

## IMPRESSIONS OF LATE CONFERENCE

Methodist Church and Education—Basis of Union Approved

The twenty-fifth annual session of the British Columbia Conference, which was brought to a close last Wednesday in the Sixth Avenue Methodist church, Vancouver, was one of the most successful in the history of the Methodist church in this province.

The outstanding feature of the conference was the forward movement in educational work undertaken by the practically unanimous vote of the conference. For the past four years the Columbia College has been under the leadership of the Rev. W. J. Sippell, D.D., has been the one educational institution controlled by the Methodist church in this province.

But the work of Columbia College did not come into prominence until Dr. Sippell was called from the east to assume the duties of the head of the institution. Since that time there has been steady advance, and the number of students enrolled has increased year by year and many new buildings have been added to the plant. But with the advent of the Provincial University a new policy in educational matters had to be devised and a strong committee was appointed last year to report to the conference at its recent gathering.

This committee presented a programme for the consideration of the conference which leaves Columbia College in its present position, but as a secondary school. The sum of \$15,000 is to be provided to place Columbia College on a sound financial footing, and also to help make it one of the best secondary schools in the province. Columbia College, when the department was created for the conference, was valued at the sum of \$300,000, and secured to establish a theological college at Point Grey in affiliation with the Provincial University and a new board of governors was elected to carry this work to a successful conclusion. The Rev. E. W. Stapleford, B.A., the pastor of Sixth Avenue Methodist church, was appointed "college secretary" and he will commence his new duties on the 1st of June, leaving the pastorate for this purpose.

In connection with the debate which took place on the question of the university committee, Rev. Dr. Sippell took occasion to inform the conference that he was leaving for a two years' leave of absence, during which he hoped to attend some of the universities of other countries, in order to take post graduate work and to fit himself for greater usefulness in this province.

A resolution expressing the highest appreciation of the conference of the work which Dr. Sippell had accomplished for the church in its educational work was heartily and unanimously adopted. Many members of the conference bore tribute to the labors of the principal of Columbia College and the hope was expressed that he would return to British Columbia after his leave has expired to recommence his work in the training of the young life of the province. Rev. A. E. Hetherington, B.A., will be the acting principal of Columbia College during Dr. Sippell's absence.

The question of church union has been brought to the attention of the conference by resolution from the various district meetings, all of which reported in favor of organic union with the Presbyterian and Congregational churches. The committee having the matter under discussion presented a somewhat lengthy resolution which was amplified by agreement on the floor of the conference to read: "This conference expresses its approval of the basis of union as suggested by the joint committee on church union of the Congregational, Presbyterian and Methodist churches."

The debate that took place on this resolution brought forth some interesting speeches, the affirmative being led by the ex-presidents, Rev. R. Noyes Powell, and the negative by Rev. Dr. White, superintendent of missions. Dr. White favored the federation proposals rather than organic union. When the vote was counted it was found that the conference stood in favor of union by 89 to 12. This vote will be recorded and sent on to the general conference of the Methodist churches in the matter of further procedure looking towards the consummation of the union.

After all the other conferences of Canadian Methodism have expressed their opinion by vote, the question will be submitted in some definite form, to the individual churches. In the meantime "co-operating committees" are at work in every province endeavoring to adjust the work of the different churches that there may be no serious overlapping in the sending of missionaries to new fields.

The memorial service in honor of the ministers who had died during the year will be remembered. Two names were reported, the one, Rev. George T. Chenoweth, a young man just at the beginning of his career, the other the well-beloved pioneer, Rev. Ebenezer Robson, D.D. Suitable memorials were presented from the districts with which the names were connected and many of the members of the conference spoke in testimony of the life and worth of the departed. Especial interest centered around the case of Dr. Robson, and many who had been long in the province spoke of the large place Dr. Robson had filled in the life of this country. A special committee was arranged to undertake the care of the historical data which was in the possession of the late Dr. Robson, and it is expected that a selection of this material will shortly be made and put into book form for future reference.

The public services of the conference were of a very high order. The services on Sunday were marked with deep spirituality and were attended by very large congregations. In the morning

the Rev. Dr. Chown preached a very thoughtful sermon to the ordination class. It is expected that this sermon will appear in print, as many desired the opportunity of a closer study of the thoughts expressed. Those who were present at the ordination were: Edward D. Braden, E. Charles Fackley, and David W. Ganton, were ordained to the work of the Christian ministry by the president of the conference, Rev. A. E. Roberts, in connection with the general superintendent, Rev. Dr. Chown. William Boulton and Alfred E. Redman were ordained for special purposes, they not having quite completed their probationer's course.

On Sunday evening the Rev. Dr. Graham, the general secretary of the Educational Society of the Methodist church (a worthy successor to Rev. Dr. Fottis, of revered memory), preached an eloquent educational sermon from what has been known as a missionary text, "Go ye into all the world and teach all nations." He emphasized the words "teach" and "not preach" and spoke most convincingly of the church's call to support most heartily the work of higher education.

Monday evening last addresses were given on the subjects of temperance and moral reform by Alderman H. H. Stevens, of Vancouver, and Rev. T. Albert Moore, D.D., general secretary of the moral reform department. The subject of the church's relation to politics, while Dr. Moore spoke of the work of his department in all parts of Canada. Tuesday evening the Rev. Dr. Bartlett, the general secretary of Young People's Societies and Sunday schools, E. S. Learn, the successful superintendent of the Sixth Avenue school, spoke from the stand of the church's relation to the world. The Rev. Dr. Bartlett, the general secretary of Young People's Societies and Sunday schools, E. S. Learn, the successful superintendent of the Sixth Avenue school, spoke from the stand of the church's relation to the world. The Rev. Dr. Bartlett, the general secretary of Young People's Societies and Sunday schools, E. S. Learn, the successful superintendent of the Sixth Avenue school, spoke from the stand of the church's relation to the world.

The action of the general conference special committee in protecting against the famous pension decree was sustained by the British Columbia conference, and R. W. Harris, K. C., of Vancouver, was appointed to represent the conference when the department was created for the conference, was valued at the sum of \$300,000, and secured to establish a theological college at Point Grey in affiliation with the Provincial University and a new board of governors was elected to carry this work to a successful conclusion.

The report of the statistical committee showed that there was a net increase in the membership of the Methodist church in British Columbia of over 1,200 during the past year, and that the increase in missionary giving from all sources was over \$12,000. From every district came reports of great prosperity in church work, and the conference passed a resolution urging upon all pastors to undertake more direct evangelistic work in connection with the Sunday services.

The visit of the Rev. Geo. Jackson, M. A., of Toronto, aroused great interest, and the church was nearly filled with members who were anxious to give. Mr. Jackson frankly told the congregation that it was his intention to preach, and after a simple devotional opening hymn and prayer he began his message with a sermon of a very high spiritual tone. The sermons were listened to with intense interest, and made a deep impression upon all who were present.

On Sunday, May 14, Mr. Jackson preached in Wesley church in the morning and Mount Pleasant church in the evening, and the capacity of these large churches was taxed to its utmost to accommodate the crowds, who were eager to hear Mr. Jackson. A very hearty vote of appreciation was passed unanimously by the conference, and it was decided that the plan of securing some outstanding man of pulp or teaching ability each year for the conference gatherings should be continued.

On the final draft of the stationing committee some important changes were made in the list of stations. Rev. T. E. Holling, B.A., pastor of the Metropolitan church, was selected chairman of the Victoria district to succeed Rev. A. E. Roberts, who has been elected to the Westminister district by virtue of his office as president. Mr. Roberts becomes the pastor of the Chilliwack Methodist church, and will move to that city in June. The stationing list for the Victoria district is as follows:

Victoria (Metropolitan)—T. Ernest Holling, B.A., 916 Johnson street; Geo. W. Dean, Wm. Sheridan, superannuated; Albert J. Brace, supernumerary; John B. Heston, Motor Westminister district Recorder, by permission of the conference.

Victoria (Centennial)—Andrew Henderson, 612 David street.

Victoria (Victoria West)—James A. Wood, 724 Mary street.

Esquimalt—Thos. Keyworth (recommended as chaplain to the Imperial and Canadian forces).

Victoria (James Bay)—Arthur N. Miller, 206 Monckies street.

Victoria (Chinese mission)—To be supplied. (Chan Yu Tan).

Victoria (Japanese mission)—A. Kato, Strawberry Vale—Robert Wilkinson (Colquitz).

Sidney—Henry S. Hastings.

Geo. S. Hunt, left without a station at his own request.

Chas. M. Tate, superannuated.

T. E. Holling, chairman.

Jas. A. Wood, financial secretary.

H. S. Hastings, Sunday school secretary.

AWARDED HUNDRED DOLLARS.

Nelson, May 19.—One hundred dollars was awarded to a young man by a special jury to young Ross Slater for the pain and humiliation inflicted on him by A. E. Watts at Wattleburg in April, 1909, when he was thrashed at the great grange at that place and the story afterwards given to the press.

This brought to an end the suit of States v. Watts, which has occupied the attention of the courts of this public since the spring assizes last year when a verdict in favor of the defendant was given by a special jury and Chief Justice Hunter. On application to the appellate court of British Columbia a new trial was granted, chiefly on the grounds of misdirection of the jury. The present trial lasted four days and was attended by very large congregations. In the morning

## MAYOR MORLEY ON THE GRILL

ALDERMEN BOMBARD HIM WITH QUESTIONS

Council Decides to Ascertain Respective Rights of Parties to Racing Dispute

From Saturday's Daily.) Mayor Morley playing the ponies only four short years ago! Who would have thought it? Yet he did not deny it when the members of those sporting days were recalled to him by Alderman Humber in the city council last night. What a transformation to be sure; the once enthusiastic sportsman now the austere opponent of the horse race. The council was divided on the subject of the racing dispute, and the mayor's change of attitude was the subject of much discussion.

The vote of uncomfutable questions was continued by Alderman Moresby, who wanted to know if there was a communication addressed to the mayor and city council that had been received from the racing clubs, and if so, what it was. The mayor admitted that the letter had been received, but stated that it was addressed to the city solicitor.

After the breathing space which this escape afforded the civic head, Alderman Langley took up the thread of the argument and challenged the mayor to state why the action of last year had not been gone on with. The mayor rounded on the alderman with the statement that the matter was then in his (the alderman's) hands, and that it was his business to see that a new council had been elected since then, but to the mayor's mind this did not seem to matter at all. "You are very innocent," he said.

In his report on the attempt to stop the race meeting the city solicitor stated that from a study of the facts as shown in the documents, it would appear to be clearly established that the Agricultural Association has no statutory right to hold race meetings nor to hold any lands for the purpose of meetings; that under Bylaw 229, the association has simply the use and occupation of the property for its own purposes; that the land is not a statutory right, but a mere license.

The reading of the report awakened the aldermen to the fact that they had been kept in ignorance of the whole proceedings. Alderman Humber, in a tone of disgust, asked that the report be received and filed. The matter had been before the courts three times already, and he did not think they should put any more of the ratcatcher's money into the pockets of the lawyers for nothing.

Alderman Langley, however, adopted the report and the council then proceeded to consider the matter. The mayor, who had been sitting in the background, gave it as his opinion, that the lease and all arrangements made can be set aside. He also pointed out that there has never been any decision by the courts in this matter, and that the council should consider the same upon its merits. The Country Club's attitude has been to take advantage of one technicality after another, not allowing the merits to get before the courts.

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collect for the same purpose on the other side of the line, his worship added. "When these people are here we have to have extra policemen and extra patrolmen. The question is, shall the city control its own affairs or shall the Country Club control them?" It was at this point that Alderman Humber brought in his remonstrance of the mayor in a plug hat playing the ponies. His first point was: "Did you consult with the chairman of the legislative committee before instructing the city solicitor to apply for an injunction against the club?"

The mayor replied in the negative. The volleys of uncomfutable questions were continued by Alderman Moresby, who wanted to know if there was a communication addressed to the mayor and city council that had been received from the racing clubs, and if so, what it was. The mayor admitted that the letter had been received, but stated that it was addressed to the city solicitor.

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