

UNITED GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH.

SEVENTH DAY.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 12.

The seventh day's proceedings of the United Methodist Conference were resumed at nine o'clock this morning, Rev. Dr. Williams presiding.

After devotional exercises, the Committee on the Course of study presented their report.

The discussion on the name of the Church was resumed.

Rev. J. Lathern thought in the interests of peace and harmony the report of the committee should be adopted.

Mr. J. Edmondson thought it would be wrong for his body, the Primitive Methodists, to ask that their name be adopted, and on the same ground he held that it would be wrong for the strongest Church to press its name to be adopted. He approved of the name, "The Methodist Church."

A motion was made and carried that the vote be now taken, and the several amendments to the report were put and successively negatived.

The report of the committee recommending that the name be "The Methodist Church" was then adopted amid cheers.

Mr. John Macdonald gave the following notice of motion:—

"That it shall not be competent for any minister of the Methodist Church in active service to engage in secular work or to be a member of any secular boards for investing or trading purposes."

Rev. Dr. Stewart gave notice that he would move,

"That in view of the anticipated legal consummation of the union of the Methodist Churches of this Dominion this Conference provide for suitable religious services to be held throughout our whole Church at the time specified for entering on organization."

The Report of the Committee on Missions was then taken up. To the clause recommending the appointment of a superintendent of missions in the North-West,

Mr. John Kent moved in amendment,

"That in view of the fact that two superintendents have been elected, it is inexpedient that such an officer be appointed for the present."

Rev. Dr. Rice said the office in question was designed to meet the exigencies of the beginning of the work in the North-West. It was not intended as a permanent office, but at present that officer was needed all the time during the summer months. The work hitherto has been ably carried out by Rev. Dr. Young, and he trusted the conference would see its way clear to retain Dr. Young in the position.

Rev. W. C. Henderson and E. A. Russ supported the recommendation of the committee and Mr. J. A. Adams opposed it.

Rev. Dr. Ryckman said the vote for two general superintendents had certainly been swayed by the consideration that one of them would be able to turn his attention to the great mission field in the North-West, and he thought that idea should be carried out.

Rev. Dr. Young said he had supported the appointment of two general superintendents, supposing that one of them would devote his time to the North-West work. They could not afford to leave that work for any length of time. It required constant attention during the spring, summer, and autumn. His conviction was that unless one of the general superintendents gave more than a few weeks to the work, in fact devoted the whole of his time to it, they would find that other Churches would be doing the work which they were neglecting.

Mr. John Macdonald was in favor of the clause in the Report.

Rev. Dr. Potts said he hoped that if the conference were not prepared to appoint a general Superintendent of missions for the North-West they would refer the matter to the Central Board of Missions. If in the wisdom of that board there should be a pressing need for the continuance of such an officer it would be a great pity if the missionary authorities of the Church should not have the power to carry on the work.

Judge Dean supported the report of the committee.

Rev. Dr. Stone and Rev. S. F. Huestis thought the general superintendents could efficiently look after the work.

Hon. Senator Ferrier recognised the importance of the North-West mission field. He thought that it would require all the time of the general superintendents to attend to it, and even then they would find the assistance of such a gentleman as Dr. Young necessary.

On the vote being taken, Mr. Kent's resolution was adopted, the appointment of a missionary superintendent thus being negatived.

The remaining clauses of the report were then proceeded with.

The clause recommending annual conference treasurers was eliminated. Several clauses had been adopted when the conference took recess.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The president took the chair at two o'clock.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Annual Conference Boundaries was read as follows:—

"That where there are Bible Christian Churches in Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritime Provinces, which are now in connection with the Bible Christian Church of Canada, therefore resolved, 'that the whole question of the future relation, if any, which these Churches shall sustain to the Methodist Church be referred to the General Conference Special Committee."

The recommendation was agreed to. Rev. W. W. Percival moved that the question of the names of the annual conferences be reconsidered. Carried.

Rev. Mr. Percival then moved that the proposed names of the Bay of Quinte and Niagara conferences be changed to Belleville and Hamilton respectively. He objected to the former names on the ground of indefiniteness and want of euphony. He held that it would be nothing but an act of gracefulness on the part of the conference to remember the city where this august assembly was being held, and with regard to the latter conference, it did not look reasonable that it should bear the name of the insignificant town of Niagara and the prosperous city of Hamilton receive the go-by.

Rev. Dr. Aylesworth seconded the motion.

Rev. Dr. Rice moved in amendment that the name of the Bay of Quinte Conference be changed to Belleville. As the people of Belleville were anxious for the change he was willing to concede it, but wished to retain the name of Niagara.

Rev. Dr. Allison sincerely trusted that the conference would adhere to its original action. The vote being taken.

Rev. Dr. Rice's motion was declared carried.

Rev. S. Bond moved in amendment to the clause,

"That the Japan, Victoria, New Westminster, and Fredericton districts shall be considered missionary districts, and the Central Board may appropriate directly to each mission in these districts."

The report was adopted, as also the second report, which appears above.

The report of the Committee on the Publishing Interests was next considered. It recommended among other things that the Halifax and Toronto book-rooms of the Methodist Church of Canada be continued by the united Church; that the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist, and Bible Christian book establishments be continued until the 1st of July next, or until whatever time the united Church shall begin its legal existence; that the *Canada Christian Advocate*, *Christian Journal* and the *Observer* be discontinued at the same time, and that the *Christian Guardian* be sent for the remainder of the year to subscribers to those journals. If any of these papers are circulating in the Maritime Provinces, a similar course shall be pursued by supplying the WEBSITE.

The expediency of opening a branch book-room and publishing a weekly paper in Winnipeg had been under consideration of the committee, and they were of the opinion that should a suitable building be provided by friends in that city it might be expedient to open a book-room there at no distant date.

Regarding the proposition to issue a weekly paper there, it was recommended that the western section of the Book Committee be authorized to consider the whole matter, and to adopt such measures as might be deemed necessary. The Methodist hymn-book now used in the Methodist Church of Canada is recommended to be adopted by all the congregations of the united Church. The congregations of the other three uniting bodies may use the hymn-books now in use in the churches until the present supply of such books is exhausted.

This clause was adopted and the report was agreed to.

The second report of the Committee on Temperance recommended:—

1. On temperance in the home and Sunday-school. The characters of our children are for the most part made marred in the home, and we should earnestly desire all people to have family pledges cards in their homes on which the names of the parents and children shall be written, and our Sunday-schools, working in harmony with the home, shall organize as far as possible Bands of Hope or other juvenile societies, and establish meetings at least once every three months in each school.

We also recommend the introduction of lessons on temperance as important aids in the education of children in the home and school.

2. With reference to the introduction of temperance text-books in the Common Schools, we recommend that the same be done, and recommend that the necessary steps be taken in conjunction with others to secure the accomplishment of this desirable end.

3. The pen is mightier than the sword; use it then to the utmost to advance the cause of temperance and prohibition by circulating papers and information.

4. The Canadian Temperance Act of 1878, known as the Scott Act, is the only form of prohibition we have on the statute books of the Dominion, and believing it to be made productive of great good to the cause of ultimate prohibition, we recommend our people in every country where it is not now in force to adopt it for the submission of the same to a vote of the people.

The Conference then took recess.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The President took the chair at two o'clock.

The report of the Committee on Education was read, the following being its salient points:—

1. That it is the sense of this committee that both Victoria and Albert colleges be continued for the present in active operation in the full exercise of all their powers.

2. That the ultimate object to be reached shall be first, the establishment of a consolidated university for the Methodist Church, and secondly, the maintenance of Albert College, a high class academic institution in Belleville.

3. That the practical amalgamation of university work be committed to a large commission to arrange for the consolidation of the universities as rapidly as it can be done with financial safety.

4. That the following be the commission for the consolidation of the universities:—Dr. Rice, Nelles, Potts, Burwash, J. A. Williams, Carmichael, & Sherland, Ryckman, W. I. Shewell, J. Sutherland, J. M. McLaren, W. Kerr, G. A. Cox, Jas. Mills, Mr. MacDonald, W. E. Sanford, J. J. MacLaren, J. B. Rose, W. G. Godleman, R. J. Walker, J. Aylesworth, B. F. Austin, J. Gillard, Drs. Jaques, Badgley, Aylesworth, Morden, Burdett, Revs. A. Campbell, Stratton, and J. J. Rice.

The report on the celebration of the centenary of the organization of Methodism in America recommended that the invitation of the Methodist Episcopal Church of America to take part in the celebration be cordially accepted.

The third report of the Committee on Temperance was presented. It recommended the appointment of an agent, or agents, whose whole time shall be employed in the temperance work of the Church, whenever such arrangements can be made as shall warrant such action.

The report of the Committee on Finance was presented. It stated that the salaries and travelling and incidental expenses of the general superintendents until the next General Conference will be \$13,500. The expenditure for the following interests is expected to be:—Transfer Com-

mittee, \$750; Court of Appeal, \$250; delegation, \$600; General Conference committees, \$200; legislation, \$1,000; travelling expenses of delegates to next General Conference, \$6,000; or a total expenditure of \$22,300. It is recommended that this amount be raised by an annual collection to be held in the month of July.

Consideration of the report on the publishing interests was resumed. On the clause providing for granting \$2,000 from the book-room profits to the superannuation fund.

Rev. W. S. Griffin moved that the Book Committee be required to appropriate not less than .5 per cent. of the net profits of the business to the superannuation fund.

Rev. Dr. Douglas was glad that this question had been brought forward. He was in favor of a large share of the profits being devoted to the superannuation fund.

Rev. Dr. Rice advocated the extension of the business rather than paying away all its profits.

Mr. John Macdonald said that undue haste of the friends of the superannuation fund might injure the prospects of the bookroom. It was infinitely safer to put a small amount away to the rest for improved machinery and other things than to have no fund to fall back upon.

Rev. Wm. Briggs said that as presented there were over one hundred employees engaged in the establishment at Toronto, as compared with twenty when he first became connected with it. The progress that had been made entitled the purchasing of new machinery, and he thought it advisable that the Book Committee should not be crippled in their effort to extend the business. He said the committee would make a good grant to the superannuation fund, and if they could see their way clear would no doubt increase it.

Rev. Mr. Griffin's amendment was negatived by a large majority. The remaining clauses were gone through, and the report as a whole was adopted.

The education report was next taken up.

Rev. A. Stafford moved the adoption of a clause providing that,

"Inasmuch as there are in the Province of Manitoba two regular constituted bodies holding charters for the establishment of collegiate institutions, one that of the Wesley College, the other that of Trinity College, of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, and another that of the Anglican, and the Friends' educational work, this conference appoint an addition to the board of Wesley College, such board having full power to secure the necessary legislation for the amalgamation of the two Churches, to employ professors and tutors, and to complete all necessary arrangements for the commencement of an educational institution at such time as the board might deem expedient."

This clause was adopted and the report was agreed to.

Judge Dean moved for the appointment of a committee to prepare a respectful and affectionate address to the Conference of the Bible Christian Church in England, setting forth the happy union which had been effected among all the members of the Methodist families in this Dominion, and urging upon them with the greatest respect reasons which we think should prevail with them in giving their consent to the Bible Christian Conference in this country going into this union, and asking for them and for this whole Church the good-will and blessing of the venerable fathers and brethren of the English Bible Christian Church.

Mr. John Macdonald suggested in addition that the address be presented by a deputation to be appointed by the conference.

The resolution was supported by a number of speakers.

Rev. G. Webber said that from a letter he had received from England last Monday the difficulties would soon be smoothed over. The English Conference did not regard itself as owners of the Bible Christian Church property in this country. That could be clearly shown. By the figures which had been carefully compiled, slightly over \$6,000 worth was reported as being in existence prior to 1854, so that \$388,000 of their present property in Canada had been accumulated since they became independent in that year. He was sure there would be no real difficulty placed in the way, so far as legislative action was concerned, the friends across the ocean had no disposition to create difficulty in that way. He hoped a deputation would be sent, but if an address were presented it would have weight with the English Conference, and being laid before the executive meeting next month it would be considered, and no doubt they would be prepared to accept it.

That part of the resolution referring to a deputation was by leave expunged, and the motion was then adopted.

The conference took recess.

EVENING SESSION.

The president took the chair at 7.30. The fifth report of the Committee on Discipline was taken up.

On the seventh clause, regarding young ministers, a motion was made that it be expunged.

Rev. J. Wakefield moved in amendment that it be retained. He believed the rule was of advantage to the Church. It was not a fact that it was a dead letter.

After some discussion,—Rev. Mr. Wakefield's motion was lost by 53 to 40. The rule is therefore eliminated.

Several clauses of the report were adopted, and the conference adjourned at 10 p.m.

NOW READY
OUR NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL BOOK,
DOMINION HYMNAL
Containing 302 Hymns,
FOR
Sunday-school and Social Worship.

PRICES:
Music Edition.
Bound in Board Covers, per copy.....\$0.60
" " per dozen.....\$0.50

Words Only.
Bound in paper, 7c, per copy; 75 cents per dozen.....\$0.60 per hundred.
Bound in limp cloth, 10c, per copy \$1.00 per dozen.....8.00 "

Address
S. F. HUESTIS
141 Granville Street, Halifax, N.S.

METHODIST HYMN BOOK.

8vo., or Pulpit Size, Pica Type, Leaded.

Persian Morocco, gilt edges.....\$4.00
Morocco, gilt edges.....5.00

12mo. or Old People's Size, Pica Type.

Cloth, sprinkled edges.....1.50
Roan, sprinkled edges.....2.00
Morocco, gilt edges.....3.50
Morocco, extra gilt, gilt edges.....4.25

18 mo., Small Pica Type.

Cloth, sprinkled edges.....0.80
Roan, sprinkled edges.....1.10
French Morocco, red edges.....1.25
French Morocco, limp, gilt edges.....1.40
French Morocco, boards, gilt edges.....1.50
Morocco, limp, gilt edges.....1.80
Morocco, boards, gilt edges.....2.00
Calf, Marble edges.....2.50

24mo., Brevier Type.

Roan, sprinkled edges.....0.80
French Morocco, limp.....1.00
French Morocco, boards.....1.10
Morocco, gilt edges.....1.50

Small Flat 32mo., Pearl Type.

Cloth, sprinkled edges.....0.30
Roan, sprinkled edges.....0.45
French Morocco, gilt edges.....0.70
Morocco, limp, gilt edges.....1.00
Morocco, boards, gilt edges.....1.10
Morocco, extra gilt, gilt edges.....1.50
Large Flat Crown 8vo., Brev. Type

Franç. Morocco, gilt edges.....0.60
French Morocco, limp, gilt edges.....1.20
French Morocco, boards, gilt edges.....1.25
Morocco, limp, gilt edges.....1.75
Morocco, extra gilt, gilt edges.....2.25
Levant Morocco, limp, kid lined, yapped, gilt edges.....2.75
Full Morocco, gilt edges, with boxed edges like Bagters Bibes.....3.50

Large Type edition Crown Octavo.

Morocco, gilt edges, board edges.....5.00
Morocco, kid lined, gilt edges, yapped.....6.00

SALESMAN
FOR THE

FONTHILL NURSERIES