes of settlers at Asbestos, Jackson county. The Ashland canyon fire is now working away from the town of Ashland. Here the regulars have relieved the local company of militia, who had been on duty three days. The Mount McLaughlin fire has crossed the summit of the Cascades, and is now burning at an elevation of seven thousand feet. Seven miles of front has been controlled, but at other points the high wind carries the flames relentlessly.

Thirty additional men left Klamath Falls today. Every militia company in Oregon is held in readiness to answer a call of short notice.

Buys Much Land

VANCOUVER, Aug. 23.—Mr. Fischer, a German, who has a farm on the Pitt river road and who has taken over an eight thousand acre tract which is now being dredged and dyked by a Canadian-Australian syndicate, intends to augment the number of cattle on his ranch by importing a big herd, which it is claimed will cost about $60,000. Mr. Fischer, who is immensely pleased with the country, employs about 125 hands, and has prospered exceedingly well since he took up his residence in British Columbia. The new stock will arrive about next April.

Turbulence in Portugal

OPORTO, Portugal, Aug. 23.—Revolution may break out in Portugal at any moment. It is reported that the clericals are awaiting a signal to rise, following word from their brethren in Spain. Meanwhile rifles are being brought into Portugal and put into the hands of the Republican leaders. They hint at a plan to bring differences to a head and it is asserted that they will meet the clericals on their own ground. Monsigneur Tenti, the Papal nuncio at Lisbon, is looked upon by the Republicans as being highly objectionable to their views. It is reported that plots against him are numerous and that he has taken refuge in the fortress. To add to the general unrest, elections will be held next Sunday. The situation is critical.

Moyie Hotel Burned

MOYIE, Aug. 23.—The Cosmopolitan hotel here was gutted by fire the other morning, causing loss of several thousand dollars. The fire was the most spectacular ever seen here.

Vars Tragedy

OTTAWA Aug. 23—The coroner's jury in the case of the shooting of Dr. Empey by Albert Blondin at Vars returned an open verdict. Blondin has been sent up for trial on a charge of murder. The accused maintains that the shooting was accidental.

Fatal Explosion at Essen

ESSEN, Germany, Aug. 23.—Three bodies were removed this afternoon from the wreckage of the Krupp experimenting laboratory, following an explosion early today. Several workmen are missing and 20 injured persons are in a local hospital.

Affairs in Nicaragua

MANAGUA, August 23.—Before the departure of the forces of Generals Toledo, Vasquez, Ortiz and Montegro and Dr. Julian Irias, the presidency was turned over by Madriz to Jose Delores Estrado, brother of Gen. Juan Estrada, the leader of the revolution. Immediately afterwards, Jose Estrada issued a proclamation saying that he would give the office to his brother, and started a peace commission, composed of foreign consuls, for Granada to inform General Estrada of his intentions. The commission was compelled to return to Manugua, however, as the railroad tracks had been torn up.

Dr. and Mrs. T. G. Moody are in Vancouver again after a visit to Victoria.

TRAINS DELAYED BY CLOUDBURST

Storm Near Kamloops Causes Washout of Section of the Track—Several Cars of Freight Train are Wrecked

VANCOUVER, Aug. 23.—Train No. 97 on the Canadian Pacific, with a second section following, due to arrive in Vancouver last night at 10:35 from Montreal, and train No. 407, from St. Paul, due to arrive at 9:25 last night, did not pull into the city depot until 12:45 and 1:25 respectively today.

The delay was caused by a cloudburst about twenty miles this side of Kamloops, where a heavy storm prevailed all day Monday, washing out a large section of track.

About an hour before the arrival at the scene of the washout of the passenger train from the east a freight train was wrecked by spreading rails, caused by a large volume of water, which washed out the track, delaying traffic. Several cars of the freight train were wrecked by the deluge, but fortunately none of the train crew were injured.

Logging Camp Burned

VANCOUVER, Aug. 23.—The steamer Cassiar, of the Union Steamship company, which arrived this morning from up coast points, brought word that camp C of the Hastings mill at Granite Bay, was destroyed by fire and the men are camping on the beach. Navigation is difficult owing to smoke from the fires, which are particularly bad in Johnson strait. From Powell river the Cassiar brought a demented man named William Johnson, a Swede, who lost his mind after being injured by a pile driver. Provincial Constable Lucas came south in charge of the man.

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