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Issued by the Army and Navy Board of the Methodist Church

THE CHURCH, THE WAR AND PATRIOTISM

Report adopted by General Conference at Hamilton, 1918.

REPORT NO. 1.

We recommend that the following resolution be sent to the Right Honorable Sir Robert Borden, Prime Minister of Canada, and also presented to the Patriotic Meeting next Tuesday evening.

That this General Conference, speaking for a million Canadian Methodists, desires to assure the Prime Minister of its firm determination cheerfully to support whatever measures, and to accept any inconvenience, which may be required to make Canada's war effort adequate and efficient. We rejoice in the indications that enemy Governments are seriously reconsidering their constitution and international policy. But while we deprecate measures prompted by desire for revenge, we look to our national leaders, in co-operation with the Imperial and Allied Governments, to secure such a complete settlement of the world's political and military order as will be commensurate with the sacrifice made by the womanhood of the world and will crown with vindication and success the careers which have been arrested and the lives which have been laid down.

REPORT NO. 2.

Re the Mennonites: The attention of the Conference is drawn to the situation created in certain parts of Canada by various Mennonite Communities claiming exemption from military and other forms of National Service, and to the fact that the policies of the Provincial Governments which require inspection of public schools by state inspectors and compulsory school attendance has aroused opposition and protest in these communities. The official statistics, compiled from the 1916 census, show approximately 16,500 Mennonites in Manitoba, 19,000 in Saskatchewan, and 2,000 in Alberta.

We recommend that:

1. The action of the Government of Saskatchewan in adopting the policy of the inspection of schools, public and private; and of the Government of Manitoba in making compulsory the teaching of the English language be commended:

2. As the policy of segregating colonies of non-English settlers is inimical to the best interests of the nations, it be not approved: