

The Joint Committee would have been glad to welcome to their conference representatives of other Christian communions, and, although this widening of the conference has not yet been found practicable, they hope that, in the event of a union of the negotiating Churches, a still more comprehensive union may in the future be realized.

The Joint Committee regard their work as now substantially completed. They commit it to the Great Head of the Church for His blessing, and to those portions of His Church which they represent with confident hope of their approval.

'Let Thy work appear unto Thy servants and Thy glory unto their children. Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; and establish Thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish Thou it.' "

SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in 1909, upon reception of the report of its Committee on Church Union, in which was included the Basis of Union as adopted by the Joint Committee in 1908, said, "The Assembly receive the report and learn with deep gratification that the Joint Committee on Union have, after five years' enquiry and discussion, arrived at the conclusion that in their judgment the organic union of the three negotiating Churches is practicable.

"Inasmuch as the Joint Committee have expressed their conviction that the voting on the question of Union should take place simultaneously in the three negotiating Churches, and inasmuch as the General Conference of the Methodist Church will not meet till the month of September, 1910, the Assembly agree that the judgment of the Church at large on this important subject be not sought until after that date.

"They direct, however, that copies of the report be sent down to Presbyteries, Sessions and Congregations, for their use, in order that they may be fully informed as to the whole question, and be prepared to deal with it when it comes before them for disposal."

In 1910 The General Assembly adopted the following resolution:

"The Assembly declare their approval of the Documents agreed upon by the Joint Committee as a basis upon which this Church may unite with the Methodist and Congregational Churches, and they direct that this resolution, along with the above-mentioned Documents, be transmitted to Presbyteries for their judgment under the Barrier Act, instructing Presbytery Clerks to report the decisions arrived at to the Clerks of the General Assembly not later than the first day of May, 1911.

"The Assembly are of opinion that, in the event of the returns from Presbyteries warranting further steps being taken in the direction of union, the Assembly of 1911 will proceed to consult Sessions and Congregations regarding the whole matter."

The report of the vote by Presbyteries to the General Assembly of 1911 was that, of the 70 Presbyteries of the Church, 67 voted on the question. 50 Presbyteries voted to approve, while 20 did not signify approval in terms of the Barrier Act. The votes cast in the Presbyteries were: 793, approval, and 476, non-approval. The Assembly sent the whole question down to Sessions and Congregations for their judgment

The General Conference of the Methodist Church in 1910 declared "its approval of these documents agreed upon by the Joint Committee as a basis upon which the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational Churches may unite." It further directed the General Conference Special Committee to send the documents "to the District Meetings for consideration, and to the Annual Conferences for consideration and adoption or rejection;" and "if the reports from the Annual Conferences warrant such action, to send the documents of the Basis of Union to the Official Boards and