

character, the reading of the Minutes of the Committee of Finance, and other voluminous documents, the appointment of Committees, etc.

At the afternoon session the Chinese work was considered. The General Secretary gave a history of the movement, and of the steps that had been taken in accordance with the action of the Board a year ago. At the request of the Board the Rev. David Hill gave much valuable information about China and its people. At the conclusion of his address the following resolution was moved by Rev. Dr. Douglas, seconded by Rev. Dr. Griffin:—

“Whereas there exists an ever increasing vice which is known as the plague of Eastern Asia and the curse of China, entailing spiritual, physical and financial ruin on millions in those lands; and whereas this vice, arising from the use of the opium drug, was originated and is to a large extent perpetuated by the production of opium under the direct auspices of the Indian Government; and whereas all the negotiations of the British Government with China in relation to the opium trade have aimed at securing a larger sale for the Indian drug, out of which vast revenues accrue to the Indian exchequer; and whereas the conscience of the British public is being aroused to secure the abolition of those legislative enactments which sanction the production of the drug;

“Therefore be it resolved, that we tender to the British Christians who are seeking for the repeal of those unrighteous parliamentary statutes our warmest sympathy and earnest prayers for their success in the removal of this national dishonour and the abolition of this appalling evil. And that a copy of this resolution be sent to Sir Joseph Pease, M.P., as an expression of our warm appreciation of his noble effort in securing the vote of the Imperial Parliament in condemnation of this ruinous traffic.”

The resolution was supported in earnest and telling words, and unanimously adopted.

On motion the basis of appropriations to the Domestic Missions in the various Conferences was adopted as follows:—

	Married Men.	Single Ordained Men.	Unordained Men.
Manitoba	\$900	\$500	\$450
British Columbia.....	1,000	600	550
Newfoundland	800	450	400
Towns and cities.....	900	500	450
Other missions.....	750	400	350

The General Secretary read a report on Indian missions in the North-West and British Columbia. The chief points in this report have already been made public. It was referred to Committee on Indian Missions.

On the second day the Board proceeded to consider a number of miscellaneous grants. On the item of \$2,000 for “Affliction and Supply,” a short discussion arose. Some were of opinion that such grants should be discontinued, while others thought that this could not be done until the men on domestic missions receive the full basis of salary. The opinion was also expressed that where stipends are of fair amount and are paid in full, as in Indian and Foreign work, claims for affliction should not be entertained except in very exceptional cases. The item was finally passed. When the item of \$5,000 for interest and discounts

was moved, the Secretary called attention to the fact that the greater part of this could be saved if Missionary meetings were held earlier in the season, and the subscriptions promptly collected and forwarded to the Mission Rooms.

The question of salaries at the Mission Rooms was exhaustively considered. No request had been made for an increase, but it was pointed out by Drs. Griffin, Douglas, Hannon, A. J. Donly, Esq., and others, that the policy had been to make the stipends of Connexional Officers similar to those received by pastors in the leading Methodist Churches in Toronto, and while the latter had advanced largely in the last decade there had been no advance at the Mission Rooms, although the work and responsibilities have more than doubled since the present incumbent took office. It was also pointed out that the proposed increase could make no difference in the amount available for domestic missions, as that was fixed by General Conference action. Finally it was urged that whatever amount was voted for salary, it should be kept distinct from house rent and taxes, which were always separate items in the allowance to city pastors. The views thus expressed prevailed, and salaries were voted as follows:—General Secretary, \$2,500; Assistant Secretary, \$1,500, with separate provision for rent and taxes; Accountant, \$1,200.

At the afternoon session the Rev. David Hill took leave of the Board, when the following resolution was cordially adopted:—

“The Rev. David Hill, Wesleyan missionary, of Hang-kow, China, having favored the Board with much valuable information touching missionary work in China, the Board would place on record its high appreciation and its sense of obligation for his interesting and instructive address at the anniversary meeting.”

The remainder of the afternoon was given to the various committees. At the evening session, reports were received. The Committee on the French Work recommended that \$8,898 be appropriated this year. This was changed to \$8,763, being \$4,948 for evangelistic work, and \$3,815 for the Institute.

The Committee on Chinese Work expressed entire satisfaction with the action of the Committee of Consultation and Finance in selecting a field and providing suitable men. It was recommended that the missionaries be instructed to co-operate with the missionaries of other Methodist Churches in forming a Union Mission Council, to consult with reference to the location of new missions and the stationing of men so as to meet in the most effective way the needs of the people. Respecting the Chinese work in British Columbia, it was recommended that a site be purchased in New Westminster and mission buildings erected at a cost of not more than \$4,000, the amount be provided from special sources, and not out of current income.

It was decided to continue the Rev. John McDougall as agent of the Society in the North-West in regard to matters pertaining to the Indian work, and that in consultation with the Chairmen of Districts interested, and under the direction of the Mission Rooms, he make such inspection, by visits or otherwise of the Indian missions in Manitoba and the North-West, as may be for the best interests of the work.