

cluding those who preferred universities of a freer type, and who were showing the depth of their preference or faith by their works.

The other universities protested. They would have been destitute of self-respect if they had kept silence. Besides, the proposal received no favour from the general public. It would have fallen still-born, even had Queen's, Trinity and Victoria uttered no word of protest. When it was found that an appeal for Toronto University alone would be made in vain, a roundabout method of accomplishing the object was tried. It was resolved to divide the opposition. It was repeatedly stated that "the Methodists were the key to the position." In other words, if Methodist opposition could be silenced, it was believed that sufficient political support could be obtained for something like the original proposal. The Minister of Education called a series of conferences, to which representatives or delegates from the four universities, as well as from several divinity schools in Toronto, were invited. Ostensibly as the result of these conferences, the so-called "Confederation Scheme" was drawn up. The truth of the matter is, that no progress whatever was made at the first two conferences, and so far as could be ascertained from conversations with the delegates, no one expected any to be made at the third and last. However, in the interval between the second and third, the Confederation Scheme was drawn up, as the result of private interviews and a private gathering of delegates who happened to be in Toronto. Great was the astonishment of the representatives of Queen's, when the Scheme was produced in printed form at the opening of the third conference. The Chancellor and myself, however, remained, giving what little help we could on the details of the Scheme that had been accepted

by the majority. The first glance had been enough to convince us that it was not intended for and would not suit Queen's. Still, it was our duty to do all that could be done, and then to submit the Scheme to our constituents without a word. After a few days' delay, insisted upon by us at the close of the conference, in order that we might have time to explain to the Trustees and Council of Queen's that we were in no way committed, the Scheme was given to the public. As soon as it was presented to our constituency it was unanimously rejected. The more it was canvassed, the worse it looked. Some of our professors who favoured Confederation in the abstract, utterly rejected this particular concrete. Men, who had never agreed on anything before, agreed in condemning this new model of a university. Everything that has occurred in the two years that have passed since, has convinced us that, in the interests of the country, in the interests of university education, and in the interests of Queen's, we took the right position.

Last September, the Methodist Conference decided that the Scheme would do for Victoria, and the Government promised the necessary legislation. Doubtless, before this is printed, the proposed legislation will have been submitted to the House and be before the country. We have a right to hope that sufficient time will be given for consideration before it is voted on.

I have been asked by the Editor of THE EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY to state what attitude Queen's takes now. Though no meeting of the University Council or the Board of Trustees has been held since last September, I shall endeavour to comply with the request to the best of my ability.

Associations of graduates and of benefactors in different places have