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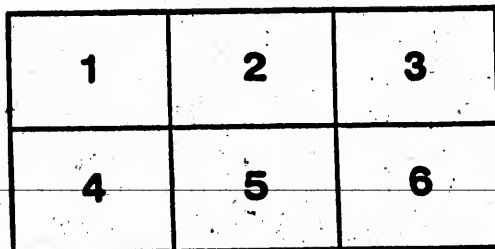
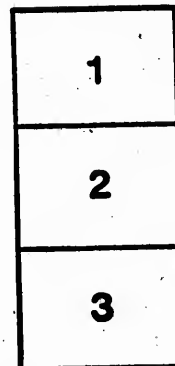
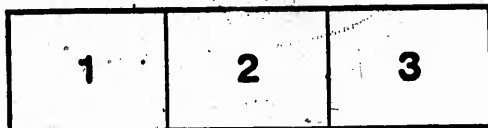
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A DIGEST

OF THE

REGULATIONS FOR THE RE-ADJUSTMENT AND
AMALGAMATION OF THE WORK IN
CIRCUITS, DISTRICTS, AND
CONFERENCES,

AS DIRECTED BY THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH,

AT ITS SESSION IN THE CITY OF BELLEVILLE,
SEPTEMBER 5TH, 1883.

BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

WILLIAM BRIGGS,

78 & 80 KING STREET EAST,

TORONTO.

Moved by the REV. T. G. WILLIAMS, seconded by the
REV. THOMAS BROCK—

"That this Conference respectfully request the Rev. J. A. Williams, D.D., to prepare a digest of those parts of the *Journal* which relate to the duties of the officers of the Church, in connection with the carrying into effect of the details necessary to the consummation of the Union, in order to ensure correctness and uniformity of action."

A DIGEST OF THE REGULATIONS.

I. RE-ADJUSTMENT OF CIRCUITS AND MISSIONS.

1. The readjustment of the work on Circuits and Missions is referred to a Committee, composed as follows:—

(a) All Chairmen of Districts, Presiding Elders, and Superintendents of Districts of the uniting Churches, having jurisdiction within the bounds of such Districts respectively.

(b) In the North-West the Superintendent of Missions and Chairmen of Districts shall form such Committee.

2. These Committees shall present a full report of the proposed changes in Missions and Circuits to the respective Provisional District Meetings, and through them to the Stationing Committees and Conferences. All self-sustaining Churches may continue as they now are until they themselves express a desire for change. All future arrangements for the pastoral work shall be provided for by the Annual Conferences; but it is very desirable that all preaching places shall continue to receive preaching, until, by mutual agreement, other arrangements are made.

NOTE.—The attention of the Committees on the Re-adjustment of the Work is directed to the arrangements of the

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General Conference in reference to the Superannuation Fund, in reference also to the Children's Fund. It is suggested that, as the assessment for the Superannuation Fund is based upon the Circuit income, including the amount paid for Ministerial Support, and also the amount paid to the Connexional Funds, and as the assessment for the Children's Fund is based upon the number of members of sixteen years of age and upwards, in order that there be no confusion, nor loss, and that the direction of the General Conference in the premises be fully carried out, it will be necessary for the Committee to ascertain the number of members belonging to,—and the amount contributed to Ministerial Support and also to the Connexional Funds by,—each appointment respectively affected by the readjustment. A schedule has been prepared, which it is thought will greatly facilitate the work of the Committees.

II. OF DISTRICTS AND DISTRICT MEETINGS.

1. The Districts recognized by the General Conference shall form Provisional Districts of the Methodist Church, and such Districts shall each include whatever Circuits or Missions of the uniting Churches may lie within or be contiguous to its boundaries.

2. A Provisional District Meeting shall be held in each District, composed of all the ministers and probationers within the bounds of the respective Districts, and one lay delegate from each Circuit, elected by the Quarterly Board of such Circuit, for each minister and probationer in the active work.

3. The Provisional District Meeting shall be called together at such time, and place, as shall be chosen by the Chairman of Districts, of the Methodist Church of Canada, after consultation by him with the presiding officers of the other uniting bodies, whose charges, or any part of them, may lie within the bounds of such Districts.

4. Each District Meeting, when assembled, shall organize by electing a Chairman and Secretary *pro tem*.

5. The lay members of the District Meetings shall meet separately sometime during the session, and elect by ballot, without debate, lay representatives to the Annual Conferences, in the proportion of one for each minister in full connexion within the bounds of the District. Laymen, to be eligible, must be at least twenty-five years of age, and must have been members of the Church, in good standing, for the five consecutive years next preceding the election.

6. The Provisional District Meeting shall examine into, and report to the Stationing Committee and Conference upon, the recommendations for the division of Circuits and rearrangement of the same, submitted to it in harmony with the direction given concerning such readjustment.

The Provisional District Meeting appoints the representatives to the Stationing Committee, and the member of the Sabbath School Committee.

NOTE.—The Districts recognized by the General Conference are those that existed in the Methodist Church of Canada, in September, 1883.

III. THE PROVISIONAL STATIONING COMMITTEE.

1. The Chairmen of Districts; Presiding Elders, and Superintendents of Districts within the bounds of the District, and one representative elected by ballot from among the ministerial members of the District, such election to be by the joint votes of ministers and laymen, form the Provisional Stationing Committee.

2. Where there are Presidents of Annual Conferences in the Methodist Church of Canada, they are empowered to call together the Provisional Stationing Committee, and where no such Presidents exist the General Superintendent shall perform this duty.

3. The Stationing Committee, on assembling, shall elect a Chairman from among its members, who shall preside at its session until after the election of the President of the Annual Conference.

4. The Stationing Committee shall not allow any minister, or probationer for the ministry, to remain more than three years successively on the same Circuit, except the General Conference officers, superannuated and supernumerary ministers, the missionaries among the Indians on the French and Foreign Mission Districts; and such ministers as may be appointed to our educational institutions.

5. No minister shall be reappointed to a Circuit or a Mission within a less interval than six years.

IV. SPECIAL, IN RELATION TO TRANSFER.

In the case of ministers transferred prior to, or at the Annual Conferences of any of the contracting Churches, from one of the Annual Conferences of those Churches to another, or from one part of the territory to another part so distant as to cross the bounds of any of the newly-formed Annual Conferences, the men so transferred or removed by any of the Churches, in due course of Discipline, shall belong to that Conference of the Methodist Church to whose territory they have been transferred or removed. Further, that such transfers or removals be made only in the interests of the work, or under compact already existing, and that the field of labor to which such minister would have been transferred be designated.

V. ANNUAL CONFERENCES.

1. There are ten Annual Conferences, viz:—The Toronto, the London, the Niagara, the Guelph, the Bay of Quinte, the Montreal, the Nova Scotia, the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, the Newfoundland, and the Manitoba Conferences.

2. The Toronto Conference embraces the territory formerly included in the Toronto, Brampton, Whitby, Bradford, Barrie, Bracebridge, Collingwood, Algoma, Victoria and New Westminster, Fort Simpson, and Japan Districts of the Toronto Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada.

3. The London Conference embraces the territory for-

merly included in the London, St. Thomas, Chatham, and Sarnia Districts of the London Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada.

4. The Niagara Conference embraces the territory formerly included in the Hamilton, Niagara, Brantford, Woodstock, and Simcoe Districts of the London Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada.

5. The Guelph Conference embraces the territory formerly included in the Guelph, Stratford, Wellington and Goderich Districts of the London Conference, and Walkerton and Owen Sound Districts of the Toronto Conference, of the Methodist Church of Canada.

6. The Bay of Quinte Conference embraces the territory formerly included in the Belleville, Cobourg, Lindsay, Peterboro', and Picton Districts of the Toronto Conference, and the Napanee District of the Montreal Conference, of the Methodist Church of Canada.

7. Montreal Conference embraces the territory formerly included in the Montreal, Kingston, Brockville, Perth, Pembroke, Ottawa, Quebec, Standstead, Waterloo, and French Districts of the Montreal Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada.

8. The Nova Scotia Conference embraces the Province of Nova Scotia and the Bermudas.

9. The New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Conference embraces the Provinces of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

10. The Newfoundland Conference embraces Newfoundland, Labrador, and the Islands contiguous.

11. The Manitoba Conference embraces the territory formerly included in the Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie, Brandon, Pembina, Turtle Mountain, and the Saskatchewan Districts of the Manitoba Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada.

12. The Annual Conference is composed of all ministers within its jurisdiction, who have been received into full connexion, and an equal number of laymen who have been elected as the discipline directs.

13. Preachers who have received ordination in any of the uniting bodies, and are in good standing at the time of the union, retain all rights and privileges conferred by such ordination.

14. Laymen elected have the right to be present at all ordinary sessions of the Annual Conference, and to speak and vote on all questions, except the examination of ministerial character and qualification, the reception, by vote, of probationers into full connexion and their ordination, and the granting of the superannuated or supernumerary relation, on which exceptive questions ministers alone shall take action.

The Annual Conferences for 1884 meet as follows, viz:—

MONTREAL	..... Brockville.....	Thursday, June 5th, 1884		
BAY OF QUINTE	.... Picton	"	"	19th, "
TORONTO	..... Toronto.....	"	"	19th, "
GUELPH	..... Clinton	Wednesday, "	"	18th, "
LONDON	..... London	Thursday	"	12th, "
NIAGARA	..... Hamilton	"	"	12th, "
MANITOBA	..... Brandon	"	"	12th, "
N. B. & P. E. I.	.... St. John	Wednesday, "	"	25th, "
NOVA SCOTIA	..... Halifax	Friday	"	20th, "
NEWFOUNDLAND	.... St. John's.....	"	"	27th, "

Where there are Presidents of the Annual Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada they are empowered to call the Conference together, but where no such Presidents exist the General Superintendent shall perform this duty.

The General Superintendent, when present, shall open the Annual Conference, and preside during the first day of its sessions, and afterward alternately with the President elected by the Conference. In the absence of a General Superintendent, the President of the previous year shall take the chair and open the Conference. In association with the President, the General Superintendent shall conduct the ordination service, and they shall jointly sign the ordination parchments. But all other duties pertaining to the presidency of the Annual Conference shall be vested in the President elected by that body, and, in the absence of the General Superintendent, he shall conduct the ordination.

VI. CHURCH PROPERTY.

1. All churches, church sites, Sabbath-school buildings and sites for mission premises, parsonages, burial grounds, camp-meeting grounds, and all other real property now held or to be held in trust or otherwise by or for the several Methodist Bodies and Conferences now forming the Methodist Church, shall be held as vested in the Trustees and other persons in whom the titles respectively are now or may be, in trust for the Methodist Church.

2. Any Church property legally authorized to be sold shall be sold and conveyed by the Trustees thereof, by and with the consent of the Annual Conference within the

bounds of which such property is situate, first duly obtained. Such consent to be embodied in the deed or conveyance, and testified by the signing and execution of such deed by the President or acting President of said Annual Conference, and the appending thereto of the seal of such Annual Conference; but no Church, Parsonage, or other property can be sold without the consent of the Trustees of said property.

3. In case the disposal of property is plainly advisable before the legal consummation of union, it shall be competent for the United District Meetings and Chairmen, Superintendents and Presiding Elders, and United Trustee Boards to act as a Basis, proceeding with a good degree of unanimity.

4. In all cases where such Church or Parsonage Property may be so sold, the proceeds arising from the sale may be applied,—(1) To the payment of any debts or claims upon, or in respect of, such property. (2) To the payment of any debts upon the property retained for use by the Congregation formerly using the property so sold, or in building a new Church or Parsonage where necessary for the united congregation. (3) The balance, if any, to be applied with the consent of the Trustees, to the use of the Church and Parsonage Aid Fund of the United Church, in the Annual Conference in which such property is situated.

These regulations in Sec. 4. do not affect the property of the Bible Christian Church, as special provision is made in relation to it.

SCHEDULE

To be filled by Superintendents of Circuits and Missions for the use of the Committee on the Readjustment of the Work.

CONFERENCE, _____

DISTRICT, _____

CIRCUIT OR MISSION, _____

Appointments	Number of Members	Amt. raised for Ministerial support	Amt. raised for Connexional Funds	Appointments of other uniting Churches on the Circuit or Mission
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

Suggestions you may have to offer as to changes desirable and made necessary by the Union.

SUPERINTENDENT, _____

Superintendents will forward this Schedule to the Presiding Officer of the District of their respective Churches.

