The Hour at Which Society Services May be Held.

Lively meeting Between the Lodgemen and Clergymen.

The Chairman's Rejoinder to an Unruly Speaker,

Now Will the Ministerial Association Accept ?

Parades to Start at 4:15 p.m.—Lodgemen Satisfied—An Interesting Discussion.

The joint conference of the lodge representatives and the committee of the Ministerial Association having the Sunday parade matter in hand, which was held in St. Andrew's Church last night, could not truthfully be described as a love feast. There was a preponderance of lodge men in the assembly, about 60 being present, as compared with about one-fifth of that number of clergymen. A number of interesting incidents occurred during the progress of the meeting, and in the end a resolution setting the hour of parade at 4:15 and the time of service at 4:30 was passed. Rev. Mr. Rigsby, however, gave the lodge representatives to understand that it was not likely that the clergymen of the city would agree to the resolu-

On motion, the Dean of Huron took the chair, and Mr. A. B. Munson was appointed secretary. Among the clerical gentlemen present were Archdeacon Davis, Canon Richardson, J. W. Pedley, Walter Rigsby, George Fowler, E. B. Lanceley, Robt. Johnston, Thos. S. Johnston, W. M. Seaborn and Ira Smith.

Among the lodge representatives present were Messrs. Dr. Davis, C. A. Kingston, J. H. Flock, R. K. Cowan, Alex. McDonald, Alex. Stewart, Ed. Fish, James Carter, Robert Cadwallader, Jas. Shand, Walter Fairbairn, D. L. Hardey, T. Hogg, W. E. Jackson, Walter Richards, Frank Wools-ley, Kirkpatrick, Essery and many

There were a number of active Sunday school workers present, in-cluding Messrs. Jeffrey, Crawford, Armitage, McGregor, Bapty, Munro

The Dean briefly explained the object of the meeting. He said that the subject had not been discussed heretofore on strict Sabbatarian lines, but the action had been taken be-cause of the demand of the Sunday. school superintendents of the city. He mentioned that he belonged to the Society himself, and said that the clergymen thought the gentlemen of tum. the lodges had sufficiently good sense to come to a satisfactory understanding on the matter. He outlined the action of the ministers, and said that touch with the societies. the clergymen present were only a committee who would in turn have

'We have no right," said he, "to dictate as to how you are to go to church, whether with a band or without a band. But we have a right to say at what time the parade shall be held so as not to interfere with the organizations in connection with several congregations."

He said that the Salvation Army band had become a regular institution, and did not have the same attraction as a military band. He could hardly blame the boys for wanting to hear the band; when young he would probably have done so himself. As an old military man, he acknow-ledged that the band still had a fascination for him.

An endeavor was then made, at the suggestion of Mr. Pedley, to find out just who were delegates to the meeting and who were not. Several proposals were made as to how this should be done, and finally the chairman asked the Masonic contingent to

Messrs. Flock, Kingston, Davis, Mc-Donald and Galpin stood up. These were recorded, and the Oddfellows were asked to stand up. "How would it be for the gentlemen who called us here to give us the reasons why they brought us here?" asked Mr. Essery. "We are here in just as good standing as the

gentlemen of the other side, and if we go questioning what each other's rights are there will not be anything done. I have been asked to come and hear what you have to say. Hadn't you better say it?" (Hear, hear.) Mr. Stewart-Why, the chairman stated his case a few minutes ago. An effort was made to enroll the names of the Oddfellows, Messrs. Jeffrey, Stewart, Fairbairn, Cowan,

Jackson and others standing up. Rev. Walter Rigsby suggested that to save time the lodge representatives should write out their names and hand them in. said Mr. Stewart, "if you are tired of it already, let us quit."

A delegate-A better way to do would be to get the credentials. A voice-Aw, sit down. Dean Innes said that it occurred to him that there was no use taking the

causes underlying the action of the Ministerial Association. Mr. Pedley said that he hoped both sides would be willing to put aside their prejudices and consider the parade question as a matter of expediency. He asked them to carefully consider whether the ministers were justified in protesting, inasmuch as the superintendents of the city Sun-day schools stated that the Sunday parades interfered with the Sabbath lodge at either of the regular ser-

school services. The ministers, he said, were willing to preach to any vices, even if accompanied by a band, but not during the afternoon. Mr. Carter asked if that was to be taken as a refusal to preach, even if the lodges postponed starting until 4

The Dean engaged to answer, when Mr. Hogg asserted that the attendance at Sunday schools fell off in the summer anyway. Mr. Cowan asked if the regular

service of other churches would not be interfered with by holding the par-ade as requested by the clergymen. Canon Richardson said that all the members would be attending their own services and would not be disturbed.

If Pedley—If the ministers had

their way they would say "Do away with the bands."

Mr. Cowan asked if it was unalterably settled that the clergymen would not hold service for the societies at any other than the regular service. Canon Richardson said that it was merely a request for the societies to consider.

Mr. Cowan thought that the matter could be solved by the societies commencing their parades at 4 o'clock The Dean said that even the formation of the parade interfered very materially with the Sabbath school

Mr. Cowan argued that if the parade was held either in the morning or evening it would have the effect of causing people to stay away from their own church. Rev. George Fowler suggested that the resolutions passed by the Minis-terial Association ought to be read and

considered. Mr. Essery said that the ministers began by refusing Christian burial to Christian people on the Sabbath. Then they followed that up by refusing to preach to societies unless they went to church without a band. Now they were told that this had been done at the instance of the Sunday school superintendents. Would it not have been just as polite to have asked for

the views of the lodges concerned at the preliminary meeting as to do so now? They were doing work that the church was not able to do, or had not the courage to face. (Hear, hear.) It was very decent work to be engaged in, and they were going to keep it up, whether the ministers liked it or not. (Hear, hear.)

The speaker urged that the resolu-ions should be read, and went on to say that in the old days Christ preached to everybody, the rich and the ragged, but he was not always looking for a call, and he did not move because his salary was increased.

Wm. Jeffrey, superintendent of the Wellington Street Methodist Sunday school-I think, Mr. Chairman, that this is altogether uncalled for. We are here to discuss another question entirely and there is no such necessity for such sarcastic references. If that is to proceed, we cannot possibly do any business.

Mr. Essery-You had better understand that you are not going to do any business. As for sarcasm, from the newspaper reports there was evidently a great deal of sarcasm displayed at the Ministerial Association meetings. The person who spoke to me does not know enough to stop my voice while we are discussing this matter. I have been inside of parliament. ary rules, and have been talking about what the circular calls for.

Mr. Jeffrey-I don't think it is gentlemanly for any of us to rise and condemn the ministers in the tone used by Bro. Essery, and I still hold that it is not gentlemanly to talk that way. The Dean-We must take every address with more or less good nature, and consider the quarter from which it comes. (Laughter and applause.) A Delegate-More sarcasm.

The dean again said that all that was said would have to be considered by the source from which it came. He said that the resolutions referred to were published in the papers, and all present must be aware of them. . Mr. Rigsby said that he did not know that the resolutions would be binding upon the meeting. They contained what the ministers would prefer, and they certainly preferred no parades on Sunday afternoon. Do the societies say that this cannot be accomplished? Mr. Stewart-Is the series of resolu-Masonic brethren and St. George's tions the ultimatum of the clergymen? Mr. Rigsby-There was no ultima-

Canon Richardson-Hear, Mr. Rigsby said that the Ministerial Association last year could not get in

A delegate-They never tried. Mr. Rigsby advocated methods of to report to the Ministerial Associa- peace, and pointed out that it was in the interests of the moral welfare of the community to have no hindrance ciety people asked the clergymen to preach for them in the afternoon, if they did do it they would feel that it was not a wise thing to do, though thev did consent.

Rev. Mr. Fowler said that he did not think it an act of discourtesy to preach. The resolutions were passed, and because there was one minister who refused to be bound by them during the time that negotiations were pending, he was politely, more or less, sat upon. Those resolutions were given to the meeting to be presented there, and if they were going to meet the thing fairly and squarely, they ought to be taken up. He moved that the parades be held at 4:30, but the motion was lost. He refused to be bound by the resolutions, but all the rest stood by them. It was their duty to discuss the resolutions. (Ap-

plause.) Dr. Davis said that he did not think it was at all necessary that the resolutions should be presented, because he understood that the clerical gentlemen were willing to abide by and decision that was arrived at. They were not there to be divided into hostile camps, but were there for a friendly conference. He was glad to see there men who were an honor and a credit to the societies they represented. He pointed out that the Ministerial Association had withdrawn their opposition to the band, and the question became merely one of time. that the societies were wedded to the He said present custom of going to church. Placing the figure at the outside, the parades only amounted to twelve in the course of a year-at a time when the attendance at all Sunday schools was depleted, anyhow. He argued that to hold the parade in the morning vould disarrange the regular services, and fathers would be taken away from their family pews. The societies were willing to meet the clergymen on a fair, square and reasonable basis, and he thought that if the Sunday school people would give in a little in the time of calling their Sunday school tonames, and called on Mr. Pedley to gether, the lodge men could put the make a further explanation of the parade off for a little while, and so come to a harmonious understanding.

The Dean expressed himself extremethankful for the most respectful and kind remarks of the preceding speaker, whose name he did not know. (Laughter.)

R. K. Cowan-Such is fame. (Laugh-Mr. Cowan expressed his willingness

o second a resolution along the line iggested by Dr. Davis. T. S. Johnston said that he would like to have it stated just why he band had to go along with the The Famous Tourist Resortsarade. (Laughter.)

Mr. Anderson thought that would open up another large argument. Mr. Armitage, superintendent of the emorial Sunday school, wanted the celebrations to be held on week nights. Mr. Hogg raised a point of order. The chairman-There is no occasion to raise a point of order.

Mr. Hogg-We are not discussing Sabbath desecration. Mr. Armitage-It is my opinion I am dvancing. Mr. Essery-You have a right to your own opinion.

Mr. Armitage—I think so. (Laughter.) He continued and told of the scholars, as if by magic, as soon as they heard the first sound of the

very entertaining service.

Mr. Hogg—And the discipline must have been good.

of starting the parade should be 4:15 and the commencement of the services at 4:20. He asked the lodgemen to indorse it and then report back to their different societies.

Mr. McGregor spoke from the Sun-Johnston defended Mr. McGregor's right to speak.

A delegate-You evidently went yourself. (Laughter.) "I didn't go to the door to hear the band," explained Mr. Munro, "but to tell them to come back." (Laughter.) R. K. Cowan-I think it would be a good thing to call a meeting of the

Walter Richards asked what time the East End societies would start to march to meet their down-town brethren.

Mr. Essery-Has the question been

get an agreement that would be binding on both parties, and he moved in amendment that the motion be not voted on until the clergymen and the lodges had passed upon it. The Dean ruled that this was not in amendment.

stand why the resolutions passed by the Ministerial Association had not

of loyalty to their lodge or loyalty to their God. tion, and the chairman and Mr. Essery had a short argument as to what constituted an amendment. The latter said that if the motion had been made binding on anybody an amendment would not be necessary. fair to ask the ministers to bind themselves to what they were not at pres-

the clergymen would refuse to be bound by it. Rev. Geo. Fowler-Hear, hear. Mr. Fairbairn regretted that the matter could not be met in a spirit

likely that every minister would be hear," and laughter.) Finally the question was put and only Mr. Essery voted nay. "Mr. Essery; did you ever support any resolution?" asked the chairman.

(Laughter.) Binds," suggested Mr. Rigsby to the chairman," said a sodgeman. This was done, and the meeting ad-

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"Good for the children," commenter R. K. Cowan-It must have been a

Dr. Davis then moved that the hour

Rev. Geo. Fowler seconded the mo tion, it being understood that it did not debar any society who wished, from attending the morning service. Mr. Kingston said it would be advisable to have it understood that the bands should not play on the way from their headquarters to the lodge rooms before the parade commenced.

Walter Rigsby said that the 4:30 church service would interfere with the attendance at the evening service. day school side of the question and Mr. Stewart questioned his right to, being an ex-superintendent. Rev. Robt.

Mr. Munro, superintendent of the Christian Church, East London, said that during a recent parade 30 or 40 of his scholars got to the door before he did

parents and lecture them on teaching children obedience.

Dean Innes-I think that you might start at any time.
Mr. Richards—All right.

The Dean-I have just been waiting for it to be handed up. Mr. Essery-Yes; well, I have been waiting, too. He said he wanted to

Rev. Robt. Johnston did not under-

Rev. Mr. Fowler-They were called

Mr. Johnston said that the interruption of Sabbath school work was entirely aside from the question at issue There must be a band. He did not object to the band so much as to the spirit that demanded it. They must have it to attract attention. In England Sunday parades with bands were done away with. If the parade was chiefly for the purpose of attracting attention he objected to it as a dis-turbance of that quiet so essential to devotion. He was not a strict Sabbatarian, and even allowed boys to "whistle" on the Sabbath. (Laughter.) He objected to a noisy parade which would gather together a lot of conlookers, who, in the case of St. Andrew's, would lie around under the trees during the service, showing merely a desire to spend the Sabbath in that idle fashion. He saw no reason why the Sabbath school should not meet at 9 o'clock in the morning, or after 12, but the question was not a Sabbath school question at all. The Lord's Day, he said, was used because the lodges were too stingy to take one day out of the six that were theirs for that purpose. It was a question of loyalty to their lodge or loyalty to

Rev. T. S. Johnson favored the mo-Mr. Kingston said it would not be

ent binding themselves. Rev. Mr. Rigsby said that experience had proven that likely some of

of tolerance. Supposing some ministers did not agree; it was not at all asked to preach, anyway. ("Hear,

"Let's sing 'Blest Be the Tie That "No; let's move a vote of thanks

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All reached by the Grand Trunk Railway Mr. Armitage—I think so. (Laughter.) He continued and told of the disappearance of his Sunday school

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