

broached by the Union Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland. These were the question of State grants to denominational institutions, and the mode of appointing Professors in Theological Colleges. It was agreed in Conference to leave the latter over for the consideration of the Union Committee, which in turn resolved to leave the whole question in the hands of the General Assembly of the United Church, a course rendered necessary by the diversity of practice which exists amongst the Churches as at present constituted. The desire of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland was that the power of appointment, as with them at present, should be in the hands of governing Boards of Colleges. In the other negotiating Churches, the professors are elected by open vote in the supreme courts. A compromise discussed at some length was to put the power of nomination in the hands of governing Boards, leaving to the General Assembly the right to confirm or reject the appointment.

With regard to State aid to Denominational Colleges, the deliverance of the General Assembly was:

"That the Assembly instruct their Committee on Union, in bringing this resolution under the notice of the Committees of the negotiating Churches, and seeking their approval thereof, to inform them that this Church still adheres to its repeatedly expressed opposition to State grants for denominational Colleges in these Provinces, and further instruct their Committee to ascertain whether there is a definite prospect of harmonious action in the United Church in this matter."

The resolution adopted by the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland is to the following effect:

"As regards State grants for Denominational Colleges in these Provinces, as this is a matter of expediency, this Synod holds the opinion that there ought to be full liberty to accept or reject these as circumstances warrant."

The conclusion arrived at in the Montreal Conference was to the effect that this should be left an open question, and that it ought not to form any barrier to union. This finding was unanimously endorsed by the Union Committee, and it is to be hoped that the conclusion thus come to will be ratified by the supreme courts of the Canada Presbyterian Church. Some compromise

appears to be necessary here, if the Union is to go on at all.

There was a good deal of discussion at the St. John meeting, regarding the College question, and the relation in which the United Church should stand to Collegiate Institutions supported or controlled by any of the negotiating churches. In principle, all seem agreed; but it does not appear easy to adjust details.

"Some time was also spent in discussing the manner in which the various Colleges of the United Church should be supported, and though no general plan of action was decided or recommended, much light was thrown on what promises to be one of the most intricate practical difficulties with which the United Church will have to deal. At present the Colleges of one Church are supported by subscription, while the others depend for their revenue on stated collections made throughout the body by order of the supreme courts. It was finally resolved to leave the matter over, and allow the various institutions to enter the union with their present means of support."

"Another question which bids fair to create more trouble in the future than the small importance generally attached to it at present would indicate, is the disposition to be made of the Temporalities Fund of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland. This is a fund that has accrued from the settlement of the Clergy Reserve lands in the old Province of Canada; and as it belongs entirely to that branch of the Church, it has unlimited power to dispose of it as may seem best. It is unnecessary to go into the details of the scheme, but it was acknowledged by members of the Committee that many persons in the church would feel strongly inclined to object to any disposition of the fund other than that for which it was originally intended. Of course on such a question it is not only desirable, but absolutely necessary to have unanimity; for any minority, however small, has certain vested and legal rights in a matter of this kind, and can cause endless trouble and pecuniary loss by resorting to litigation."

There was some discussion in the Joint Committee respecting "modes of worship," but no new deliverance arrived at.

The former resolution of the Joint Committee respecting rights of property belonging to individual congregations and corporate bodies entering into the Union was amended to read as follows: