

GENERAL FINANCIAL AGENT.

XII. That Bro. E. Roberts be relieved from Circuit duty, for such time as may be necessary, in order that he may devote himself exclusively, as General Financial Agent, to the raising of means for the liquidation of the Connexional Debt; and that the General Financial Agent act under the direction of the Executive Com., and the Sub-Committee, for the current year.

PROPOSED INCREASE OF LAY REPRESENTATION.

XIII. That the following Report of a Com. appointed to consider a change in the Constitution of the Conference, be adopted:

Whereas it is deemed expedient to make such alteration in the composition of our Annual Conferences, holden between what are known as the fifth year, or General Conferences, as to give the respective Quarterly and District Meetings the privilege, should they so will it, of sending an equal number of laymen to attend said Conferences, to the preachers authorized to attend as members thereof, and no more; and whereas the opinion of eminent Counsel, (the Hon. E. Blake, Q. C., now Minister of Justice for the Dominion) has been sought and obtained, as to the legality of the change proposed; and whereas said counsel is of opinion that the Conference has power to make the proposed change in the following manner, viz., That the Conference pass a resolution, containing a statement of the proposed change, subject to the approval of the English Conference; and that the proposed change, so established by the English Conference, would be the law of the case: Be it therefore, and it is hereby, resolved and agreed—

1. That each Circuit or Mission Quarterly Meeting shall have the privilege of sending to each and every Annual District Meeting, within the bounds of which it is included, as members thereof, the two Circuit Stewards, provided there are two Itinerant Preachers on the station.

2. That each and every Annual District Meeting shall have the right to send an equal number of preachers and laymen to the Annual Conference, as members thereof.

3. That every fifth year, from 1875, the District Meeting shall not send to the Conference, as members thereof, more preachers than laymen, nor more laymen than preachers, but that their numbers shall be equal—this equality shall be secured by lessening the number of preachers, or by increasing the number of the laity, as the case may be. The appointments to be made as at present.

4. We hereby respectfully ask the English Conference to make the following change in the Constitution granted us in 1854, that is to say: That in Article I. of the Constitution, on page 78 of our Digest, all the words after "Canada," in the 2nd line shall be struck out.

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