

a motion which declared the Assembly's position, and also insured fair play to the accused. All other motions were withdrawn. Principal Caven's motion carried unanimously, many of the commissioners wondering why *they* had not thought of such a simple motion.

THE speeches on the young people's societies showed what a hold they have taken on the church, and the regard which those who have had experience of them have for them. It was dangerous to say anything against them in the Assembly, but the discussion of the pledge showed that there is a feeling of uneasiness about it. The pledge drawn up by the Assembly's committee removes some of the more objectionable features; but for all that we, like a few more old-fashioned churchmen, feel that no pledge like this is needed while we have the sacraments of the Lord's Supper, instituted by Christ Himself. Have things come to such a pass in the church in Canada that the pledge taken by our young people on coming to the communion is not sufficiently binding, but we must get up a new and more binding pledge? Or did not Christ, in instituting this sacrament, know what was required? Our forefathers died rather than allow in the church anything that seemed to limit the supreme sovereignty of Christ; and, as members of this historic church, we humbly think that there is no room for this special pledge to live a Christian life and fulfil a disciple's duties while the church has a sacred and Gospel pledge given it by its Lord. This is as binding a pledge as any, but the motive to keep it is love, not duty, and the fulfilling of it is not doing certain things, but following Christ, doing His blessed will, and becoming like Him, using these things as a means, not an end. Let the church teach its young people, —ay, and the old, too—the full meaning of coming to the Lord's table, and partaking of the holy communion, and do away with all other pledges, and we think it will honor Christ and His institution more, and in the long run make the young people's societies more successful. Now, in criticizing the pledge, we do not condemn or even criticize any other part of the Christian Endeavor, but we do think this is a weakness in the system, and do think that it is not honoring to Christ, whose own institution ought to be sufficient; and we think the church assumes a grave responsibility, indeed, when she slights this, and adds an unscriptural pledge to do the same thing as the Lord's Supper should do. We think the young people's societies would be as successful without this pledge; and while in our ideas we may be wrong, still, for the above reasons, many of our ministers do not favor the pledge.

R.G.M.

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