

that the General Secretary be instructed to visit at the earliest possible date the Reserve at Gibson, and ascertain the condition of the Oka Indians there and afterwards those still remaining on the old Reserve; and in case he finds that the case of the latter would likely be improved by removal, then that he shall counsel with and advise them to accept the terms now offered for their removal, and thus put an end to this irritating and unprofitable difficulty.

2. Your Committee have learned with profound regret that no substantial advancement has been made toward the establishment of an Industrial Institute in Manitoba, the North-West, and British Columbia. It is well known that other religious denominations have secured very distinct advantages in this matter, which will, without doubt, exercise an increasingly beneficial influence upon the operations of the respective denominations thus favored. It will be remembered that at the last meeting of the Board a request was preferred that proper representations should be made to the Dominion Government regarding the interest of the Methodist Church, with a view of securing just recognition of our rights. Your Committee is aware that the Dominion of Canada rests under an obligation to the Methodist Church for the patriotic zeal and devoted loyalty uniformly manifested by her missionaries and people that it is not able to repay. It is, therefore, felt that something more definite and efficient must, if possible, be accomplished. Further delay, however occurring, should not be tolerated. Your Committee would advise the appointment of a committee which shall be specially charged with the conduct and adjudication of all matters affecting the interests of the Methodist Missionary Society with which the Dominion Government may have in any way to deal, and report from time to time the result of their operations to the Committee of Consultation and Finance.

4. Your Committee has gone into the letters and papers affecting the Memorial of the British Columbia Conference, and the matters involved therein, and would recommend an expression of approval by your Board of the action taken by the Committee of Consultation and Finance. There has been an apparently unnecessary delay in getting the matter finally settled, which cannot but be regretted. It does not seem advisable that the inquiry should be protracted any longer than is absolutely necessary. It is, therefore, recommended that the Committee of Consultation and Finance be instructed to press the matter with all urgency, that an authoritative deliverance may be had without delay, in order that the progress and development of our Church on the Pacific Coast may no longer be impeded by the non-settlement of the question involved in this matter.

5. Your Committee is advised that differences between your missionaries, teachers, and Indian agents have arisen at different points, apparently from the absence of respective jurisdiction being properly defined. It is also stated that questions have arisen as to the extent and use of property which teachers and missionaries may have in their possession. It cannot be questioned that every missionary and teacher sent out by the Missionary Society of the Methodist Church should feel, and the rest of the community should

feel, that the Methodist Church is fully committed to secure the recognition and enjoyment of every right that can be properly demanded for her officials and people. It is, therefore, recommended that immediate steps be taken by the Committee of Consultation and Finance to have properly ascertained and defined the rights and jurisdiction of the missionary, teacher, and Indian agent upon or connected with each Reserve; that each missionary and teacher may be secured in the enjoyment and use of his own personal property without interference; that the Dominion Government may be induced to undertake the maintenance of the schools on the Reserves; and that generally a distinct understanding and agreement may be had on all matters likely to arise in connection with the work and operations of your officials and agents on any of the different Reserves.

Woman's Missionary Society

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"Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion: for I will make thine horn iron, and I will make thy hoofs brass: and thou shalt beat in pieces many people: and I will consecrate their gain unto the Lord, and their substance unto the Lord of the whole earth."—MICAH iv. 13.

DECEMBER! The Christmas season! The time of all others, the year round, when kind words and good deeds stir all hearts. The time when, for a little, busy men and women pause, and recall joyous memories of a youth too fast slipping away, and strive to invest the present with the old-time enthusiasm. With the joyous tone which we all love to hear there mingles the minor key. Wishing a merry, a glad and happy season to all our readers, we cannot forget that over many homes dark clouds may hover, unbidden sorrow will overwhelm many hearts, vacant chairs will cause bitter tears to flow; yet through all this painful experience God may, and to His children does, come so near, with His comforting presence and His sure and faithful promises, that even in sorrow we may rejoice. The poor and neglected, the vicious and degraded, who know not God nor fear man, these need