

CARVIAN-JACKSON CONTROVERSY AVOIDED
CONFERENCE TAKES A VERY DECIDED STANDCandidates Will Not Be
Examined As To Theo-
logical Views.MIGHT AROUSE
MANY DOUBTSIn the Minds of the Probationers
Which It Would Be Well
To Avoid.

At this morning's session of the London Conference the question as to whether the candidates should be examined in full conference on their theological views, was fully discussed, and finally by an almost unanimous vote it was decided that no such action should be taken.

It was the general opinion that the examination could do no good, and would only arouse doubts as to the orthodoxy of the candidates for ordination which were in no way justified, and finally by an almost unanimous vote it was decided that no such action should be taken.

There was a general feeling that the question of examining the candidates was only an excuse for opening again the discussion on the Carvian-Jackson controversy, which the great majority of the members desired to avoid.

The Motion.

The first order of business to come up at the morning session was the motion of Dr. Gundy, laid over from yesterday, that the ministerial conference place itself on record as profoundly convinced of the necessity of sound theological views on the part of those ordained to the ministry, and that they be examined before the conference on these matters.

A motion that the vote be now taken was vigorously opposed.

"I do not think it is right to shut off all discussion," said Rev. W. J. Joliffe.

"I'm British enough to be a staunch enemy of the closure," remarked the president, Rev. Mr. Ford, "I would suggest that in place of this public examination a commission might be appointed to examine these young men, I move this."

The Dark Ages.

"I do not like this going back into the dark ages. You can no more tell what a man's theological views are by a public examination than you can by what sort of chickens are in a coop by putting your hands on the outside. I think that we should not act this way, because it makes it appear that we cannot trust these men."

"I am sorry that the speeches yesterday seemed to throw some reflection on the young men. They have been examined by their own district meeting."

"I think it is unfair to our young men. I don't take my theological views from Dr. Gundy or any other man."

"You may open this whole dispute without achieving any result, and I think it very unwise."

Dr. Gundy replied warmly to this speech.

Dr. Gundy's Reply.

"I have tried to throw no reflections on the college, and, therefore, I brought up no question in that recommendation that would reflect on the college authorities. It is not a question of challenging the college, but merely of asserting our prerogative of examining those for whom we stand responsible. I would be quite willing to join with Dr. Cooke in suggesting a commission in place of a public examination before the conference. I do not ask anyone to express a want of confidence in the college, but merely to maintain our self-respect by maintaining our own prerogatives."

Rev. Jasper Wilson held that the examination of candidates was wholly unnecessary.

Examination Unnecessary.
"The district meeting," said Mr. Wilson, "was satisfied with their orthodoxy, and they were surely as good authorities as any commission. We are only starting a suspicion against their orthodoxy by countenancing such a motion."

Rev. J. F. Knight, one of the men who was examined by the conference two years ago at Goderich, arose to combat the motion of Dr. Gundy, the gentleman who had conducted the examination on that occasion.

Definition of God.

"The first question that was put to me when I was examined," said Mr. Knight, "was 'What is your definition of God?' and I challenge Dr. Gundy to answer his own question."

"Is there any man here who in a few minutes could give an answer to that question when the ages have left it still unsolved? If there is such a man I would like to hear him speak. If we could define God he wouldn't be God, but a man-made creation."

A Suspicion of Heresy.

"I want to my circuit after that examination with a strong suspicion of heresy resting upon me, and you have no right to handicap these young men that way. Surely we can believe that if men like Chancellor Burwash and Dr. Wallace did not find any taint of heresy in six years' work with these men, it will not likely be discovered by any commission you might appoint."

Undignified Position.

"We are placing ourselves in a very undignified position," said Rev. G. F. Salton, of Stratford.

"We are not placing ourselves in any such position," said Dr. Gundy.

"When you charge these men as being adepts in the art of fencing," replied Mr. Salton, "you show some warmth."

(Continued on Page Nine)

REV. GEO. N. HAZEN WANTED
TO CENSOR PRESS REPORTS

But the London Conference Would Not Submit to This—Qualifications of Candidates for the Ministry Were Enumerated at This Morning's Meeting—An Interesting Session.

After the vote had been taken on the question of examining the probationers in full conference at the Methodist Conference today, Rev. Mr. Hazen said:

"As this is a ministerial session, which is private, I move that the reports for the newspapers be presented to the president of the conference for his approval."

"I cannot imagine any newspaper of this city publishing anything more discreditable to the conference than the motion just suggested," said Rev. Mr. Pearson. "I think the day has gone by when we can do things in this hole and corner fashion, and it would be degrading to the extreme to ask for conference supervision of these reports."

"If we had wished to exclude the press we should have done it before the discussion was taken place. When we come to place the press under a censorship we will set ourselves a bad name. We have nothing to hide, and I think the finest specimen of mankind he had ever seen, and had won the mile in record time at Sarnia."

Good Word for the Press.

The press has often been very kind to us in publishing some very dry sermons, and now that they have a little juicy matter to report I don't think we should rob them of it."

The motion was then put and lost by a large majority.

Standing of Probationers.

The remainder of the morning was taken up with the reports on standing of probationers.

In reporting of Alvin Ernest Millson, of the Ridgeway district, Rev. R. Irwin, remarked that his faith was strong. "He believed in Methuselah and the flood—and a personal devil, at least he did when I was there."

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