

understood, he believed there would be less difficulty.

Rev. Mr. MCKAY, (Lochiel,) and Rev. Mr. MCKAY, (Orangeville), also spoke. The latter said that he regretted that the Committee of Union had not referred to Queen's College particularly when noticing the question of a "Presbyterian University."

Rev. D. WATSON (Thorah) addressed the meeting, stating that he objected to the basis of union, inasmuch as there was no reference in it to the Larger Catechism. After stating his views with reference to the Westminster Confession of Faith, and quoting from the records of the Church in relation to the adoption of the Larger or Shorter Catechisms, he pointed out that the American Church had included the Larger Catechism in their basis. He complained strongly of the failure of the representative committee in not introducing this statement in the basis now approved. So far as he knew, there was no Presbyterian church which had adopted the Westminster Confession of Faith, which had dealt in the manner they had with the Larger Catechism. He was actuated only by conscientious motives in thus addressing the meeting. He had listened with a view to hear the statement of some valid reason for this exceptional course, but he had not heard any. He did not think that the argument that it was not needed and it was not read was of any value, since the same might be said of the Confession of Faith. In the compilations of the shorter catechism, the larger one was frequently quoted.

The fifth recommendation, as to the sustentation fund, was then considered.

Principal SNODGRASS referred to the provisions of this fund, and stated that the appropriations rested with the Synod. He would ask if the moneys coming into the hands of the church should be trusted to the church to use them as it judged best? He thought that students who looked forward to a speedy union of the churches and who were resolved to enter the ministry should have a vested right in the fund.

Rev. Mr. GORDON thought that whatever portion of the funds remained over after satisfying the sustentation claims, should be left over to be disposed of by the United Church. The fund of the

Church of Scotland only reached to one-third of its wants, and it would be unfair to ask the church with whom they proposed to unite to make up the other two-thirds.

Rev. J. H. MACKERRAS said that difficulty might be obviated by their own church raising the full amount required, \$200 for each of the 42 ministers. He thought their congregations would make an effort in their new position to raise the fund without allowing it to become a burden on the United Church.

Rev. Mr. BAIN was in some doubt as to what should be considered as vested interests. He thought the original beneficiaries on the sustentation fund should be held to have a first claim. This fund should not be turned aside to any other purpose, as these aged ministers, if they had even no legal right, had a strong moral right to a portion of it. He instanced the benefits derived from such an appropriation in Scotland, where aged ministers could retire with an allowance, leaving the pulpits open to younger men. In this way, no doubt, the efficiency of the ministry was sustained.

Rev. Mr. McDONNELL spoke at length on the propriety of possibly giving up the fund to be expended in the interests of education.

Rev. Dr. JENKINS spoke in favour of the idea thrown out by Mr. Bain, that support should be accorded to aged ministers.

Principal SNODGRASS did not think that there would be any difficulty if they went into the union and asked protection for their vested interests. They asked that the fund should in the first place be applied to the support of the aged ministers, and then to the benefit of probationers and licentiates, so long as they were recognized as such. As for the remainder they left it to the wisdom of the united Church to say what should be done with it, only requiring that it should be devoted to the object originally contemplated, the support of the Protestant clergy.

Mr. GORDON proposed that a sub-committee should be appointed to draw up a report on the questions discussed during the day.

A committee, consisting of Rev. Dr. Snodgrass, Rev. Dr. Jenkins, Mr. James