

"2. And, further, in the opinion of the Conference the truest economy would be to strengthen rather than to weaken the Theological Department of Wesley College, and in view of the unquestioned ability of Dr. Bland and the excellency and loyalty of his services for the past fourteen years, we trust every effort will be made by the Board to retain his services.

I am, sincerely,
EDWIN G. SANDERS,
Secy. of Sask. Conf."

And from the Manitoba Conference the following letter was received:—

"Mr. E. Loftus,
Secretary of Wesley College Board,
Winnipeg, Man. Winnipeg, June 15, 1917.

"Dear Sir:—

I beg to remit to you the following item from the report of the Educational Committee and endorsed by the Manitoba Conference recently concluded:

"That whereas the financial condition of the affairs of Wesley College call for a policy of retrenchment, therefore resolved, that this Conference pledge its hearty support to the Board of Directors in taking such steps as they shall consider necessary to guarantee the future success of the College.

Yours very truly,
T. WILBUR PRICE,
Sec. of Conference."

For various reasons which are known to the President of the Manitoba Conference and which have been stated by him on many public occasions, a meeting of the Board could not be secured forthwith to deal with these letters. After consultation with Rev. A. E. Smith, the President of the Manitoba Conference, and with Rev. Dr. Darwin, Ex-President of the Saskatchewan Conference, the Board was called to meet on September the 20th, a date suggested by the above-named gentlemen. At this meeting, at which twenty-six members of the Board were present, all the correspondence relating to the matter and the letters from the Secretaries of the Saskatchewan and Manitoba Conferences were carefully considered. Drs. Bland and Irwin were allowed to present their own cases, and after many members of the Board had expressed their opinions the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

"That this Board, having heard the statements of Drs. Bland and Irwin, and thoroughly reviewed the facts of the case DO HEREBY ENDORSE the action of the Staff Committee."

A further resolution was passed unanimously:—

"That the Board, feeling that perhaps unintentionally it had in releasing Drs. Bland and Irwin from the staff at such a time that their Conferences had not provided appointments for them,