

ence, as elsewhere provided. He shall preside in the district meetings, oversee the temporal and spiritual interests of the church in his district; and, with the ministers and probationers under his charge, shall administer and enforce the discipline of the church, being responsible therefor to the annual conference.

4. The district superintendent shall fix the time and place of the first district meeting, after which he shall fix the time, and the district meeting shall fix the place. In the absence of the district superintendent, the district meeting shall elect from among its ministerial members, by ballot, without debate, a chairman *pro tempore*.

5. The examination of ministerial character shall be business of the first day of the district meeting, and shall be confined to the ministerial members alone.

6. The lay members of the district meeting shall meet separately some time during the session, and elect by ballot, without debate, lay representatives to the annual conference, in the proportion of one for each minister in full connection within the bounds of the district. Laymen to be eligible must be at least twenty-five years of age, and must have been members of the church in good standing for the five consecutive years next preceding the election.

(4.) Quarterly Meetings.

1. There shall be a quarterly official meeting on each circuit, mission, or station, consisting of the ministers and probationers for the ministry, the local preachers, the exhorters, the circuit stewards, the leaders of classes, the superintendents of Sabbath-schools (being members of the church), one representative from each board of trustees (he being a member of the church); and also of additional representatives who may have been appointed by the societies of the circuit. The appointment, scale, and mode of election shall be arranged by the fourth quarterly meeting of the year; but such additional representatives shall not exceed the number of the stewards on the circuit.

2. The superintendent of the circuit shall be the chairman of the quarterly meeting, except when the superintendent of the district shall be present, in which case the latter may preside.

3. The quarterly meetings shall hear complaints, and receive and try appeals; recommend candidates for the ministry; manage and control circuit finances and discharge such other duties as the general conference may, from time to time, determine.

4. The quarterly meeting shall, at the fourth regular meeting of the year, elect by ballot, without debate, the lay-delegates to attend the ensuing annual district meeting, in the proportion of one delegate for each minister or probationer in the active work on the circuit.

NOTE.—Regulations concerning the licensing of local preachers and exhorters are referred to the first General Conference.

III. CHURCH PROPERTY.

1. Upon the ratification of the union, such legislation shall be obtained from legislatures having competent jurisdiction, as shall vest in the united church all property now held by, or in trust for, the respective churches entering into the union.

2. As it is probable that in some instances church and parsonage property now in use will be required after the union, for church or circuit purposes, it is recommended that two ministers and two laymen be appointed at the district meeting in each district where any such property may be situated, who shall act conjointly with the trustees on each circuit in determining what property shall be retained for use and what shall be sold.