

tee: Rev. Dr. Carman, Rev. Dr. Sutherland, Rev. Dr. Potts, C. D. Massey, Esq., H. H. Fudger, Esq., and N. W. Rowell, Esq., K.C.

These two committees met together in Toronto on the 6th of November, 1902, and on the 13th of February, 1903; on each occasion spending several hours in the consideration of various aspects of the problem of co-operation in Home Mission work.

The tone of these conferences was exceedingly gratifying, and at the close of the second conference it was felt that sufficient progress had been made in the eliciting of opinions and in the deepening of the spirit of mutual confidence, to warrant the joint committee in asking the Missionary Superintendents of the two Churches to meet with them, in order that some line of action might be decided upon that would tend to promote the spirit of fraternity and co-operation between the two bodies in mission work, especially in New Ontario, the Northwest and British Columbia.

A meeting was accordingly held on the 17th of March, at which all the Superintendents were present, when the practical difficulties in the way of co-operation were again discussed with the utmost frankness.

After a long and careful deliberation—extending over the greater part of the afternoon and evening—the following finding was unanimously adopted:

“Whereas, overtures have proceeded from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, and the General Conference of the Methodist Church, affirming the desirability of fraternal co-operation between the two bodies, especially in Home Mission work, with a view to avoiding the unnecessary expenditure of missionary money, and the undue multiplication of agencies;

And whereas, the General Assembly and the General Conference have each appointed a committee to consider this whole question, and devise, if possible, some plan whereby practical effect may be given to the principle of co-operation;

And whereas, several joint meetings of the two committees have been held, characterized by the utmost cordiality and good feeling, and virtual unanimity as to the desirableness of avoiding unfriendly rivalry, and promoting co-operation;

This joint committee having consulted with the Superintendents of Missions of both Churches, is of the opinion that a time has come when some definite attempt should be made to realize the wish of the two Churches as expressed in the resolutions of their representative Assemblies.

We are all well aware that there are real and serious difficulties to be encountered, growing out of local circumstances, strong denominational preferences, and the rapidly changing conditions of population, especially in the Northwest, and that it would not be desirable to adopt a hard and fast policy, or to