

the membership of the Church for consideration and adoption or rejection," and gave authority to the General Conference Special Committee, if the result of the vote would warrant the action, "to call a special meeting of the General Conference further to consider the matter of consummating the proposed union."

The result of the vote by Conferences was that 11 Conferences voted approval, and 1 non-approval. The vote by members was: 1,579 voted approval, and 270 non-approval. The General Conference Special Committee by resolution directed that the whole question be referred to the Official Boards and membership of the Church.

The Congregational Union in 1909, after reciting the steps taken and referring to various subjects contained in the Basis, adopted the following:

The Congregational Union at its annual meeting in 1904 decided "that organic union is both desirable and practicable." It now remains to decide whether organic union on the basis prepared by the Joint Committee is desirable and practicable. As this must be determined in the Congregational way by the votes of the churches, your Committee would recommend that the documents agreed upon by the Joint Committee, along with this report, be sent to the churches for consideration.

The vote of the elders, officials and members taken in the three negotiating churches was as follows:

Presbyterian: in answer to the question, "Are you in favor of organic union with the Methodist and Congregational Churches?" Of 9,675 elders, 6,245 voted for, 2,475 against. Of 287,944 communicants, 106,755 voted for, and 48,278 against. Of the adherents, 37,175 voted for, and 14,174 against. In answer to the question: "Do you approve of the proposed Basis of Union?" 5,104 elders voted for, and 2,192 against. 77,993 communicants voted for, and 27,197 against; 27,756 adherents voted for, and 10,316 against.

Methodist: Of 29,280 officials, 23,475 voted for, and 3,869 against. Of 293,967 members, 18 years of age and over, 150,841 voted for, and 24,357 against. Of 29,373 members under 18 years of age, 17,198 voted for, and 2,615 against. Of adherents, 42,115 voted for, and 7,234 against.

Congregationalist: Of 10,689 members, 2,933 voted for, and 813 against the Basis.

Subsequent to the taking of the vote the courts of the negotiating churches took the following action:

The General Conference Special Committee of the Methodist Church declared itself "satisfied that the Methodist Church is now prepared to proceed toward the Union of the three negotiating Churches on the Basis of Union heretofore agreed upon." (Minutes, July 16-17, 1912). The Congregational Union of Canada resolved "That this Union considers the action it has already taken as sufficient and will now wait until the other negotiating bodies have had an opportunity of testing to a corresponding degree the feeling of their constituencies." (Year-book, 1910-11, p. 31).

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, however, resolved as follows: "In view of the extent of the minority, which is not yet convinced that organic union is the best method of expressing the unity sincerely desired by all, the Assembly deems it unwise immediately to proceed to consummate the union, but believes that by further conference and discussion practically unanimous action can be secured within a reasonable time. It also resolved that all suggestions "be referred to the Union Committee for their consideration in the hope of removing objections and with a view to further conferences with the Committees of the other negotiating churches." (Minutes, 1912, pp. 45-46.)

In 1913 the Assembly resolved that for the fullest and fairest consideration of every aspect of the question further amendments to the present Basis of Union and