

Further discussion was postponed, and the Assembly adjourned at 10 o'clock.

EIGHTH DAY—MORNING SEDERUNT.

The report of the Committee on Theological Education with reference to the conferring of Degrees in Divinity was resumed this morning.

Principal Caven moved a resolution to the effect that the General Assembly sanction the principle of the report which proposes to establish a University for the purpose of conferring Degrees in Divinity, with which the several Theological Colleges of the Church could become affiliated, and that further action be postponed till next Assembly.

The motion was seconded by Dr. Waters, who believed that the scheme would tend to unite and consolidate the Colleges of the Church and to raise the standard of theological education.

Hon. A. Morris moved an amendment to the effect that a committee be appointed maturely to consider the proposed scheme, to report to next Assembly.

Rev. Dr. Ure, seconded by Rev. W. Moore, moved a further amendment, "That the Assembly deem it inexpedient to sanction the principle of the creation of such a University as that recommended in the report, but agree to send the whole matter to Presbyteries, with instructions to report as to the principle involved, at next Assembly."

Rev. Dr. Topp, Rev. Messrs. McLeod of Stratford, McMullen of Woodstock, Burnfield of Brockville, Dr. Macdonald of Hamilton, and Principal McVicar of Montreal, spoke in favour of the scheme; and Principal McKnight, Rev. Messrs. McLennan of Charlottetown, Forrest of Halifax, Macdonnell of Toronto, and Messrs. Jas. Croil and J. McLennan advocated delay.

A vote being taken, the amendment of Dr. Ure was carried by a majority and the Assembly decided in terms thereof.

In the afternoon the Committee on the Hymn Book presented their report of the Presbyteries reporting as to the hymns sent down by the Committee. Sixteen express general approval, two disapprove, and seven recommend the matter to be recommitted for another year. The Committee carefully considered the suggestions of Presbyteries, and recommended the addition of fifty-five hymns to the collection sent down. The Committee asked to be re-appointed with instructions to make the book as complete as possible and to publish it for the use of the Church.

An overture from the Synod of London and Hamilton was read, asking the enlargement of the Committee and further time to consider the subject. It was supported by Messrs. McMullen of Woodstock, McLeod of Paris, and Murray of London.

Dr. Jenkins moved, seconded by Mr. Forrest of Halifax, the adoption of the Committee's report. This was supported by Dr. Bennett of St. John, N.B., Messrs. Mitchell, Armstrong and McLeod (Stratford) spoke in opposition to this motion.

Principal Caven moved an amendment in effect that the report be received, and the committee thanked for their diligence; that the Assembly fully appreciate the progress made, and re-appoint the committee with instructions to continue their labours for the improvement of the collection, giving full consideration to criticisms of Presbyteries forwarded them, or which may yet be forwarded, to report at next meeting of Assembly; and further, that Presbyteries be invited to assist the committee, by remitting them any well considered suggestions they may deem important.

A vote being taken the amendment was declared carried. In the evening a communication was read from a British committee on the Waldensian Church, asking assistance to increase the salaries of the missionaries of that church. Rev. Mr. Sproat was heard on behalf of the mission, and the Assembly expressed its sympathy with the Waldensian Church.

Dr. Topp, on behalf of the Judicial Committee, presented a report on the appeal as to the Perth organ case. The report recommended that the appeal be dismissed and that the Presbytery in any future proceedings should adopt the best means to secure peace in the congregation of Knox Church, Perth.

Messrs. Dodds and Halliday, appellants, were heard and after considerable discussion and the voting down of an amendment by Mr. McMullen of Woodstock, the report of the Committee was adopted.

Rev. R. H. Warden presented the report of the Committee to whom were referred the Home Mission Reports. The report was received and its consideration delayed till tomorrow.

The Rev. D. Ross, missionary-elect to Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, addressed the house briefly. The Assembly expressed their sympathy with Mr. Ross and his mission, and Principal Grant, at the request of the Moderator, commended him and his family to the care and protection of the Great Head of the Church.

NINTH DAY—MORNING SEDERUNT.

The attendance of members was perceptibly smaller this morning though nearly 150 were present till the noon recess when the numbers were reduced to about 80 or 90.

Mr. R. Murray, on behalf of the Hymn Committee, presented a report recommending: (1) That the Committee be empowered to make such arrangements as would secure the copyright. (2) That Presbyteries be instructed to forward suggestions prior to the end of November. (3) That the Committee be authorized to make preparations for suitable music for the hymns, and (4) That the past expenses of the Committee be paid out of the Assembly Fund.

The report was adopted.

Mr. R. H. Warden submitted the report of the Committee on the Home Mission reports. After lengthened consideration the recommendations, as amended, were adopted as follows:—

1. That the Assembly place upon record its thankfulness for the large measure of success which, by the blessing of God, has crowned the labours of its home missionaries during the past year.

2. That the thanks of the General Assembly be given to the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland, the Free Church of Scotland, and the Presbyterian of the Church of Ireland for their continued interest in our Home Mission work and their contributions in aid thereof; and also to the Students' Missionary Societies of our several Colleges for their valuable services during the year.

3. That the Assembly approve of the changes suggested by the Committee on continuous supply, and grant leave to the Committee of the western section to supplement the congregations of Holslover and Victoria as asked by the Presbyteries of Lindsay and Hamilton.

4. That the Assembly approve of the appointment of the Rev. Donald Ross to Prince Albert, North-West Territory, and commend him and his field to the special interest of the Church.

5. That the Assembly instruct the Home Mission Committee (Western Section) to take such action as may secure the payment in full of the 25 per cent, which the Committee were reluctantly constrained from lack of funds to withhold from the several Presbyteries of the Church in April last for the services rendered during the preceding half-year.

6. That the Assembly approve of the resolution of the Supplementing Committee of the Maritime Provinces respecting the payment of the half-yearly supplements due on the 1st July next, with this modification, that one-half, to be obtained by loan, shall be paid on the 1st July, and the other half so soon as the funds are supplied by the congregations, which, it is confidently hoped, will be by the 1st of October.

7. That the request of the Committee of the Western Section as to the reduction of the salaries of the Manitoba missionaries be not acceded to, but that these salaries be paid as heretofore; and that the attention of the Presbytery of Manitoba be specially directed to the twelfth recommendation of this report.

8. That the request of the Committee of the Eastern Section, as to Manitoba College, be not acceded to, but that that Committee be required to contribute \$500 and the Western Committee \$2,000 as formerly for the support of the Manitoba College.

9. The Committee report the following as their estimate of the amount required for the ensuing year, which estimate is based on the payment in full of grants for the current six months:

Western Section—Debt at present	\$11,000
For the year's work	35,000
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	\$46,000
Eastern Section—Debt at present	\$ 2,400
For the year's work	11,000
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	\$13,400

The Committee recommend that instead of making a special appeal for the removal of the present deficits, there be but one appeal embracing the deficits and the current year's expenditure combined; and that congregations be instructed to forward contributions to the respective treasurers as early as possible (there being due on the 1st of October about \$32,000, including the present debt), so as to warrant the Committees paying in full all grants, and to render unnecessary the reduction of 25 per cent, as contemplated by the Committee of the Western Section.

10. That a Committee be appointed consisting of the Moderator, Dr. Waters, Messrs. C. B. Pitblado, D. J. Macdonnell, R. H. Warden, J. L. Blaikie and W. B. McMurrich to prepare a short appeal to the members and adherents of the Church, setting forth the condition and requirements of the fund—to be signed by the Moderator; that the Assembly enjoin every minister to read this appeal from the pulpit on some Lord's day on or before the last Sabbath of September next, and to afford opportunity to every individual to contribute by subscription or in any other way that the Session or Deacon's Court may have previously resolved upon; and enjoin further, that Presbyteries take order at their first meeting thereafter and that this injunction is complied with, and that Presbyteries report to next Assembly; and further, that a copy of this appeal be addressed to each Presbytery together with a statement of the amount which may reasonably be expected as the fair proportion of the Presbytery's share of the total sum required.

11. That it be an instruction to the Committees in their future administration of the work to equalize the expenditure and income of each year.

12. That it be an instruction to the Committees to entertain no applications for new grants or for the continuance of old ones for either supplemented congregations or mission stations unless there be laid on the table of the Committee an extract minute of the Presbytery making the application, showing that the grants have been revised since the meeting of Assembly, and that deputies have visited the supplemented congregations and mission stations within the bounds with a view to the reduction of the grants.

13. That it be an instruction to the Committees to entertain no new applications for grants until the state of the funds shall warrant them in so doing.

14. That the foregoing resolutions be printed and a copy forwarded to each Presbytery without delay.

The report of the Lumbermen's Mission as also that of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbytery of Kingston were read and received, and the pleasure of the Assembly expressed at the success of the work entrusted to these committees.

The Knox College Report was considered and adopted. The Board were encouraged to continue their efforts to remove the indebtedness on the ordinary fund, and the ministers of the church were instructed to bring the subject of Ministerial Education before their people on the first Sabbath of November.

The Queen's College Report was adopted, as also those of Halifax and Montreal.

Mr. W. Moore, on behalf of a Committee appointed to consider the question of the territorial bounds of the Colleges of the Western Section of the Church, presented a report recommending: (1) That there be no change made in

the territorial bounds. (2) That the Treasurer of the Western Colleges pay \$500 to Montreal College for the current year. (3) That a Committee be appointed to consider the whole question of the support of Theological Colleges in the Western Section, to report to next Assembly.

After considerable discussion and the voting down of an amendment, the recommendations were adopted.

The Report of the Committee on Theological Education was adopted on motion of Principal Caven.

The following finding was adopted, on motion of Principal Grant, as to Manitoba College:—(1.) That the liability of the General Assembly be limited to the payment of professors' salaries \$3,400, and that the Board of Management be strictly enjoined to incur no expense which they are not prepared to meet from local sources. (2.) That the Committee to be appointed in the ordinary fund of Manitoba College consider the whole question of the condition of the institution and its future maintenance, and report to the next General Assembly. (3.) That the Assembly express its sympathy with Dr. Patterson, in the difficulties encountered by him, and that his report be also referred to the Committee above named for final settlement. (4.) That the Committee of last year be re-appointed, with the addition of Rev. M. W. MacLean.

Messrs. McGregor, Owen and Anderson were, on application of the Presbytery of Manitoba, permitted to pursue their studies under the care of that Presbytery.

The Report of the Committee on the Ordination of Roman Catholic Priests was sent down to Presbyteries with instructions to report their views at next Assembly as to the validity of the ordination of the Church of Rome.

The Report of the Board of French Evangelization was adopted, thankfulness recorded for the success of the work, and the hope expressed that the Church would provide the amount asked by the Board for the current year.

The several overtures in favour of a General Sustentation Fund were read. Messrs. McMullen, P. M. McLeod, R. H. Warden, Principal Caven and others spoke in favour of the principle of such a fund, and a motion was carried appointing a Committee to prepare a scheme and report to next meeting of the Assembly. The Committee was composed of Revs. D. J. Macdonnell, Alex. Gilray, W. T. McMullen, J. Thompson (Sarnia), D. M. Gordon, R. H. Warden, R. Campbell, Dr. McNish, Thomas Sedgwick, E. A. McCurdy, John McMillan, R. M. McCready, and Elders R. Murray, J. K. Blair, G. Underwood, Dr. Norrice, A. C. Hutchinson, Colin McDougall, W. Mitchell, Dr. McDonald, and H. B. McMurrich.

After transacting one or two other matters of no public interest, the Assembly adjourned.

TENTH DAY—MORNING SEDERUNT.

The Assembly was constituted in the usual manner.

ESTIMATES FOR CHURCH SCHEMES.

Overtures were read from several members of the Assembly respecting the prospective estimates required for Church schemes, and recommending that a committee be appointed to make a probable estimate of what may be required to carry on the general work of the Church till next Assembly, and the proportion per church member that should be contributed to each of the said schemes, it being understood that in making the estimate referred to,

1. Due regard be had to the constituencies assigned to the Home Mission Committees respectively and to the College Committees respectively. Further, that said Committees include persons to have the management of the various schemes of the Church, with instructions to report to the Assembly as soon as practicable.

2. That Presbyteries be enjoined to communicate the information thus acquired to the congregations and Mission stations under their care, and to encourage them to contribute accordingly.

3. That congregations that have hitherto contributed more per member than such a general scheme of giving would require, be encouraged to continue and even to increase their contributions, with the view of removing as soon as possible the debt already contracted.

4. That congregations, knowing at the commencement of the year the amount they should seek to raise and the proportion in which they should distribute their funds to the schemes of the Church, be encouraged to send their contributions monthly or quarterly to the agent of the Church.

Moved by Dr. Waters, seconded by Rev. A. McL. Sinclair, That the principle of the overture be adopted by the Assembly, and that the Finance Committee be appointed a joint Committee to correspond with the Chairman of the various Standing Committees and Board of the Church with the view of ascertaining the amount annually required for their departments, and also to make their approximate estimates, not only of the total amount required, but also of what may be required for each scheme respectively, and the average amount that should be contributed by each member of the Church, and to communicate the estimates to the Presbyteries that all the congregations may be instructed and encouraged to bear their share of the general expenses of the Church, it being understood that the estimates made by the Committee shall not be considered authoritative, but merely a reliable guide to the congregations.

The motion was adopted.

THE STATE OF RELIGION.

Rev. Dr. McKnight presented, on behalf of the Convener Rev. T. Duncan, Halifax, the report of the Committee on the State of Religion. He moved that the General Assembly receive the report, thank the committee, and especially those seasons of spiritual refreshing enjoyed in several localities; and in reference to the evils complained of in the returns, as intemperance, the influence of sceptical and frivolous literature, and especially the worldliness reported as widely prevalent and injurious, the General Assembly deplore the same, and urge that supplications be made for a season of refreshing grace from the presence of the Lord.

The motion was adopted.

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