JOURNAL

UNITED

GENERAL CONFERENCE

1883.

Rev Dr Sanderson

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIRST UNITED

GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

METHODIST CHURCH,

HELD IN THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL TABERNACLE, AND BY ADJOURNMENT IN THE BRIDGE STREET METHODIST CHURCH, IN THE

CITY OF BELLEVILLE, A.D. 1883.

Toronto:

WILLIAM BRIGGS, 78 & 80 KING ST. EAST.

MONTREAL: C. W. COATES. HALIFAX: S. F. HUESTIS.

1883.

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1883

RESOLUTION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

"That the Secretary, Rev. F. B. Stratton; the Assistant Secretary, Rev. J. Cooper Antliff, B.D.; and the Journal Secretary, Rev. John Bredin, be a Committee to prepare and publish the Journal of this Conference."

Rev Dr Sanderson

DELEGATES

OF THE

METHODIST CHURCH OF CANADA

TO THE

UNITED GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF 1883.

TORONTO CONFERENCE.

MINISTERS.	LAYMEN.
Addison, Peter..Richmond Hill.	Beatty, Wm., LL.B., Parry Sound.
Bredin, John.....Brighton.	Bowes, George S.....Markdale.
Briggs, William.....Toronto.	Brenton, Francis .....Thurlow.
Burwash, N., S.T.D....Cobourg.	Dean, Judge .....Lindsay.
Clarke, J. S.....Picton.	Edwards, James.....Barrie.
Clement, Edwin.....Parkdale.	Eyers, William.....Cannington.
Cochran, Geo., D.D.....Toronto.	Ferguson, Alex. .....Millbrook.
Creighton, Kennedy.....Fawn.	Frost, Alfred .....Owen Sound.
Dewart, E. H., D.D.....Toronto.	Glover, Wm .....Invermay.
Fish, Charles.....Trenton.	Higginbotham, J., Bowmanville.
German, J. F., M.A...Brampton.	Hill, William .....Bondhead.
Harper, E. B., D.D.....Barrie.	Holtby, Thomas.....Brampton.
Hunt, John.....Streetsville.	Hunt, Alfred .....Bracebridge.
Hunter, W. J., D.D....Toronto.	Kennedy, Warring.....Toronto.
Hunter, S. J.....Toronto.	Larke, J. S.....Oshawa.
Jeffers, W., D.D.....Belleville.	
Jeffery, T. W.....Toronto.	

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MINISTERS.	LAYMEN.
Laird, W. H.....Toronto.	Lelean, Samuel .....Port Hope.
Laird, J. G.....Collingwood.	
Learoyd, John .....Port Hope.	Macdonald, John .....Toronto.
McCollum, Joseph....Davenport.	Moore, J. T.....Toronto.
Matthews, H. S.....Bracebridge.	Morrow, W.A.....Peterboro'.
Nelles, S. S., D.D., LL.D., Cobourg.	Ogden, Dr. W. W.....Toronto.
Rice, S. D., D.D. .....Toronto.	Pierson, J. J.....Newmarket.
	Perdue, H. H. .....Eden Grove.
Shaw, John.....Peterboro'.	Porte, W. J.....Picton.
Starr, J. H. .....Newmarket.	Richardson, R.....Belleville.
Sutherland, A., D.D....Toronto.	
Tindall, William.....Paisley.	Sifton, Hon. J. W. .....Brandon.
	Stafford, W. G.....Rednerville.
Willoughby, N. R., M.A., Whitby.	Tuttle, James .....Bridgenorth.
Withrow, W. H., D.D., Toronto.	Washington, Stephen ....Selina.
Woodworth, James, Portage la Prairie.	Watson, Wm.....Weston.
	Webb, George W.....Colborne.
Young, George, D.D..Brantford.	Wells, A. C. ..British Columbia.
	Willmott, T. H. .....Toronto

LONDON CONFERENCE.

Brethour, D. L.....Milton.	Adams, Joshua.....Sarnia.
Brock, Thomas....Mount Forest.	
Burns, A., D.D., LL.D., Hamilton.	Baird, John .....St. Thomas.
	Beatty, James H. .....Thorald.
Campbell, T. M. .....Goderich.	Bowman, Wm.....London.
Carson, W. W.....Hamilton.	Bowman, E.....St. Jacobs.
Cornish, Geo. H.....Wingham.	
	Carson, J. E.....Listowel.
Fowler, Robert, M.D....London.	Cadman, A. J. .....Northwood.
	Carscallen, J. N.....Dresden.
Gaetz, Leonard .....London.	
Graham, James.....Windsor.	Eastman, C. M. .....Arkona.
Gray, James.....Clinton.	
Griffin, W. S. .....Guelph.	Fairfield, B. C....St. Catharines.
Gundy, J. R.....Exeter.	Fisher, A. S.....Clinton.
Hannon, James.....St. Mary's.	Garbutt, Thomas .....Drayton.

MINISTERS.	LAYMEN.
Henderson, W. C., M.A., St. Mary's.	Gray, William .....Seaforth.
Langford, Alex. .....Hamilton.	Horde, Isaac .....Mitchell.
Maxwell, J. W. .....Brantford.	Hunt, Samuel .....Lambeth.
McDonagh, Wm. .....Sarnia.	Jones, Judge .....Brantford.
Parker, W. R., M.A....Chatham.	Keagey, Wm. H.....Dundas.
Philp, John, M.A. ....Hamilton.	Kilborn, Jared .....Plattsville.
Robinson, J. H.....London.	Lane, J. B. ..Dorchester Station.
Ross, W. W..... .....Ingersoll.	Lister, Joseph.....Hamilton.
Russ, A. E., M.A. ....Simcoe.	Mills, James, M.A.....Guelph.
Ryckman, E. B., D.D... London.	Pollock, Samuel .....Goderich.
Sanderson, G. R., D.D., Strathroy.	Risden, Wm.....Fingal.
Savage, David . .....Petrolia.	Sanford, W. E.....Hamilton.
Sutherland, D. C., B.D., St. Thomas.	Smith, A. W. .....Simcoe.
Wakefield, John'.....Paris.	Smith, M. S.....Brantford.
Williams, J. A., D.D., St. Catharines.	Sturgeon, George....Kincardine.
Williams, Wm.....Woodstock.	Walker, A. B.....Waterford.
	White, Stephen .....Chatham.

MONTREAL CONFERENCE.

Beaudry, L. N.....Montreal.	Bissel, James.....Algonquin.
Bland, H. F..... ..Kingston.	Broder, Andrew, M.P.P., West Winchester.
Bond, S.....Gananoque.	Bryant, G. G. .....Sherbrooke.
Campbell, Alex .....Sherbrooke.	Caton, Miles.....Newburg.
Chambers, A. B., LL.B., Montreal.	Dalgleish, W. W. ..Huntingdon.
Douglas, Geo., LL.D. ..Montreal.	Elliott, Thomas .....Arnprior.
Elliott, James, D.D. ..Pembroke.	England, Israel .....Knowlton.
Galbraith, W., LL.B. ..Montreal.	Ferrier, Hon. J.....Montreal.

MINISTERS.	LAYMEN.
Hansford, Wm. .....Ottawa.	Hall, W. F. .....Napanee.
Hooker, LeRoy.....Kingston.	Jenkins, C. W.
Lucas, D. V., M.A....Montreal.	Kerr, George .....Perth.
McRitchie, George ....Almonte.	Lambly, W. H. .....Inverness.
Pearson, M. L.....Napanee	Langrell, Thomas .....Ottawa.
Pitcher, J. T. .....Stanstead.	Lavell, M., M.D.....Kingston.
Potts, John, D.D.....Montreal.	McLaren, W. J.....Huntingdon.
Shaw, W. I., LL.B....Montreal.	Mitchell, S. E.....Pembroke.
Stafford, E. A., M.A. ..Winnipeg.	Ryder, H. M.... ....Fitch Bay.
Williams, T. G.....Brockville.	Shaver, Reuben..South Mountain.
Whiting, Rich....Waterloo, Que.	

NOVA SCOTIA CONFERENCE.

Brown, Wm. C. .....Horton.	Allison, D., LL.D.....Halifax.
Cassidy, John .....Oxford.	Black, R. D. .....River Philip.
Gaetz, Joseph.	Burrill, Joseph .....Yarmouth.
Heartz, W. H.....Yarmouth.	Caldwell, J. W.....Wolfville.
Huestis, S. F.....Halifax.	Ferguson, W. A.....Guysboro'.
Jost, Cranswick ....Bridgetown.	Foster, John.....Aylesford.
Lathern, John .....Windsor.	Freeman, J. N.....Liverpool.
McMurray, John, D.D .Windsor.	Marshall, Alpheus ....Hillsburg.
Rogers, Jabez A.....Yarmouth.	Narraway, H. R. .....Pictou.
Smith, T. W. .....Halifax.	Smith, J. W. .....Halifax.

NEW BRUNSWICK AND P. E. I. CONFERENCE.

MINISTERS.	LAYMEN.
Chapman, Douglas ....Chatham.	Barnes, George H.....Hampton.
Currie, D. D.....St. John.	
Cowperthwaite, H. P., Cornwall, P.E.I.	Heard, W..Charlottstown, P.E.I.
Duncan, Robert ....St. Stephen.	Inch, J. R., LL.D. ....Sackville.
Evans, Edwin.....Marysville.	Palmer, John .....Gagetown.
Marshall, Thomas, Point de Bute.	Stevenson.
Pope, Henry, D.D.....St. John.	Strong, Hon. W. G., Summerside, P.E.I.
Stewart, Chas., D.D. ..Sackville.	Thorne, Henry J.....St. John.
Teed, S. T.....Tryon, P.E.I.	Trueman Martin ..Point de Bute.
	Weddall, John J....Fredericton.

NEWFOUNDLAND CONFERENCE.

Boyd, George ....Harbour Grace.	Ayre, Hon. C. R.....St. John's.
Dove, James.....Cupids.	Bemister, J.....Harbour Grace.
Peach, John S.....Carbonear.	McNeil, I.
Percival, W. W.....St. John's.	Reader, George .....Bonavista.

Certified correct.

A. SUTHERLAND,

Secretary.

DELEGATES AND RESERVES OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CANADA, ELECTED TO THE UNITED GENERAL CONFERENCE. 1883.

NIAGARA CONFERENCE.

MINISTERS.	LAYMEN.
Bristol, Emerson .....Ancaster.	Aurey, George.....Hamilton.
Brown, W. G., M.A., St. Thomas.	
Carman, A., D.D. ....Belleville.	Barnes, C. A., I.P.S. ....Forest.
Collamore, O. G.....Jerseyville.	Barnes, S. D.....Arkona.
	Brown, E. M. .....Medina.
Gardiner, Jas., D.C.L., Ingersoll.	
	Hegler, Edward .....Ingersoll.
Hughson, W. D.....Delaware.	Hibbard, H. N. .....Ridgeway.
Lounsbury, E. .....St. Thomas.	Kitmer, Charles .....Lakeside.
Parsons, R. C.....Ridgetown.	Linscott, T. S.....Brantford.
Reynolds, John.....Ingersoll.	
	Milne, J.....Essex Centre.
Williamson, J. S.....Hamilton.	Mimis, C.....Blytheswood.
Vanwyck, J., B.A....Hamilton.	Whipple, E. S.....Hamilton.

RESERVES.

*Fansher, W.....Essex Centre.	*Cogswell, A. H.....Thamesford.
*Griffith, A. E.....St. Thomas.	

ONTARIO CONFERENCE.

Abbs, George .....Georgetown.	Buck, Anson, M.D. ....Palermo.
Aylsworth, I. B., LL.D., Orangeville.	Dyer, James.....Garden Hill.
Badgley, E. I., B.D....Belleville.	Foster, Lorin.....Raglan.

MINISTERS.	LAYMEN.
Camphell, Amos .....Belleville.	Hodgkinson, W.....Rockwood.
Curts, James.....Colborne.	Kennedy, G. H. ....Georgetown.
Pirritte, W.....Hamilton.	Mallory, C. .....Walkworth.
Simpson, James .....Aurora.	O'Flynn, E. D.....Madoc.
Stratton, F. B. .....Stirling.	Yeomans, L. H.....Listowel.

RESERVES.

	*Halstead, Dr.....Cedarville.
	*Massey, Levi .....Wallbridge.

BAY OF QUINTE CONFERENCE.

Austin, B. F., B.D...St. Thomas.	Aylsworth, James ....Tamworth.
Blair, Wm., B.A. ..Farmersville.	Booth, L. M. .....Brockville.
Chisholm, F.....Lyn.	Bow, Wm.....West Winchester.
Graham, W. H.....Morrisburg.	Brown, Arthur, I.P.S., Morrisburg.
Jacques, J. R., Ph.D., Belleville.	Dollar, Nelson .....Napanee.
Mavety, John .....Kingston.	Holgate, John .....Foxboro'.
Service, W....West Winchester.	Hudgins, Ira .....Selby.
Stone, S. G., D.D.....Hamilton.	Morden, A. L., Q.C.....Napanee.

RESERVES.

*Card, Stephen.....Napanee.	*Johnson, C. .....Melville.
*Williams, H.....Belleville.	*Purtell, James .....Chisholm.

Certified correct.

F. B. STRATTON,

Secretary.

* Called to fill vacancies.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST DELEGATION TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE IN BELLEVILLE. 1883.

MINISTERS.	LAYMEN
Antliff, Jas. Cooper, M.A., B.D., Toronto.	Edmondson, Thos. M.....Orillia.
Bee, William .....Toronto.	Green, John.....Orangeville.
Cade, Robert.....Woodstock.	Kent, John.....Toronto.
Goodman, John .....Hamilton.	Purdy, Lewis W.....Sydenham.
Griffith, Thos., M.A...Brampton.	
Herridge, William ....Stratford.	Trebilcock, William ....London.
Markham, Joseph ....Wingham.	Walker, Robert .....Toronto.
Milner, Jonathan .....Barrie.	Walker, Robert Irvine ..Toronto.
	Wilson, Isaac.....Tullamore.

ROBERT CADE,
Secretary.

MEMBERS OF BIBLE CHRISTIAN DELEGATION TO FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE.

Beer, W. C. .....Little Britain.	Clarke, John.....Lindsay.
Harris, J.....Bowmanville.	Courtice, T.....Port Perry.
Jolliffe, W.....Peterboro'.	Field, W. .....Lambeth.
Kenner, J.....Clinton.	Henry, J.....Charlottstown.
Rice, J. J. .....Cobourg.	Hull, J.....Lakefield.
Roberts, E.....Toronto.	Pickard, Jas.....Exeter.
Webber, G.....Oshawa.	Souch, R.....Bowmanville.

JOHN HARRIS,
Conference Secretary.

JOURNAL

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE UNITED GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

METHODIST CHURCH,

Held in the METHODIST EPISCOPAL TABERNACLE, *and by adjournment in the* BRIDGE STREET METHODIST CHURCH, *in the City of Belleville, A.D.* 1883.

THE REV. JOHN A. WILLIAMS, St. Catharines, *President of the Conference.*
THE REV. EDWARD ROBERTS, Toronto, *Vice-President.*
THE REV. F. B. STRATTON, Stirling, *Secretary.*
THE REV. J. COOPER ANTLIFF, B.D., Toronto, } *Assistant*
DAVID ALLISON, LL.D., Halifax, } *Secretaries.*
THE REV. JOHN BREDIN, Brighton, *Journal Secretary.*

FIRST DAY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, *Sept. 5th, 1883.*

The Representatives of the four contracting Bodies of Methodism in Canada, known as The Methodist Church of Canada, The Episcopal Methodist Church in Canada, The Primitive Methodist Church in Canada, and The Bible Christian Church in Canada, met pursuant to call by the proper authorities, in the Methodist Episcopal Tabernacle, in the City of Belleville, at nine o'clock a.m., on Wednesday, September 5th, 1883, in accordance with the provisions of the Basis of Union.

Religious services were conducted as follows:—

The Rev. T. W. Mavety, M.A., announced the first Hymn. The Rev. John B. Clarkson, M.A., read the Holy Scriptures, and the Revs. Dr. Williams and Dr. Gardiner led in prayer. After singing a second Hymn, prayer was offered by Revs. J. C. Antliff and E. Roberts. The Conference joined the Rev. J. B. Clarkson in the Lord's Prayer.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Carman, the Rev. Dr. Williams was unanimously elected President.

On motion of Dr. Dewart, the Rev. F. B. Stratton was elected Secretary.

On motion, the Rev. E. Roberts was elected Vice-President.

On motion, the Rev. J. C. Antliff, B.D., and David Allison, LL.D., were elected Assistant Secretaries.

On motion, the hours of Session were fixed as follows:—meet at 9 a.m., adjourn at noon; meet at 2 p.m., and adjourn at 5 p.m.

On the call of the Chair, the Secretaries of the various Churches read their respective lists of Delegates appointed to attend this General Conference.

On motion, a Statement setting forth the action of the different Churches on the question of Union was read by the respective Secretaries, and attested by the proper officers of the several Conferences.

It was moved by Judge Dean, and seconded by Dr. Aylsworth,—

That the Secretaries of the several Churches be requested to have the findings of the several Conferences engrossed, signed by their proper authorities, sealed with their seals, and filed with this Conference.

Moved in amendment by the Rev. T. G. Williams, and seconded by the Rev. W. I. Shaw,—

That we instruct the Secretary of the United Church, when organized, to insert in its Journal a copy of the resolution of each of the contracting Churches; and that such copy in the Journal be authenticated by the signatures of the chief officers of each Church and seals of the several Churches.

Moved in amendment to the amendment by the Rev. D. G. Sutherland, LL.B., and seconded by the Rev. W. R. Parker, M.A.,—

That the reports of the action of the various Methodist bodies read by the Secretaries be received, and that certified copies of the same, signed by the President and Secretary of each of the Conferences and under the seal of each Conference, be placed on file.

The amendment to the amendment was carried.

Moved by the Rev. Dr. Burns, and seconded by the Rev. N. R. Willoughby, M.A.,—

That the President of the Bible Christian Conference be requested to explain the position of that body toward the other three Methodist bodies, in reference to the Union.

The motion was adopted.

Rev. E. Roberts gave the explanation as requested.

Moved by the Rev. Dr. Rice, and seconded by the Rev. Dr. Stone,—

That when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet in the Bridge Street Methodist Church.

The motion was carried.

Conference adjourned at noon, with the Benediction by the President.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, *Sept. 5th.*

The Conference met in the Bridge Street Church, at 2 o'clock. The President in the Chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. George Abbs.

The Minutes of the morning Session were read and confirmed.

On motion, the "bar" of the Conference was fixed at the third row of pillars from the platform.

Moved by Rev. Prof. Shaw, and seconded by Rev. W. C. Henderson, M.A.,—

That the records received by this Conference, concerning the relation of the several Conference Delegations to this body be referred to a Special Committee, which shall consider the same, and report to this Conference as early as possible their judgment on the legal aspects of said relation. —*Carried.*

On motion, it was resolved that the President nominate a Committee of nine, to give effect to the motion of Mr. Shaw.

Whereupon the President nominated the following:— Judge Jones, Judge Dean, W. I. Shaw, Dr. Rice, E. Roberts, J. Kent, Dr. Gardiner, Dr. Stone, and Dr. Allison the Conference confirmed the same.

Dr. Aylesworth moved, seconded by Rev. John Shaw,—

That a Committee be appointed to nominate the several Standing Committees to be hereafter named; this Committee to be composed of six members from the Delegation of the Methodist Church of Canada, three from the Methodist Episcopal, two from the Primitive Methodist, and two from the Bible Christian Delegation.

Moved by Dr. Dewart, and seconded by Dr. Stone, in amendment,—

That Delegations from the different Conferences represented in this General Conference meet separately, and elect members of the Committee on Nominations as follows:— Methodist Church of Canada, two each from Toronto, London, and Montreal Conferences; one each from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, and Manitoba; one

each from the three Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church, one each from the Primitive Methodist and Bible Christian Churches. That this Committee shall select all Committees to which the business of this Conference shall be referred for consideration.

Dr. Inch moved, and the Rev. G. Webber seconded, an amendment to the amendment that the Nominating Committee shall consist of one minister and one layman from each Annual Conference Delegation.

On a vote being taken, Dr. Inch's amendment was carried by 95 to 75.

The Rev. A. Campbell moved that the several Annual Conference Delegations meet immediately after the adjournment of the present Session for the purpose of electing their representatives on the Nominating Committee. The motion was agreed to.

On motion the Conference adjourned at 5 p.m., to meet at 7.30 p.m. The President pronounced the Benediction.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, *Sept. 5th.*

The Conference met at half-past seven, the President in the Chair.

After devotional services, the minutes of the previous session were read and confirmed.

It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Nelles, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Stone, and

Resolved,—That the Rev. JOHN BREDIN be appointed Journal Secretary.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE.

The following names were reported from the several Conference Delegations, as constituting the Nominating Committee :—

METHODIST CHURCH OF CANADA.

Toronto Conference.—Rev. Dr. Sutherland, John Macdonald.

London Conference.—Rev. W. R. Parker, James Mills.

Montreal Conference.—Rev. T. G. Williams, W. H. Lambly.

Nova Scotia Conference.—Rev. S. F. Huestis, Joseph Burrill.

New Brunswick Conference.—Rev. R. Duncan, Dr. Inch.

Newfoundland Conference.—Rev. J. Dove, I. McNeill.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Ontario Conference.—Rev. G. Abbs, E. D. O'Flynn.

Niagara Conference.—Rev. E. Lounsbury, John Milne.

Bay of Quinte Conference.—Rev. J. Mavety, James Aylsworth.

Primitive Methodist Conference.—Rev. Wm. Bee, J. M. Edmondson.

Bible Christian Conference.—Rev. J. J. Rice, T. Courtice.

On motion, the Nominating Committee were instructed to report Committees on the following subjects:—

Missions.
Education.
Publishing Interests.
Discipline.
Superannuation Fund.
Children's Fund.
Memorials.
Course of Study.
Boundaries.
Statistics.
Temperance.
Finance.
Sabbath Schools.
Rules of Order.
General Superintendency.

Also, a Committee to formulate a plan upon which the Annual Conferences shall proceed when adjusting the boundaries of Circuits.

The Relation of the Young to the Church.

Sabbath Observance.

Correspondence.

Church Property.

Transfers.

Government of the Church.
Amalgamating Societies, where practicable, before the ensuing Annual Conferences.
Name of Church.
Relation of Local Preachers.
Annual Conferences, and Ministerial Relation thereto.

On motion, it was ordered that the number on each Committee be left with the Nominating Committee.

The Rev. Dr. Sutherland was appointed Convener of the Nominating Committee.

Moved by the Rev. T. G. Williams, seconded by I. B. Aylsworth,—

That the Nominating Committee be requested to nominate a Committee whose duty it shall be to secure the legislation necessary to ratify the Union of the various contracting Churches.

Ordered that the resolution be laid on the table.

The following are the findings of the Church Courts of the several contracting Churches on the question of Union:

METHODIST CHURCH OF CANADA.—ADJOURNED GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1883.

To the United General Conference of the Uniting Methodist Churches, in Conference assembled.

The Basis of Union, as prepared by the Joint Committee representing The Methodist Church of Canada, The Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist and Bible Christian Churches, was laid before the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, at an adjourned session held in the Bridge Street Church, in the City of Belleville, on the 29th of August, 1883.

Whereupon the following resolution was moved by the Rev. A. Sutherland, D.D., and seconded by the Rev. E. B. Ryckman, D.D.,—

"*Whereas*, this Conference, at its session in the City of

Hamilton, in September, 1882, adopted certain resolutions affirming the desirableness of an organic Union of the various Methodist Churches in the Dominion, and did appoint a Committee to meet in joint session with similar Committees appointed by the Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist, and Bible Christian Churches, for the purpose of preparing, if possible, a Basis of Union, to be afterwards submitted to the Quarterly Boards and Conferences of the negotiating Churches for approval or otherwise:

"*And whereas*, this Conference did adjourn to meet at the call of the Chair, and did order that if two-thirds of the Quarterly Meetings, and a majority of the Annual Conferences voting thereon, should declare in favour of the plan of Union proposed by the Joint Committee, the President should convene the General Conference in the City of Belleville, in order to give effect to the proposed Union:

"*And whereas*, a Basis of Union was agreed upon by the Joint Committee aforesaid, and sent to all the Quarterly Boards and Annual Conferences throughout the Connexion:

"*And whereas*, the official returns show that 649 Quarterly Boards, out of 749 voting thereon, and six out of seven Annual Conferences, have declared in favour of the plan of Union as submitted:

"*Therefore*, this General Conference, recognizing the guiding hand of God in the movement, and feeling its obligation to give effect to the wishes of the Church, as expressed through its Quarterly Meetings and Annual Conferences, hereby adopts and ratifies the Basis prepared by the Joint Committee, and cordially sanctions the consummation of Union with the Methodist Episcopal, the Primitive Methodist, and the Bible Christian Churches in Canada, in harmony with the principles laid down in the Basis aforesaid."

After lengthened discussion, the resolution was adopted by a vote of one hundred and twenty-three (123) against thirty-eight (38).

The number in favour of the resolution being more than three-fourths of the number present and voting, the President declared the motion carried.

SAMUEL D. RICE, *President.*
A. SUTHERLAND, *Secretary.*

JOHN BREDIN, *Journal Secretary.*

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CANADA.

To the Assembled Delegates, elected and appointed by the Methodist Church of Canada, the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, the Primitive Methodist Church in Canada, and the Bible Christian Church in Canada, to the First General Conference of the Proposed Methodist Church, to be formed by the Union of the bodies aforesaid: this presentation of the action of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, preparatory to the aforesaid proposed Union, is respectfully submitted.

At the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, duly assembled in the City of Hamilton, in August and September, 1882, a Committee was appointed on the subject of Methodist Union. The report of this Committee to the Conference, *which was adopted*, set forth the repeated declarations of the General Conference in favour of the Union of the Methodist Churches of this Dominion, again endorsed the principle of Union, expressed a willingness to make necessary concessions to effect it, hailed with satisfaction the efforts of all the Methodist Churches to bring it about, and appointed a Committee to confer with the Committees that had been or might be appointed by the other Methodist bodies of this Dominion, to negotiate, if possible, a Basis of Union.

This Committee met the Committees of the other three Methodist Churches named above, first in Hamilton, in September; afterwards in Toronto, in the month of Novem-

ber. In the Joint Committee at Toronto a Basis of Union was agreed upon, and directed to be sent forward to the several Churches for their action.

As the General Conference had adjourned, to meet at the call of the Bishop and Secretary of the Conference—provided a Basis of Union were agreed upon in Joint Committee—pursuant to said call, the General Conference met in adjourned Session at Napanee, in January, 1883, adopted the Basis of Union sent forward by the Joint Committee, and, according to the provisions of the Book of Discipline, directed it to be submitted to the vote of the Quarterly Meeting Conferences, and took such steps as were conceived to be necessary to give effect to the Basis of Union, if it were accepted by all the negotiating Churches.

The Restrictive Rules, guarding the doctrines, polity, and government of the Church, and the rights of its ministry and membership, were, it was thought, carefully observed by the General Conference, and in no respect transcended or violated. Touching the Episcopacy, where alone question could arise, the General Conference set forth its view of a Methodist Episcopacy, and its understanding of the General Superintendency as held and practised among us, with the following resolution: "That any change or alteration proposed in the Basis of Union, touching the limit of time, the omission of consecration to the office, or any variation in the exercise of any function pertaining to the office, does not do away with Episcopacy, or destroy the plan of our Itinerant General Superintendency, and is not subject to the limitations and restrictions of the Discipline, pages 29 and 30."

The General Conference further resolved: "That no action of this Adjourned General Conference touching the proposed Basis of Union shall have any force or effect unless the said Basis shall have been accepted and ratified by all the contracting parties."

The Discipline of the Church, under the direction of the General Conference, further made it necessary that, to give the Basis legal force and effect, the Annual Conferences

concur in its proclamation as the law of the Church, should it be approved by the required vote in the Quarterly Meeting Conferences. All the three Annual Conferences of the Connexion voted this concurrence, and the proclamation has been duly made.

The vote of the Quarterly Meeting Conferences required by the Discipline of the Church, under the direction of the General Conference, is the approval by three-fourths of all the Quarterly Meeting Conferences throughout the Connexion. This vote stood in the final returns as follows: In the Connexion there are 177 Quarterly Meeting Conferences. Of these there voted directly, Yea, 135 (one hundred and thirty-five); Nay, 35 (thirty-five). There were also tie votes, 7 (seven). All the required votes having been thus secured, we deem the Church ready for action upon the Basis.

A. CARMAN,
President of the General Conference of the M. E. Church in Canada.

A. L. MORDEN, Q.C.,
Journal Secretary.

F. B. STRATTON.
Secretary of the General Conference of the M. E. Church in Canada.

BELLEVILLE, *Sept. 5th*, 1883.

THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH.

Resolutions of the Primitive Methodist Church in Canada, on the subject of Methodist Union.

At the Conference of 1882, the following action was taken on the subject of Methodist Union:—

Resolved,—That we admit the desirability and practicability of the unification of Methodism in this land.

A Committee was then named to confer with other Committees that might be appointed in reference to this matter.

The British authorities in connection with our Church

were memorialized and their full consent obained. A Basis having been subsequently formulated, the whole question was sent down to our people with the subjoined result: Total votes cast, 3,892; Yeas, 3,205; Nays, 662. Sixty-five stations gave an aggregate majority of 2,622 for the Basis, and seven stations gave an aggregate majority of 79 against the Basis.

The Conference of 1883 thereupon adopted the following resolution:—

That while we cordially accept the Basis of Union as submitted to our Churches, and endorsed by over eighty per cent. of the votes of our people, yet should it be found, when a General Conference of the United Church assembles, that slight changes in the Basis would tend to promote the harmony and good will of the contracting Churches, this Conference is willing that such needful modifications should be made."

The names appended were then appointed to attend as Delegates to the First United General Conference.

Jas. C. Antliff, M.A., B.D.
William Bee.
William Herridge.
John Goodman.
Robert Cade.
Thomas Griffith, M.A.
Joseph Markham.
Jonathan Milner.
Robert Walker.
Robert Irvine Walker.
John Green.
William Trebilcock.
Thomas M. Edmondson.
Isaac Wilson.
John Kent.
Lewis W. Purdy.

Signed, THOS. GRIFFITH, *Vice-President.*
ROBERT CADE, *Secretary.*

September 5, 1883.

Bible Christian Church.

Resolution of the Conference of the Bible Christian Church in Canada, on the subject of Methodist Union.

June, 1883.

Res. 45.—That whereas the Committee on Methodist Union appointed by the Conference of 1882, has met similar Committees, appointed by the Methodist Church of Canada, the Methodist Episcopal, and the Primitive Methodist Churches in Canada, and have unitedly formulated a Basis of Union which has been submitted to our respective societies throughout the denomination in Canada and the United States, and the votes in favor of union being more than a two-thirds majority of those who voted, we heartily endorse the action of said Committee and accept the vote of the people as an expression of their desire for the completion of the proposed union; and also that this Conference appoint Delegates, as provided in the Basis, to represent this Conference, and to assist in the consummation of the proposed union of the said Churches, according to the principles laid down in said Basis.

Resolutions of Adjourned Conference, the Conference of the Bible Christian Church in England having withheld its sanction to the foregoing resolution.

September, 1883.

Having listened to the communications of the English Foreign Secretary, and those of our respected Delegate, and having before us the reply of the English Conference to the request and memorial of this Conference on the subject of Methodist Union in Canada, and having duly considered the same, we *Resolve*—

1st. That we learn with deep regret and pain that the English Conference has not seen its way to agree to, and cordially sanction, the union of this Church in Canada with the other sections of the Methodist Church in Canada on

the basis presented by the representatives of these several Churches, and as requested by this Conference.

2nd. But believing we are led by God, and in harmony with the clearly expressed wish of the great majority of our people, and in accordance with the spirit and genius of the New Testament, and in perfect accord with the expectation of the Churches and general public of this country, we re-affirm our adherence to Methodist Union in this Dominion, and direct our appointed Delegates to proceed to Belleville in due time, and meet the representatives of other Methodist Churches, for the honorable and faithful consummation of the proposed union.

3rd. In thus deciding, we re-affirm our profound respect for the English Conference, and regret at the severance of the ecclesiastical ties that have so long bound us, and hope that they will yet see the wisdom and necessity of our course, and agree thereto in the heartiest manner, as the other Methodist bodies in England having branches in this country have done.

EDWARD ROBERTS, *President.*
JOHN HARRIS, *Secretary.*

THE LEGAL STATUS.

The Rev. Professor Shaw read the following Report from the Committee appointed to examine the legal relations of the four bodies:—

1st. We have carefully examined the proceedings observed in each of the four Churches which are contracting parties in negotiations for union. We have considered the various legal questions involved, and have examined all available documents on such questions, and we unanimously find that the legal status in this Conference of the Delegation of the Methodist Church of Canada is satisfactory.

2nd. The legal status in this Conference of the Delegation of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada is satisfactory.

3rd. The legal status in this Conference of the Delegation of the Primitive Methodist Church is satisfactory.

4th. As regards the Bible Christian Church, we find that while we think the Bible Christian Church in Canada is, in a certain sense, not independent of the Bible Christian Church in England, where consent to their going into the proposed union may be technically necessary, we find that the Bible Christian congregations in Canada are the parties for whose benefit the property here is held, and that such property has been almost entirely obtained by the contributions of the Church here, and they may be morally and equitably considered as beneficiaries for whom the said property is held.

5th. That according to the form of trust deed submitted to us, the Church property here is held for use of the Church in Canada, no reference being made to the Church in England, the terms of the trust deed being as follows: "For the use of the members of the Bible Christian Church in Canada, according to the rules and discipline which now or hereafter may be adopted by the general annual meeting of the said Church in Canada." We are of opinion that as legislation would in any case be needed, as provided for in the Basis of Union, to vest in the United Church the property of the several uniting bodies, and confirm the constitution to be framed for the new Church, a time in the future should be fixed for the said constitution to take effect, as recommended by learned counsel, and that in the meantime the necessary enactment by the legislature be applied for, which could be so framed as to give effect to the action of this present United Conference, and validate the title of the united Church to the property of all the said uniting bodies. The Committee are of opinion, from the enquiries and statements made to them, that the consent of the Bible Christian Church in England would not longer be withheld on a further and full presentation of the case to them, and further believe if such consent were withheld, we would be able to obtain from Parliament the necessary legislation without their consent.

6th. We further find that the Delegation of the Bible Christian Church in Canada to this United General Conference, was regularly elected and appointed to represent such Church in this United Conference, and as such is entitled to a place in this body, subject to the legislation above provided for.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Carman the Report was received.

Ordered that it be taken up *seriatim.*

Item 1st. Adopted.

Item 2nd. Adopted.

Item 3rd. Adopted.

Item 4th. Moved to adopt. Moved that it be amended by eliminating the last clause and adding the following: "That the status of the said Delegates in this Conference is satisfactory."

Amendment lost.

Original motion carried. Report adopted as a whole.

On motion it was ordered that we adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. to-morrow.

Adjourned.

Benediction by E. Roberts.

SECOND DAY.

THURSDAY, *Sept. 6th*

The Conference met at 10 a.m. The President in the chair. Religious services were conducted by the President.

The minutes of the previous session were read and confirmed.

Moved by Dr. Nelles, seconded by Judge Dean, that the pastors of the Methodist Churches of this city be a committee to arrange and provide for Sabbath and other religious services during the sessions of this Conference. Carried.

Ordered that we have a Committee on the Centenary of the Organization of Methodism in America.

Ordered that a Committee be appointed on the Second Œcumenical Conference to be held in 1887.

Report No. 1 on Nominations was presented by the Secretary as follows:

Your Nominating Committee beg leave to report organization by election of Rev. Dr. Sutherland, *Chairman*, and James Aylsworth, *Secretary*, and the following Nominations:

I. Committee on Rules of Order.

(*5 Members.*)

A. Carman.
S. D. Rice.
S. J. Jones.
E. Roberts.
J. Milner.

II. Committee on Discipline.

(*25 Members.*)

J. G. Laird.
William Beatty.
J. A. Williams.
S. J. Jones.
S. Bond.
Miles Caton.
John Cassidy.
John McMurray.
R. Duncan.
William Heard.
James Dove.
S. D. Rice.
E. H. Dewart.
James Gardiner.
A. Carman.
A. L. Morden.
F. Chisholm.
J. Markham.
E. Roberts.
T. Courtice.
Isaac Wilson.
E. D. O'Flynn.
E. Bristol.
W. Tindall.
William R. Parker.

III. Committee on Missions.

(*25 Members.*)

George Young.
Alex. Sutherland.
John Macdonald.
William McDonagh.
A. E. Russ.
Joshua Adams.
James Elliott.
John Potts.
W. H. Lambly.
S. F. Huestis.
Joseph Burrill.
Edwin Evans.
W. G. Strong.
J. S. Peach.
Israel McNeill.
S. G. Stone.
W. N. Dollar.
G. Abbs.
G. H. Kennedy.
W. G. Brown.
John Milne.
John Goodman.
Robert Walker.
G. Webber.
J. Hull.

IV. Committee on General Superintendency.

(*31 Members.*)

George Douglas.
T. G. Williams.
W. F. Hall.
W. R. Parker.
E. B. Ryckman.
J. B. Lane.
John Shaw.
S. J. Jones.
John Leroy.
W. W. Dean.
J. C. Antliff.
W. Trebilcock.
J. J. Rice.
John Clark.
George Boyd.
Charles Stewart.
Henry Pope.
William H. Heartz.
D. Allison.
E. Lounsberry.
J. Mavety.
James Aylsworth.
George Abbs.
William Service.
E. S. Whipple.
J. S. Williamson.
James R. Inch.
George Cochran.
William Williams.
T. S. Linscott.
E. I. Badgley.

V. Committee on Memorials.

(*21 Members.*)

W. C. Brown.
H. R. Narroway.
S. T. Teed.
M. Trueman.
J. T. Pitcher.
Reuben Shaver.
Thomas Brock.
W. W. Carson.
M. S. Smith.
John Hunt.
William Eyers.
K. Creighton.
Thomas Holtby.
William Blair.
W. D. Hughson.
J. M. Simpson.
E. H. Brown.
R. Cade.
L. W. Purdy.
W. C. Beer.
W. H. Graham.

VI. Committee on Publishing Interests.

(*27 Members.*)

William Briggs.
W. H. Withrow.
S. G. Stone.
William Bee.
Thomas Griffith.
E. Roberts.
S. F. Huestis.
T. Watson Smith.
E. H. Dewart.
William Pirritte.
George Awry.
Thomas Willmott.
Michael Lavell.
W. E. Sanford.
John Milne.
J. Wesley Smith.
James Gray.
W. S. Griffin.
D. D. Currie.
J. J. Weddall.
R. I. Walker.
George McRitchie.
W. W. Percival.
A. B. Chambers.
W. W. Ogden.
J. S. Williamson.
J. Curts.

VII. Committee on Education.

(*25 Members.*)

S. S. Nelles.
John Wakefield.
D. G. Sutherland.
James Mills.
Alex. Burns.
N. Burwash.
J. R. Jacques.
A. Frost.
B. F. Austin.
Charles Stewart.
D. Allison.
E. I Badgley.
S. J. Hunter.
G. W. Webb.
George Douglas.
E. A Stafford.
James Ferrier.
John Lathern.
H. B. Cowperthwaite.
J. R. Inch.
I. B. Aylsworth.
C. A. Barnes.
Arthur Brown.
J. C. Antliff.
J. Kenner.

Moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment, that the item referring to the Committee on Education be recommitted.

Moved in amendment to the amendment that the Report be taken *seriatim.—Carried.*

Item 1st. Adopted.

Item 2nd. Adopted.

On motion to adopt 3rd item, an amendment was carried

recommitting this item, that Committee might consider the propriety of adding certain suggested names.

Item 4th. Adopted.

Item 5th. Adopted.

Item 6th. Adopted.

Item 7th. On motion to adopt, an amendment was carried recommitting this item, that Committee might consider the propriety of adding certain suggested names.

Nominating Committee asked leave to sit again.

It was moved by John Macdonald, seconded by A. B. Walker,—That in all Committees names be reported without prefixes or affixes.

In amendment it was moved by Rev. J. Graham, seconded by W. Eyres,—That the prefix "Rev." be connected with the names of those members of Committees who are entitled to them in the printed list of Committees.

On motion, both resolution and amendment were laid upon the table.

It was moved by Rev. Dr. Rice, and seconded by Rev. Wm. Briggs,—That the nominations as passed be printed and publicly posted in the Conference Room, and that the first name on each Committee be Convener of said Committee.—*Adopted.*

It was moved by Rev. J. Wakefield, seconded by Rev. T. M. Campbell,—That all secretaries of Committees report from the platform.—*Adopted.*

It was moved by Dr. Inch, and seconded by R. J. Thorne, —That the Nominating Committee be instructed to nominate a Committee on *Order of Worship.*

Moved in amendment by J. Mills, seconded by Dr. Cochran,—That the motion be referred to Committee on Discipline.—*Amendment adopted.*

It was moved by Rev. D. V. Lucas, seconded by H. M. Ryder,—That the Nominating Committee be directed to draft a Committee to prepare an address to the new Governor-General on his arrival in this country.—*Adopted.*

It was moved by the Rev. J. R. Gundy, and seconded by Rev. D. V. Lucas,—That a Special Committee be appointed to prepare such resolutions as may be deemed necessary, as the action of this Conference to give effect to previous action of the contracting parties on subject of Union.

On motion, resolution was laid on the table.

Rev. S. J. Hunter gave notice of the following motion on extension of pastoral term:—

That Stationing Committees shall have authority to appoint a minister to the same circuit for five successive years, provided they be requested to do so by a three-fourths majority vote of the quarterly meeting concerned.

Moved by John Macdonald, seconded by Judge Dean,—

That the final deliverance of each of the contracting Churches at present constituting the various branches of the Methodist Church in Canada into one United Church, be engrossed on vellum, signed by the Conference Officers of each contracting Church, and sealed with the seal of said Church, and that the name of each member of this General Conference, signed by himself as a contracting party to the said union, be attached to said document. The above forming the official record of the said union.—*Carried.*

On motion it was ordered that the Chair name a Committee to procure and engross the copy of the action of the various contracting Churches.

In keeping with the foregoing resolution, the following brethren placed their signatures on the document:—

MINISTERS.

W. R. Parker, M.A., Chatham.
G. R. Sanderson, Strathroy.
Joseph H. Robinson.
E. B. Ryckman, London.
W. Fansher, Essex Centre.
J. S. Williamson, Hamilton.
John Wakefield, Paris.
Wm. Herridge, Stratford.
Geo. H. Cornish, Wingham.
Wm. J. Maxwell, Brantford.
D. L. Brethour, Milton.
Jas. Gardiner, D.C.L., Ingersoll.
Wm. Gould Brown, M.A.
St. Thomas.

MINISTERS—CONTINUED.

Donald G. Sutherland, LL.B.
Wm. McDonagh.
George Abbs, Georgetown.
James Gray, Clinton.
Robert C. Parsons, Ridgetown.
Edward Lounsburg, St. Thomas.
James Vanwyck, B.A., Hamilton.
W. S. Griffin, Guelph.
Henry W. Hibbard, Ridgeway.
John Kenner, Clinton.
John Reynolds, Ingersoll.
A. Langford, Hamilton.
Robert Cade, Woodstock.
W. C. Henderson, St. Marys.
J. R. Gundy, Ridgetown.
John A. Williams, D.D.,
St. Catharines.
Amos E. Russ, Simcoe.
Robert Fowler, London (West.)
W. W. Ross, Ingersoll.
A. E. Griffith, St. Thomas.
S. S. Nelles, D.D. LL.D., Cobourg.
Wm. H. Laird, Toronto.
Duncan Dunbar Currie,
St. John, N.B.
Wm. H. Withrow, M.A., Toronto.
James Dove, Cupids, Nfld.
George Boyd, Harbor Grace, Nfld.
John S. Peach, Carbonear, "
George Cochran, Toronto.
John Potts, Montreal.
S. Bond, Gananoque.
Jas. J. Rice, Cobourg,
Thomas Griffith, M.A., Brantford.
G. Webber, Oshawa.
Wm. Bee, Toronto.
George Young, Winnipeg.
N. Burwash, M.A., Cobourg.
John Hunt, Streetsville.
Samuel D. Rice, D.D., Toronto.
Jas. Cooper Antliff, B.D., Toronto.
Charles Fish, Trenton.
Edwin Clement, Parkdale.
Wm. Briggs, Toronto.
Samuel G. Stone, D.D., Hamilton.
John Milner, Barrie.
Kennedy Creighton.
John S. Clark, Picton.
James Woodsworth,
Portage la Prairie.
John Goodman, Hamilton.
William Jolliffe, Peterborough.
Jas. Curts, Colborne.
J. R. Jacques, D.D., Ph.D.
Belleville.
A. Sutherland, D.D., Toronto.
O. G. Collamore, Jerseyville.
Henry S. Matthews, Bracebridge.
A. Carman, D.D., Belleville.
J. M. Simpson, Aurora.
N. R. Willoughby, Whitby.
Edward Roberts, Toronto.
Herbert Starr, Newmarket.
I. B. Aylsworth, LL.D.,
Orangeville.
A. Campbell, Belleville.
William Tindall, Walkerton.
Joseph Markham, Wingham.
John Bredin, Brighton.
Francis Chisholm, Lyn.
William J. Shaw, M.A., Montreal.
George Douglas, D.D., Montreal.
Erastus I. Badgley, B.D.,
Belleville.
Peter Addison.
Wm. Service, West Winchester.
Frederick B. Stratton, Stirling.
W. H. Graham, Morrisburg.
E. H. Stafford, Winnipeg.
Alex. Campbell, Sherbrooke.
LeRoy Hooker, Kingston.
William Galbraith, Montreal.
J. T. Pitcher, Stanstead.
George McRitchie, Almonte.
Andrew B. Chambers, LL.B.,
Montreal.
Thomas Grange Williams.
Daniel Van Norman Lucas.
William Blair, B.A., Farmersv'le.
William Hanesford, Ottawa.
J. E. Mavety, Kingston.
John McMurray, Winelson, N.S.
Henry Pope, St. John, N. B.
Robert Duncan, St. Stephen, N.B.

MINISTERS—CONTINUED.

Stephen F. Huestis, Halifax, N.S.
H. F. Bland, Kingston, Ont.
Stephen Card, Napanee, Ont.
Edwin Evans, Marysville, N.B.
John Lathern, Windsor.
W. Webb, Percival, St. John, N'd.
Stephen T. Teed, Tryon, P. E. I.
Joseph Gaetz, Amherst, N.S.
Jabez A. Rogers, Yarmouth, N. S.
Douglas Chapman, N. B.
H. P. Copperthwaite, Cornwall, P. E. I.
Chas. Stewart, D.D., Sackville, N. B.
W. C. Brown, Horton, N. S.
John Cassidy, Oxford, N. S.
W. H. Heartz, Yarmouth, N. S.
T. Watson Smith, Halifax, N. S.
Thomas Marshall, Point de Bute.

LAYMEN.

Samuel Hunt.
T. S. Linscott.
S. D. Barnes, Arkona.
William Trebilcock, London.
George Aury, Binbrook.
Asa H. Cogswell.
Allen S. Fisher, Clinton.
H. W. Smith, Simcoe.
A. B. Walker, Waterford.
A. Buck, M.D., Palermo.
William Field, Deleware.
H. R. Narroway, Pictou, N.S.
George S. Bowes.
Chas. A. Barnes, B.A., Forest.
Chas. W. Jenkins, Ottawa.
James Bissell, Algonquin.
J. B. Lane, Dorchester.
Israel Longley McNeil, Carbonear, Nfld.
Joseph Burrill, Yarmouth, N.S.
Thos. Garbutt,
Jas. R. Inch, Sackville, N.B.
William Beatty, Parry Sound.
Joseph Lister, Hamilton.
John Macdonald, Toronto.
John Kent, Toronto.
Thomas Edmondson.
Henry Perdue, Eden Grove.
Isaac Wilson.
J J. Pierson, Newmarket.
W. W. Dean, Lindsay.
Robert Walker, Toronto.
R. I. Walker, Toronto.
Wm. A. Morrow, Peterboro'
Lorin Foster, Raglan.
George W. Webb, Colborne.
John Hull, Lakefield.
Richard Souch.
John Clark, Lindsay.
J. F. Halstead, M.D., Cedarville.
Alfred Hunt, Bracebridge.
William Hill.
Thos. H. Willmott, Toronto.
Stephen Washington, Darlington.
W. Eyers, Cannington.
John A. Holgate, Foxboro'
A. Mallory, Walkworth.
Israel England, Knowlton.
Miles Caton, Newburg.
Lewis W. Purdy, Loboro'.
W. H. Lambly, Inverness.
Wm. Bow, West Winchester.
Jas. Aylsworth, Tamworth.
J. Ferrier, Montreal.
Arthur Brown, Morrisburg.
Reuben Shaver, South Mountain.
W. F. Hall, Napanee.
Wm. G. Strong, Sheriff, Summerside.
Martin Freeman, Westmoreland.
William Heard, Charlottetown.
David Allison, Halifax.
J. Wesley Smith, Halifax.

Conference adjourned to meet, by order, at 3 p.m.

Benediction by Rev. J. C. Antliff. 3

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, *Sept. 7.*

Conference resumed at three o'clock, the President in the chair. After singing and prayer the Journals of previous session were read and confirmed.

The President named the following as the Committee to procure and engross the action of the contracting parties:—S. J. Hunter, W. Pirritte, J. C. Antliff, and G. Webber.

The Conference confirmed the same.

Dr. Douglas gave notice of the following motion:

That the name of the united Church be "The Methodist Church of Canada."

Rev. J. G. Laird presented two memorials, which were referred to the Committee on Memorials.

Rev. T. G. Buck presented a memorial, which was referred to the Committee on Discipline.

John Hunt gave notice of motion touching District Meetings, also one on Manitoba matters.

A Committee on Itinerancy was ordered.

Moved and seconded,—

That a Committee be named to consider the question of the test of membership in the Church.—*Lost.*

Moved and seconded,—

That there be a Committee to prepare a plan for the election of laymen as members of the first Annual Conferences.—*Carried.*

Report of Committee on Rules of Order read and received.

Ordered that it be considered item by item.

All the items were adopted except 19 and 23, which were amended. The report was then adopted as a whole.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. The Conference shall meet at 9 a.m., and adjourn at 12 o'clock noon; shall meet at 2 p.m., and adjourn at 5 o'clock p.m.; but it may alter the time of meeting, and adjourn at its discretion.

2. The President shall take the chair at the hour to which the Conference may stand adjourned, and cause the same to be opened by the reading of Scriptures, singing and prayer.

3. The following shall be the order of business:—(1) Reading the minutes of preceding session. (2) Memorials. (3) Reports, first of Standing Committees and then of Special Committees. (4) Motions, and other business of which notice has been previously given.

4. On the call of Reports of Committees, all reports that are ready shall be called in before action is taken on any one of them.

5. The President shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Conference; but in case of such appeal the question shall be taken without debate. When a member rises to a point of order, or the President calls any member to order, in either case the point of order shall be distinctly stated.

6. No member shall remain standing during debate, except the member addressing the President.

7. The President shall appoint all Committees not otherwise specially ordered by the Conference.

8. When a motion or resolution is moved and seconded, or a report is presented and is read by the Secretary or stated by the President, it shall be deemed in possession of the Conference; nor shall any motion be withdrawn by the mover after being debated without the consent of the Conference.

9. All motions and resolutions shall be presented in writing by the proposer.

10. All motions to postpone or lay on the table shall be taken without debate.

11. No new motion or resolution shall be entertained until the one under consideration is disposed of, which may be done by adoption or rejection, unless one of the following

motions shall intervene, which motions shall have the precedence in the order in which they are placed, viz.:—

(*a*) Lay on the table.
(*b*) Indefinite postponement.
(*c*) Postponement to a given time.
(*d*) Reference to a committee.
(*e*) Amendment.
(*f*) Substitute. A substitute or amendment may be amended.

12. When any member is about to speak in debate, or deliver any matter to the Conference, he shall rise and address the President, and shall proceed when the President announces his name.

13. No person shall speak more than *once* on the same question without leave of the Conference, except the mover, who shall be entitled to a general reply.

14. When any motion or resolution shall have passed, any member who voted in the majority may move a reconsideration.

15. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate.

16. Motions relating to the rights and privileges of the Conference, or individual members and orders of the day, shall be considered questions of privilege.

17. No member shall absent himself from the sessions of the Conference without leave, unless he is sick or unable to attend.

18. No member who is not within the bar when any question is put by the President, shall be allowed to vote on such question, except by leave of Conference.

19. Before the President rises to put a motion to the Conference, he shall ask: "Is the Conference ready for the question?" No member shall speak after the President has risen to put the question; and all members present shall vote unless excused by the Conference.

20. No member shall be interrupted when speaking except by the President to call him to order when he de-

parts from the question, uses personalities, or disrespectful language; but any member may call the attention of the President when he deems the speaker out of order, and any member may explain if he is misrepresented.

21. No business shall pass from individuals to the Committees without reference through the Conference.

22. Any member may call for the yeas and nays on any question before the Conference, provided he be sustained by twenty members.

23. In the Conference under its provisional organization, it shall require fifty members to constitute a quorum.

On motion, it was ordered that the Secretary be directed to secure four hundred printed copies of the Rules of Order.

On motion, John Macdonald, Joseph Lister, Wm. Williams, and Senator Ferrier were granted leave of absence until next week.

On motion, it was ordered that all applications for leave of absence must be made to a Committee of five to be named by the Chair. Said Committee to report to the Conference.

The Secretary of Committee on Nominations presented Report No. 2, as follows :—

That the names of the Hon. Jas. Ferrier, the Rev. Wm. Pirritte and Joseph Lister be added to the list of names submitted in our Report No. 1 as the Committee on Missions, and that the twenty-eight persons so named be the Committee on Missions.

That the names of the Rev. Dr. Rice, Rev. Dr. Carman, Rev. Prof. Shaw, the Revs. Amos Campbell, W. G. Brown, and W. W. Percival, Judge Dean and Mr. W. E. Sanford be added to the list of names submitted in our Report No. 1 as the Committee on Education, and that the thirty-three persons so named be the Committee on Education.

Committee on Superannuation Fund.

(*25 Members.*)

Rev. Dr. Sanderson.
" Jeffers.
" Stone.
Rev. T. M. Campbell.
" J. R. Gundy.
" H. S. Matthews.
" William Hansford.
" J. T. Pitcher.
" O G. Collamore.
" F. B. Stratton.
" Thomas Griffith.
" James Kenner.
" James Gray.
Rev. W. Bee.
Messrs. J. Lister.
" J. T. Moore.
" W. A. Morrow.
" W. W. Dalgleish.
" E. H. Brown.
" William Bow.
" Thos. M. Edmonson.
" J. J. Pierson.
" M. S. Smith.
" W. Field.
Dr. Buck.

Committee on Children's Fund.

(*28 Members.*)

Rev. John Hunt.
" J. H. Starr.
" W. C. Henderson.
" John Philp
" W. Galbraith.
" W. Hansford.
" J. A. Rogers.
" D. Chapman.
" J. S. Peach.
" J. M. Simpson.
" R. C. Parsons.
" William Service.
" J. Milner.
" G. Webber.
Messrs. G. S. Bowes.
" S. Washington.
" J. E. Carson.
" A. W. Smith.
" Israel England.
" G. Kerr.
" J. N. Freeman.
" H. L. Thorne.
" I. L. McNeill.
" James Purtell.
" C. A. Barnes.
" Lorin Foster.
" John Green.
" J. Henry.

Committee on Temperance.

(*20 Members.*)

Rev. F. Chisholm.
" W. Jolliffe.
" John Goodman.
" George Boyd.
" Joseph Gaetz.
" Thomas Marshall.
" D. V. Lucas.
" D. L. Brethour.
" William McDonagh.
" J. S. Clark.
Rev. Charles Fish.
Messrs. John Holgate.
" W. Hodgkinson.
" S. D. Barnes.
" Joseph Burrill.
" A. B. Walker.
" H. H. Perdue.
" W. H. Lambly.
" William Hill.
Hon. W. G. Strong.

Committee on Statistics.

(*19 Members.*)

Rev. F. B. Stratton.
" John Reynolds.
" R. Whiting.
" C. Jost.
" Thomas Marshall.
" G. H. Cornish.
" W. W. Carson.
" James Woodsworth.
" T. W. Jeffery.
" J. Dove.
Rev. R. Cade.
" J. Harris.
Messrs. Ira Hudgins.
" H. M. Ryder.
" J. H. Caldwell.
" M. Trueman.
" E. Bowman.
" W. J. Porte.
" J. Edwards.

Committee on Course of Study.

(*23 Members.*)

Rev. Dr. Stewart.
" Aylsworth.
" Jacques.
" Burwash.
" Ryckman.
" Burns.
" Nelles.
The Rev. C. Jost, M.A.
" W. Blair, M.A.
" J. VanWyck, B.A.
" W. C. Brown.
" Jas. Dove.
Rev. John Bredin.
" N. R. Willoughby, M.A.
" W. C. Henderson, M.A.
" Alex. Campbell.
" W. C. Beer.
" W. Galbraith, LL.B.
" J. C. Antliff, B.D.
" Professor Shaw.
Messrs. J. R. Inch, LL.D.
" Jas. Mills, M.A.
" F. Brenton.

Committee or Sabbath Observance.

(*24 Members.*)

Rev. H. F. Bland.
" Leroy Hooker.
" J. A. Rogers.
" W. W. Percival.
" R. C. Parsons.
" W. H. Graham.
" Amos Campbell.
" D. Savage.
" James Graham.
" E. Clement.
" J. W. Macollum.
" J. Markham.
Rev. W. Jolliffe.
Rev. Dr. Pope.
Messrs. James Bissell.
" William Heard.
" J. W. Caldwell.
" L. M Booth.
" Charles Minnis.
" J. Kilborn.
" A. Ferguson.
" W. G. Stafford.
" R. Walker.
Dr. Halstead.

Committee on Annual Conference Boundaries.

(*25 Members.*)

Rev. A. Langford.
" W. J. Maxwell.
" John Shaw.
" J. F. German, M.A.
" M. L. Pearson.
" J. E. Mavety.
" F. Chisholm.
" George Abbs.
" J. Curts.
" E. Lounsberry.
" R. Duncan.
" W. H. Heartz.
" G. Boyd.
Rev. J. Milner.
" J. J. Rice.
Rev. Dr. Douglas.
" Gardner.
" Young.
Messrs. W. Gray.
" R. Richardson.
" W. G. Stafford.
" G. G. Bryant.
" H. J. Thorne.
" H. R. Narroway.
" John Kent.

Committee on Sabbath Schools.

(*25 Members.*)

Rev. Dr. Withrow (*Convener.*)
" Peter Addison.
" A. E. Russ, M.A.
" W. J. Maxwell.
" L. N. Beaudry.
" Alexander Campbell.
" R. C. Parsons.
" F. B. Stratton.
" Wm. Service.
" S. T. Teed.
" John Lathern.
" George Boyd.
" W. W. Percival.
Rev. J. H. Harris.
" R. Cade.
Messrs. J. T. Moore.
" A. S. Fisher.
" Thomas Langrell.
" J. Packham.
" C. Kitmer.
" William Bow.
" J. J. Weddall.
" T. Courtice.
" Isaac Wilson.
Dr. W. W. Ogden.

Committee on Annual Conferences and Ministerial Relations thereto.

(*24 Members.*)

Rev. William Williams.
" J. G. Laird.
" E. Evans.
" James Dove.
" J. M. Simpson.
" William Blair.
" O. G. Collamore.
" H. N. Hibbard.
" S. Bond.
" E. A. Stafford.
" W. Jolliffe.
" R. Cade.
Rev. Dr. Fowler.
" Cochran.
" McMurray.
" Jacques.
Messrs. Thomas Garbutt.
" J. N. Carscallen.
" William Eyers.
" T. Holtly.
" J. N. Freeman.
" G. G. Bryant.
" W. Field.
Hon. W. G. Strong.

COMMITTEE ON RELATION OF CHILDREN TO THE CHURCH.

(*22 Members.*)

Rev. H. J. Bland.
" Leroy Hooker.
" W. H. Laird.
" J. F. German.
" D. D. Currie.
" J. Cassidy.
" W. W. Ross.
" J. H. Robinson.
" John Reynolds.
" E. Bristol.
" Amos Campbell.
Rev. J. S. Peach.
Rev. Dr. Carman.
" Badgley.
Messrs. Miles Caton.
" J. Edwards.
" William Heard.
" J. W. Smith.
" W. Bowman.
" A. J. Cadman.
" R. I. Walker.
" Arthur Brown, M A.

Your Committee further recommend that the order for a Committee on "Government of the Church" be discharged, and matters which might have been referred to such a Committee be referred to the Committee on Discipline. And

That the order for a Committee on "The Relation of Local Preachers" be discharged, and all matters which might have been referred to such a Committee be referred to the Committee on Annual Conference and Ministerial Relation thereto.

This report was adopted.

On motion, it was ordered that in all cases the substitute take the place of the regular Delegate on Committee.

Ordered that a mass meeting of the Sabbath Schools of the Methodist Churches of this City be held in this Church on Sabbath next, at three p.m.

Adjourned. Benediction by Dr. Carman.

THIRD DAY.

FRIDAY MORNING, *Sept. 7th.*

The Conference met at nine o'clock, the President in the chair. After reading the Scriptures, singing and prayer by

the Rev. E. Lounsbury, the Journals were read and confirmed.

It was moved—

That the Committee on Nomination be instructed to add to the Committee on Children's Fund certain suggested names.—*Lost.*

Mr. J. J. Pierson presented memorials on Children's and Superannuation Funds. Referred to Committee on Memorials.

It was moved by Judge Jones, seconded by Dr. Carman—

That all memorials presented to the Conference be first submitted to the Committee on Memorials, and by that Committee be properly distributed.—*Carried.*

Mr. Woodsworth presented memorial on Children's Fund. Referred to Committee on Memorials.

W. Tindall gave notice of motion regarding Examination of Ministerial Character.

Judge Jones gave notice of motion on the name of the New Church. The following also gave notice of motion on the same subject:—W. H. Lambly, T. S. Linscott, J. Harris, O. G. Collamore, and W. R. Parker.

Dr. Douglas gave notice of motion regarding expenses of Delegates to Annual Conference.

Rev. S. J. Hunter,—Regarding Expenses of Delegates to General Conference.

Mr. Wm. Beatty,—Regarding Number of General Conference Delegates.

Mr. Wm. Beatty,—Regarding Hymn-book of United Church.

Mr. Thomas H. Willmott,—Regarding Election of Lay Delegates.

Rev. T. W. Jeffery,—Regarding Test of Membership.

It was moved by Rev. W. S. Griffin, seconded by Rev. W. W. Carson,—

That inasmuch as the restrictive rules of the Methodist Church of Canada were unintentionally omitted from the Basis of Union, it be an instruction to the Committee on Discipline to insert restrictive rules in the Discipline to be constructed.

It was moved in amendment by Dr. Allison, seconded by Dr. Stewart,—

That the resolution adopted by General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, touching restrictive rules of said Church, be referred to the Committee on Discipline.

Amendment prevailed.

The following Committees reported organization :—

Committee.	Chairman.	Secretary.
Discipline	Dr. Rice	F. Chisholm.
Boundaries of Ann. Conference.	A. Langford	John F. German.
Children's Fund	J. Hunt	J. Philp.
Relation of Children to Church.	H. F. Bland	D. D. Currie.
Sabbath Observance	D. Savage	J. A. Rogers.
Superannuation Fund	G. R. Sanderson.	Thomas Griffith.
Annual Conference Relations	J. McMurray	S. Bond.
Sunday School	J. Maxwell	W. H. Withrow.
Course of Study	C. Jost	J. VanWyck.
General Superintendency	Dr. Douglas	J. S. Williamson.
Temperence	W. H. Lambly	D. L. Brethour.

The President named the following as composing Com mittee on

Leave of Absence :—

Rev. Thomas Brock.
" J. S. Williamson.
Rev. J. J. Rice.
Mr. Holtby.
Mr. R. Walker.

The First Report of Committee on Discipline was submitted:—

Items 1st and 2nd adopted.

Under head of "Church Government," Sections 1st and 2nd adopted.

Section 3rd moved to adopt.

It was moved in amendment that 12 be substituted for 10.

Moved in amendment to the amendment, that 15 be substituted for 10.

Both amendments were lost, and the item in the Report was adopted.

Section 4th adopted.

Section 5th moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment, that the word "Methodist" be inserted, so as to read "a member of the Methodist Church." —*Lost.*

Original motion carried.

Section 6th moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment, that the item be accepted, with the addition of the clause that "The reserve Delegates take their places in the order of election."—Amendment carried.

Section adopted as amended.

Report adopted as a whole. (See page 50.)

Rev. Dr. Carroll was introduced, and addressed the Conference.

The Rev. Dr. Dewart gave notice of motion touching the Hymn-book.

Moved by Rev. N. Burwash, and seconded by Rev. T. Griffith,—

That the Rev. T. W. Smith, J. Aylsworth, Esq., and the pastors of this Church and of the Tabernacle, be a Committee to arrange a plan for the use of vestries for meeting of Committees.—*Carried.*

Rev. Dr. Aylsworth gave notice of motion on Temperance.

Ordered that when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet at 7.30 p.m. Adjourned. Benediction by Dr. Sanderson.

FRIDAY EVENING, *Sept. 7th.*

The Conference met at half-past seven, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. Joseph Markham.

The Journals were read and confirmed.

The Committee on Statistics reported organization—Rev. R. Cade, Chairman; and Rev. G. H. Cornish, Secretary.

(See Report in Appendix No. 2.)

The Report, No. 1, of Committee on Temperance was read.

The Report, No. 1, of Committee on Annual Conference Boundaries was read.

(See Appendix No. 2.)

The Report, No. 1, of Committee on Leave of Absence was read as follows:

The Committee on Leave of Absence met at call of convener, and organized by the appointment of Rev. T. Brock as Chairman and Rev. J. S. Williamson as Secretary.

The Committee begs leave to recommend the granting of leave of absence from the Conference to Mr. L. Foster, Revs. T. W. Jeffery, Dr. Rice and Dr. Nelles, for Sabbath; Mr. R. I. Walker, from Saturday to Thursday; Mr. Eyers and Mr. A. L. Morden, from Saturday to Tuesday; Mr. R. Walker, from Saturday to Wednesday; Mr. J. Dyer, permanently, on account of illness; and Mr. W. Bowman, permanently, on account of family affliction.

The Report was adopted.

The Report, No. 1, of Committee on Memorials was read.

(See Appendix No. 2.)

The Report, No. 3, of Committee on Nominations was read.

The Report of Committee on Annual Conference Boundaries (No. 1) was called up, and it was moved by the Rev. W. C. Henderson, and seconded by Rev. W. McDonagh,—

That the Report of the Committee on Boundaries be printed and circulated among the members before the matter is disposed of.

This motion was lost.

It was ordered that it be considered *seriatim*.

Item 1st was read and moved to adopt.

Moved to amend so as to read :—

We recommend,

That Conferences be formed having the same names and boundaries as the following existing Conferences of the Methodist Church of Canada, viz.:—Manitoba, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland.—*Carried.*

That the remaining portion of our work be formed into the following Conferences:—London, Hamilton, Toronto, Belleville, and Montreal.

Moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment by O. G. Collamore, and seconded by Dr. Jacques,—

That the name Belleville be changed to Bay of Quinte, and Hamilton to Niagara.

This amendment was carried.

It was moved and seconded,—

That the rule under which we are now acting be laid on the table.—*Lost.*

Item 3rd adopted.

Item 4th read and moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment,—

That the Brampton District be detached from Toronto Conference and attached to the Guelph Conference.

Moved in amendment to the amendment,—

That Owen Sound District be attached to the Toronto Conference.

Amendment lost. The amendment to the amendment was lost, and the original motion was adopted.

Moved by Rev. E. Stafford, seconded by L. Hooker,—

That "Guelph" be changed to "Huron."—*Lost.*

The Report as amended was adopted as a whole.

(See Appendix No. 2.)

Report No. 1 on Temperance was called up, read and adopted.

(See Appendix No. 2.)

Report No. 3 on Nominations was called up and adopted. The following is the Report:

COMMITTEE ON TRANSFER.

(27 Members.)

Rev. Dr. Sutherland.
" Elliott.
" Carman.
" Gardiner.
Rev. John Leroyd.
" John Wakefield.
" A. Langford.
" Jas. Dove.
" W. W. Percival.
" H. P. Cowperthwaite.
" George McRitchie.
" W. H. Heartz.
" J. Milner.
" J. Curts.
Rev. F. Chisholm.
" J. J. Rice.
R. Richardson.
A. Hunt.
J. B. Lane.
A. S. Fisher.
M. Trueman.
W. F. Hall.
L. W. Purdy.
E. D. O'Flynn.
Ira Hudgins.
Wm. Risdon.
H. R. Narroway.

Committee on Finance.

(27 Members.)

Rev. J. Kenner.
" W. G. Brown,
" D. D. Currie.
" J. A. Rogers.
" J. S. Peach.
" T. M. Campbell.
" W. W. Ross.
" Wm. Briggs.
" D. V. Lucas.
" J. Herbert Starr.
" A. B. Chambers.
" Wm. Bee.
" Dr. Stone.
A. L. Morden.
John Milne.
E. D. O'Flynn.
G. H. Kennedy.
J. J. Weddall.
J. N. Freeman.
I. L. McNeill.
E. Bowman.
J. E. Carson.
G. W. Webb.
John Macdonald.
W. W. Dalgliesh.
R. I. Walker.
J. Hull.

Committee on Church Property.

(25 Members.)

Rev. J. Goodman.
" Wm. Blair.
" J. Van Wyck.
" W. Pirritte.
" Joseph Gaetz.
" D. Chapman.
" G. Bond.
" W. C. Beer.
" S. J. Hunter.
" J. S. Clark.
" George McRitchie.
" R. Whiting.
" David Savage.
Rev. John Philip.
Hon. W. G. Strong.
L. Foster.
James Aylsworth.
George Aury.
W. Trebilcock.
R. Souch.
F. Brenton.
G. S. Bowes.
Thos. Langrell.
S. Hunt.
J. Adams.

Committee on Name of Church.

(24 Members.)

Rev. Dr. Potts.
" Jeffers.
" Rice.
" Aylsworth.
" Jacques.
" Sanderson.
Rev. J. H. Robinson.
" John Lathern.
" S. T. Teed.
" James Dove.
" G. Webber.
" O. G. Collamore.
Rev. Thomas Griffith.
Dr. Allison.
" Inch.
" Brock.
Judge Dean.
" Jones.
Israel England.
A. J. Cadman.
I. L. McNeill.
J. Henry.
John Holgate.
Thomas M. Edmondson.

Committee on Readjustment of Work.

(26 Members.)

Rev. James Gray.
" D. G. Sutherland.
" W. Bee.
" E. Lounsbury.
" G. Abbs.
" J. Curts.
" J. E. Mavety.
" W. H. Graham.
" James Woodsworth.
" N. R. Willoughby.
" H. P. Cowperthwaite.
" W. C. Brown.
" T. G. Williams.
Rev. Leroy Hooker.
" M. L. Pearson.
" W. Jolliffe.
" Dr. Gardiner.
J. N. Carscallen.
T. Garbutt.
John Green.
W. A. Morrow.
Wm. Eyers.
Wm. Heard.
J. W. Caldwell.
Reuben Shaver.
T. Courtice.

Committee on Centenary of Organization of Methodism in America.

(19 Members.)

Rev. R. Duncan.
" T. Watson Smith.
" D. L. Brethour.
" R. Cade.
" L. N. Beaudry.
" B. F. Austin.
" J. S. Williamson.
" John Bredin.
" E. Clement.
" E. Roberts.
Rev. W. Hansford.
" G. Boyd.
Rev. Dr. Fowler.
" Aylsworth.
" Badgley.
Hon. J. Ferrier.
A. B. Walker.
Thomas Holtby.
J. Clark.

Committee on Œcumenical Conference.

(22 Members.)

Rev. Dr. Nelles.
" Carman.
" Stone.
" Stewart.
" McMurray.
" Elliott.
Rev. H. S. Matthews.
" Thomas Brock.
" J. R. Gundy.
" E. Evans.
" Wm. Pirritte.
Rev. S. F. Huestis.
" J. C. Antliff.
" E. A. Stafford.
" J. Kenner.
Wm. Beatty.
A. Frost.
James H. Beatty.
E. S. Whipple.
I. L. McNeill.
W. Field.
Dr. M. Lavell.

Your Committee further recommend that the order for a Committee on Amalgamation of Societies be discharged, and that all matters which would be referred to such Committee be referred to the Committee on Readjustment of Work.

That the Rev. W. S. Griffin be added to the Committee on Discipline.

That the Rev. James Graham be added to the Committee on General Superintendency.

That H. M. Ryder be added to Committe on Education.

That James Bissell be added to Committee on Boundaries.

That D. D. Currie, Thomas Willmott and the Rev. Peter Addison be added to Committee on Children's Fund.

Adjourned. Benediction by E. Roberts.

FOURTH DAY.

SATURDAY MORNING, *Sept. 8th.*

The Conference met at nine o'clock, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were led by the Rev. Dr. Ryckman.

The following Report, No. 2, of Committee on Leave of Absence was read:

Your Committee would recommend the granting of leave of absence to Mr. Jas. Aylsworth, the Revs. Dr. Aylsworth, J. Gray, Dr. Stone, Geo. McRitchie, W. McDonagh, D. V. Lucas, J. Harris, and J. F. German until Monday; Rev. Dr. Sutherland and Mr. John Hill till Tuesday; Mr. A. J. Cadman till Thursday; the Rev. W. D. Hughson, permanently, on account of pressing business; the Rev. E. Bristol, permanently, on account of family affliction.

The Report was adopted.

Report No. 4 of Committee on Nominations was read.

Report No. 2 of Committee on Discipline was read.

The following Committees reported organization :—

ON THE CENTENARY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN METHODISM.

Chairman—R. Duncan ; *Secretary*—E. I. Badgley.

ON REDISTRIBUTION OF THE WORK.

Chairman—Dr. Gardiner ; *Secretary*—W. C. Brown.

ON TRANSFER.

Chairman—J. Curts ; *Secretary*—A Langford.

ON FINANCE.

Chairman—J. Kenner ; *Secretary*—W. W. Dalgleish.

ON ŒCUMENICAL CONFERENCE.

Chairman—S. S. Nelles ; *Secretary*—H. S. Matthews.

Report No. 4 of Committee on Nominations was read as follows :—

COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY.

(25 Members.)

Rev. K. Creighton.
" W. H. Laird.
" W. R. Parker.
" Thos. Marshall.
" W. Service.
" J. M. Simpson.
" W. D. Hughson.
" J. Vanwyck.
" D. V. Lucas.
" Alex. Campbell.
" W. H. Heartz.
" Joseph Gaetz.
Rev. T. Griffith.
" J. J. Rice.
" J. S. Peach.
" Dr. Ryckman.
James Tuttle.
Stephen Washington.
J. Kilborn.
H. J. Thorne.
L. M. Booth.
W. Hodgkinson.
C. W. Jenkins.
J. Kent.
T. Courtice.

COMMITTEE ON ADDRESS TO GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

(6 Members.)

Rev. Dr. Carman.
" " Rice.
" R. Cade.
Rev. G. Webber.
John Macdonald.
A. L. Morden.

That the following additions to Committee be made—viz: Dr. Allison to Committee on Œcumenical Council; C. A. Mallory to Committee on Finance; Rev. Dr. Young and C. W. Jenkins to Committee on Readjustment.

The Report was adopted.

It was ordered that Report No 1 of Committee on Memorials be considered *seriatim.*

Item 1st, adopted. Item 2nd, moved to adopt.

Moved and seconded in amendment,—

That the said memorials be sent back to the Memorial Committee to be distributed to the Committee to which those subjects are related. Amendment carried.

Items three, four, and five adopted.

Report adopted as amended.

On motion, Report No. 2 on Discipline was taken up and ordered to be considered *seriatim.*

Item 1st, moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment by Dr. Dewart, seconded by W. G. Brown,—

That the recommendation of the Committee on Discipline be referred back to the Committee to provide that certificates of the election of lay and ministerial members be signed by the President and Secretary of the Annual Conference, instead of by the Secretary of the Electoral Conference. Amendment carried.

Items two, three, four, five, and six adopted. Item seven, preamble read.

Moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment that it be laid on the table until restrictive rules be considered. Amendment carried.

Clauses one and two adopted. Clause three, moved to adopt.

Moved and seconded in amendment,—

That, inasmuch as it is believed that there may be a change made in certain irrelevant phraseology and ambiguous or incomplete formulæ of the general rules without at all impairing their scriptural character or admonitory force, therefore be it resolved that section three of the restrictive rules be so amended as to read,—

It shall not make any change in the general rules of our Church except upon a three-fourths majority of the General Conference who may be present and vote thereon.

Motion pending at time of adjournment.

Ordered that when we adjourn we stand adjourned until Monday. Adjourned. Benediction by the President.

FIFTH DAY.

MONDAY MORNING, *Sept. 10th.*

The Conference met at nine o'clock. Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Dr. Young.

The Minutes of preceding session were read and confirmed.

A Memorial from Clinton Circuit (M. C. of C.) respecting Children's Fund was presented and referred to Committee on Children's Fund.

Report No. 2 of Committee on Memorials was presented and received.

Report No. 1 of Committee on Annual Conferences and Ministerial Standing was presented.

The Committee on Itinerancy reported organization—Rev. K. Creighton, Chairman; Rev. Thomas Marshall, Secretary.

Report No. 1 of the Committee on General Superintendency was presented.

On motion of Rev. H. P. Cowperthwaite, seconded by H. J. Thorne, it was ordered that the Committee on Nominations be requested to consider the propriety of adding the name of John Henry to the Committee on Readjustment of Work.

The Conference resumed the consideration of Report No. 2 of the Committee on Discipline on the subject of the third restrictive rule.

The third restrictive rule as reported by Committee was adopted.

The fourth restrictive rule as reported by Committee was adopted.

It was moved by the Rev. W. Parker, seconded by Judge Jones,—

That provided, however, the General Conference may, by a constitutional vote, vary or change any of the rules of our Society embraced in the third of the above restrictive rules.

It was moved in amendment by Dr. Inch, seconded by W. Heard,—

That in case three-fourths of the Annual Conferences, with three-fourths majority, request it. the General Conference may, by its constitutional majority, change the restrictive rules.

It was moved in amendment to the amendment by Rev. J. S. Williamson, seconded by Rev. W. Pirritte,—

That, on the recommendation of all the Annual Conferences, the motion having been carried by a three-fourths vote of each Annual Conference, the General Conference shall have power to change any of the above restrictive rules by the constitutional three-fourths vote provided in the Basis of Union.

The amendment to the amendment was lost, and the ori-

ginal resolution was carried and ordered to be inserted in the discipline, immediately after the fourth restrictive rule.

The preamble to the restrictive rules, as reported by the Committee, was adopted.

Items eight and nine of Report were adopted.

In amendment to item ten, it was moved by the Rev. A. Campbell, seconded by J. Mills,—

That the Special Committee, provided for in the Report, shall be chosen by ballot in the General Conference.

The amendment was lost, and item as reported was adopted.

On the reading of item eleven, it was ordered that it be laid on the table.

Rev. E. B. Ryckman gave notice of motion regarding the subject of the item.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Discipline, excepting item eleven, was adopted as a whole as amended.

(See Appendix No. 2.)

Report No. 1 of the Committee on General Superintendency was taken up and considered item by item.

Items one, two, and three were adopted.

Item four was amended by the insertion of the words "jointly with the President of the Annual Conference."

The fifth item was laid on the table until item six was considered.

On the reading of item six, it was moved in amendment by Rev. A. Campbell, seconded by Rev. John Philp,—

That the General Conference shall elect one General Superintendent.

Notices of meeting of Committees were announced, and Conference adjourned at 12 m., with benediction by Rev. J. H. Robinson.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, *Sept. 10th.*

The Conference opened at two o'clock, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. J. M. Simpson. The Journals were read and confirmed.

Mr. Kent gave notice of motion relating to Camp Meetings; and also one relating to uniformity of attitude in prayer.

Dr. Douglas gave notice of motion regarding Sessions of Annual Conferences.

The name of George Cornish, which had been omitted from the Committee on Boundaries of Annual Conferences, was ordered to be added thereto.

Report pending at time of adjournment was resumed.

Mr. Adams presented an amendment, seconded by J. Kilburn, that the clause be amended by adding thereto as follows: one of whom shall be "Superintendent of Missions."

The amendment of Mr. Campbell, for one General Superintendent, was lost. The amendment of Mr. Adams was also lost.

The original motion was then put and carried.

On motion, the 5th clause was called up.

Moved by Dr. Gardiner, seconded by I. Wilson, that it be so amended as to read, that the words "four years," shall be understood as meaning the term from one regular General Conference to another.

Amendment carried.

Clause 7th read. Moved to adopt. Moved in amendment that the salary of each of the Superintendents be $2,250 and travelling expenses.

Moved in amendment to the amendment, that the salary of each General Superintendant be $2,000 and travelling expenses.

Moved, as a substitute, that each General Superintendent have a salary of $2,500, with travelling expenses and free, furnished house.

Substitute lost.

Amendment to the amendment carried.

Report No. 1 on General Superintendency was adopted as amended.

(See Appendix No. 2.)

Moved by F. Chisholm, and seconded by G. Webber, that we do now proceed to elect the Itinerant General Superintendents.

Moved in amendment by J. Hunt, and seconded by J. Rogers, that the election of the Itinerant General Superintendents be the order of the day to-morrow at three p.m.

Amendment carried.

Report No. 3 of Committee on Leave of Absence read as follows:

We recommend the granting of leave of absence to the following:

Mr. J. Kilburn, permanently, on account of illness.
Mr. M. S. Smith, " " " family illness.
Rev. Dr. Pope " " " of illness.
Rev. Dr. Elliott " " " Church duties.

Messrs. J. Green, W. W. Dalgleish, J. Adams, T. Holtby, W. Hodgkinson, on account of business emergency.

The Report was adopted.

Report No. 1 of Committee on Annual Conferences and Ministerial Standing called up and considered *seriatim.*

Item 1st. Adopted.

Item 2nd. Moved to adopt. Moved in amendment that the word "jurisdiction" be changed to "territory." Amendment was lost.

Moved further in amendment, that the number of lay delegates be one for every minister in the active work.

It was ordered that the motion be laid on the table until after a notice of motion offered by Mr. Cade be considered.

Mr. Cade's motion was read as follows:

That the Basis on the question of Representation to Annual Conferences be so understood to mean "all ministers in full connexion who are in the active work and representatives of stations, and an equal number of laymen to be elected to the Annual Conference."

That Superannuates and Supernumeraries are not understood to carry with them an equal number of laymen, but that this interpretation shall not be understood to deprive Superannuates and Supernumeraries of any of their personal rights and privileges, of a seat, voice and vote in the Conference.

Dr. Allison gave notice of motion regarding mode of electing General Superintendents. Motion pending at time of adjournment.

Adjourned. Benediction by Dr. Cochran.

SIXTH DAY.

TUESDAY MORNING, *Sept. 11th.*

The Conference opened at nine o'clock. Devotional exercises were conducted by Dr. Stewart.

The Journals were read and confirmed.

Rev. John Harris presented a Memorial from the Bible Christian Conference on Superannuates, which was referred to the Committee on the Superannuation Fund.

Also one from the same Conference on Church Property, which was referred to the Committee on Church Property.

Report No. 4 on Leave of Absence was read as follows:

We recommend the granting of leave of absence to Rev.

T. M. Campbell, permanently, on account of family affliction; and to Rev. J. Graham and T. Brock, permanently, from Thursday, on account of Church work.

The Report was adopted.

Report No. 1 on Missions was read.

Report No. 1 on Statistics was read.

The Report on Relation of Children to the Church was read.

The Report on Itinerancy was read.

Report No. 3 on Discipline was read.

The Report on Publishing Interests was read.

Rev. J. Graham gave notice of motion that the salaries of Editors, Book Stewards, and other officials be referred to the Committee on Finance.

A letter having been read from Mr. R. Mathison, Superintendent of the Deaf and Dumb Institute, Belleville, it was moved by Dr. Allison, seconded by Rev. F. B. Stratton:

That the Secretary be instructed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Mathison's letter, express the grateful appreciation of the Conference of the courtesy extended, and its desire as far as possible to take advantage of the invitation.

Report No. 5 on Nominations was read as follows:—

That Rev. Geo. H. Cornish be added to the Committee on Boundaries, his name having been omitted from former Report of this Committee.

That John Henry be added to Committee on Readjustment of Work.

That Rev. T. G. Williams be added to Committee on Transfer, to take the place of Rev. Dr. Elliott, who has gone home on leave of absence.

The Report was adopted.

The following motion of Dr. Allison, which had been laid on the table, was then taken up:

The Itinerant General Superintendents shall be elected by ballot, without nomination or debate; and, when the Conference shall proceed to said election, it shall first elect a General Superintendent to hold office for the period of eight years; and, when such election shall have been consummated, the Conference shall proceed to elect a Superintendent to hold office for four years.

It was moved in amendment by Dr. Dewart,—

That the Conference shall vote for General Superintendents simultaneously, and, of individuals receiving a majority of votes, that one receiving the greatest number of votes shall be the Superintendent to hold office for eight years; and that one receiving the next highest number of votes shall be the Superintendent to hold office for four years.

The amendment was lost and original resolution carried.

The Conference resumed the consideration of the resolution of Rev. R. Cade, which was pending at time of adjournment, and which was taken up in connection with the Report of Committee on Annual Conference Boundaries and Ministerial Relation thereto.

It was moved in amendment—

That an enquiry be made at each Annual District Meeting to ascertain the number of ministers who will attend the Annual Conference, and that, when the number is ascertained, an equal number of laymen shall be elected.

Amendment lost.

It was ordered that the motion laid on the table yesterday, to consider the last resolution, be now taken up, which motion was in the following terms:

That the number of lay delegates be one for every minister in the active work.

The amendments were both withdrawn and the original motion carried.

Items 3 and 4 were adopted.

Item 5 read and moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment—

That the Conferences be not held earlier than the second Wednesday in April.

The amendment was lost and the item adopted.

Items 6 and 7 were adopted.

Item 8 moved to adopt.

Rev. W. Tindall introduced the motion of which he had given notice as an amendment, as follows:

That the annual examination of ministerial character be conducted in the District Meeting. In case of the arrest of any minister's character the whole matter, with the action of the District Meeting thereon, shall be reported to the next ensuing ministerial session of the Annual Conference, which shall examine into the case and pronounce judgment, reporting their action to the mixed Conference; the report to be for information and not for discussion.

The amendment was lost and the orginal motion carried

Items 9, 10, 11, and 12 adopted.

Item 13th moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment—

That the words "who has completed four years' probation" be substituted for "travelled."—*Carried*

Item 14th adopted, with the insertion of the word "Secretary."

Item 15th moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment that the following be added:

Nevertheless, when a minister has travelled twenty years, this rule shall not apply in such a manner as to deprive him of his claim upon the Superannuation or Supernumerary Funds.—*Carried.*

Items 16, 17, 18, and 19 were adopted.

Item 20 on "Order of Business," with its subsections to the note, was read and moved to adopt.

Motion pending at time of adjournment. Benediction by Dr. Potts.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, *Sept. 11th.*

The Conference opened at two o'clock, the President in the chair. After religious services the Journals of the previous session were read and confirmed.

Report No. 5 of the Committee on Leave of Absence was read as follows:—

We recommend the granting of leave of absence, on account of pressing business, to the following:—Rev. S. J. Hunter, permanently; Mr. T. Courtice, permanently, from Wednesday; Revs. D. Savage, W. C. Beer, J. Learoyd, and Mr. A. Frost, permanently, from Thursday; Rev. Dr. Cochran and Mr. J. B. Lane, permanently, from Friday.

Report was adopted.

Report of the Committee on Name of Church was read.

Report No. 1 on Sunday-school work was read.

The Committee on Address to the Governor-General reported organization as follows:- -Rev. Dr. Rice, President; Rev. Dr. Carman, Secretary.

The consideration of the Report on Annual Conference Boundaries and Ministerial Relation thereto, pending at time of adjournment was resumed.

Moved in amendment to the item under consideration, by Dr. Gardiner, and seconded by F. Chisholm,—

That the phrase, "office of the ministry," in subsections 16 and 17, simply read "the ministry."

Amendment carried.

Sub-section 18 read and adopted.

Sub-sections from 18 to 29 inclusive read and adopted, with the insertion of the words "Albert University."

Item 21 moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment that "the debts" be inserted.

Amendment lost. Item adopted.

Item 22 adopted.

Moved that the Report as amended be adopted.

Moved in amendment,—

That the clause, "The Annual Conference within this limitation shall determine the time and place of its meeting from year to year," be added to item five.

Amendment carried.

Moved that the Report be further amended by the addition of the following:—

That each lay delegate to an Annual Conference shall furnish to the Secretary of that body a certificate of standing from the Superintendent of his circuit.

Amendment lost.

The Report was adopted as amended.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The order of the day being called, the Conference proceeded to vote for an Itinerant General Superintendent for eight years.

The following is the result of the first ballot:—Dr. Rice, 74; Dr. Carman, 76; Dr. Williams, 38, with some scattering votes.

The total number of votes cast in the second ballot were 204, of which Dr. Rice received 118, and Dr. Carman 79.

The Rev. Samuel Dwight Rice, D.D., was accordingly declarcd elected Itinerant General Superintendent, to hold office for the term of eight years.

The Conference then proceeded to elect the second Itin-

erant General Superintendent, and on the first ballot Dr. Carman received 169 votes out of a possible 204.

The Rev. Albert Carman, M.A., D.D., was then declared elected to the office of an Itinerant General Superintendent for a period of four years.

Moved by Dr. Sutherland, and seconded by W. Galbraith,—

That the next order of business be the election of Secretary for the united Church.—*Carried.*

The ballot being taken, the Rev. J. C. Antliff, B.D., was declared elected; 193 votes were cast, of which 106 were for Mr. Antliff.

Moved that when we adjourn we meet at 7.30.—*Carried.*

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Moved by James Mills, and seconded by Mr. Brethour,—

That the next order of business be the consideration of such portions of the Report of the Committee on Publishing Interests as relate to the appointment of officers, and that immediately thereafter the Conference proceed to elect by ballot the Editors and Book Stewards for the present quadrennium.

Adjourned. Benediction by Rev. E. Roberts.

TUESDAY EVENING, *Sept. 11th.*

The Conference met at half-past seven, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. J. Kenner.

The Journals were read and confirmed.

Rev. S. Bond gave notice of motion touching the authority of the General Superintendents on Committees

and Boards. Also one relating to the rights of the General Superintendents, when present, to settle questions of law in the Annual Conference.

Moved by Dr. Potts, and seconded by Senator Ferrier,—

That the General Superintendents be requested to occupy seats on the platform during the remainder of this Conference.

The motion was carried, and the General Superintendents took seats accordingly.

Moved by Rev. J. Graham, seconded by Rev. P. Addison,—

That the salaries of Missionary Secretary and Assistants, the salaries of Book Stewards and Editors be referred to Committee on Finance.—*Lost.*

Moved by Dr. Potts, and seconded by Senator Ferrier,—

That the election of General Conference Officers by ballot be preceded by nomination.—*Carried.*

The motion, of which notice was given at the close of the last session by Mr. James Mills, was read and adopted.

The order of the day being called for, that portion of the Report on Publishing Interests having reference to the appointment of Book Stewards and Editors was read and adopted.

On motion, it was ordered that the Book Stewards and Editors be now elected.

For the Western section Rev. W. Briggs was nominated Book Steward.

There being but one nomination, the Secretary was authorized to cast the ballot for the Conference, and the Rev. W. Briggs was declared elected.

For the Eastern section Rev. Stephen F. Huestis was nominated. The Secretary was directed to cast the ballot

for the Conference, and the Rev. S. F. Huestis was declared elected.

The Conference ext proceeded to nominate the Editor for the *Christian Guardian.*

Rev. Dr. Dewart being the only nominee, the Secretary was authorized to cast the Conference ballot. Rev. Dr. Dewart was declared elected.

The following brethren were then put in nomination for the Associate Editorship: Dr. Stone, Dr. Badgley, and J. J. Rice. The ballots being cast, Rev. S. G. Stone, D.D., was declared elected.

Rev. Thos. Watson Smith was next nominated Editor of the *Wesleyan.* There being but one nomination, the Secretray was authorized to cast the Conference ballot, and Rev. Thomas W. Smith was declared elected.

Rev. Dr. Withrow was nominated Editor of the *Canadian Magazine* and Sunday School Periodicals. The Secretary was authorized to cast the Conference ballot, when Dr. Withrow was declared elected.

The following motion was offered,—

That so much of the Report of the Committee on Missions be read as relates to the officers of the Missionary Society, and that the election of the Secretary and Treasurer be at once proceeded with.—*Carried.*

Rev. Dr. Potts nominated, and the Rev. J. J. Rice seconded, the Rev. A. Sutherland, D.D., as General Missionary Secretary and Clerical Treasurer. There being but one nomination, the Secretary was authorized to cast the Conference ballot, when Rev. Dr. Sutherland was declared elected.

Hon. Mr. Ferrier nominated Mr. John Macdonald, Esq., as Lay Treasurer of the Missionary Society. The Secretary was authorized to cast the Conference ballot. Mr. John Macdonald was declared elected.

Moved by Dr. Sutherland, and seconded by Dr. Allison, that Dr. Wood be appointed Honorary Secretary of the Missionary Society, and that the Secretary of this Conference be instructed to notify Dr. Wood of the passage of this resolution, and assure him of the fraternal esteem and sympathy of the Conference.—*Carried.*

Moved and seconded, that the item referring to the appointment of a Superintendent of Missions in the North-West be now considered.—*Carried.*

The item was read, and on motion laid on the table.

Moved that we adjourn. Moved in amendment that the session be prolonged until ten p.m. Amendment carried.

Report No. 6 on Leave of Absence was read and adopted.

That Messrs. E. S. Whipple, C. Kitmer, J. Milne, G. S. Bowes, be allowed to leave the Conference permanently, on account of pressing business; the Rev. J. H. Robinson, permanently, on account of illness.

The Report was adopted.

On motion it was ordered that we consider the Report of Committee on Name of the Church.

The Report was read.

Moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment that the name be "The Methodist Church of Canada."

Moved in amendment to the amendment that the name be the "United Methodist Church."

Moved as a substitute that the name be "The Methodist Church in Canada."

Pending the discussion the Conference adjourned.

Benediction by the President.

SEVENTH DAY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, *Sept. 12th.*

The Conference opened at nine o'clock, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. W. Herridge.

The Journals were read and confirmed.

Report No. 1 on Course of Study was read.

The Report on the name of the Church, which was pending at time of adjournment, was taken up.

After some further discussion it was ordered that the vote be now taken.

The substitute of Dr. Inch was put and lost.

The amendment to the amendment was lost, and the amendment was also lost.

The Report of the Committee was adopted, calling the Church "The Methodist Church."

Report. No. 5 of Committee on Nominations was read and adopted.

The motion was presented by the Rev. J. Gray touching the raising of the General Conference Fund, and referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Rev. S. Bond's resolutions touching the Itinerant General Superintendents were read, and referred to the Committee on Discipline.

The Rev. W. W. Percival gave notice of motion for a reconsideration of the name, *Bay of Quinte.*

The Rev. W. Tindall moved a resolution regarding the holding of the first Annual Conferences; it was referred to the Committee on Amalgamation of the Work.

The Rev. Alex. Campbell gave notice of motion regarding transfers.

Dr. Stewart gave notice of motion regarding the period when the organization of the new Church shall begin.

Item No. 3 of the Report of Committee on Missions referring to the North-West was taken from the table and read. Moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment:—In view of the fact that two Superintendents have already been elected, it is not expedient that such officer be appointed for the present.

Moved in amendment to the amendment,—

That if, in the opinion of the Central Board of Missions, the exigencies of the work demand the continuance of a special supervision of Missions in the North-West, it be authorized to make provision for such supervision until the next General Conference.

Amendment to the amendment lost.

On motion, the amendment was put and carried.

Ordered that the balance of Report No. 1 on Missions be now considered item by item.

On motions, the items and sub-items as far as sub-item 5, under item 7, were adopted.

Sub-item 5 was lost. Sub-item 6 was moved to adopt, with the elimination after the words "Conference Treasurer." —*Carried.*

Item 7 adopted. Item 8 adopted, with necessary eliminations to make it harmonize. Item 9 adopted. Item 10 moved to adopt.

Motion pending at time of adjournment.

Adjourned. Benediction by Dr. Rice.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, *Sept. 12th.*

The Conference opened at two o'clock, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. J. Vanwyck.

The Journals were read and confirmed.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Annual Conference Boundaries was read.

The resolution of Mr. Kent, touching out-door preaching, was on motion referred to the Committee on Discipline.

Mr. Kent moved a resolution touching the proper attitude in prayer, which was referred to the Committee on Discipline.

The resolution touching the name of Hymnal was taken up, and on motion referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

The resolution touching the expenses of laymen attending Annual Conferences was read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

The resolution relating to religious services on the consummation of Union was read and referred to the Executive Committee of the General Conference.

The resolution of Mr. J. Macdonald, respecting ministers engaging in secular pursuits, was read and referred to the Committee on Discipline.

The resolution of the Rev. Alex. Campbell, respecting transfers, was read and referred to the Committee on Transfers.

The resolution of the Rev. Dr. Douglas, respecting the Annual Conference sessions, as to the division of time, was read and referred to the Committee on Discipline.

The motion of the Rev. S. J. Hunter respecting the expe nses of delegates in attendance at the General Conferences, and the place of holding said Conferences, was read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

The resolution of the Rev. Dr. Aylsworth, on the tem-

perance question, was read and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

The Rev. W. Percival moved for the re-consideration of the vote fixing the names of the Bay of Quinte and Niagara Conferences, with a view to changing them to Belleville and Hamilton respectively.—*Carried.*

It was moved and seconded,—

That the names of the Bay of Quinte and Niagara Conferences be changed to the Belleville and Hamilton Conferences respectively.

Moved in amendment by Dr. Rice,—

That the name of the Bay of Quinte Conference be changed to Belleville.

Amendment lost.

Original motion lost.

Notice of motion by Mr. John Mills relating to Sunday-schools was read.

Notice of motion by the Rev. D. G. Sutherland relating to transfers was read.

Notice of motion by the Rev. Dr. Carman relating to Acts of Parliament, etc., was read.

Report No. 7 of the Committee on Leave of Absence was read as follows:—

We recommend the granting of leave of absence, permanently, on account of business pressure, to the following:—Messrs. C. A. Barnes, S. D. Barnes, J. Henry, Wm. Beatty, I. England, M. Caton, S. Hunt; Revs. J. Harris, T. S. Linscott, and B. F. Austin.

The Report was adopted.

Adjourned. Benediction by the Rev. Dr. Carman.

EIGHTH DAY.

THURSDAY MORNING, *Sept. 13th.*

The Conference opened at nine o'clock, the President in the chair. Religious services were conducted by the Rev. T. Marshall. Journals read and confirmed.

A memorial from the Sunday-school Parliament Committee of the Methodist Episcopal Church was read, and referred to the Committee on Sunday Schools.

Rev. W. Blair gave notice of motion relating to the Methodist Convention for 1884.

Report No. 4 on Discipline was received as read.

Report No. 2 on Missions was read.

Report No. 3 on General Superintendency was read.

Report No. 1 on the Children's Fund was read.

Report No. 2 on Temperance was read.

The Report on Transfers was read.

Report No. 1 on the Redistribution of the Work was read.

Report No. 1 on Church Property was read.

Report on Missions resumed.

Subsection 10, pending at time of adjournment of fourteenth sitting, was read.

Moved in amendment,—

That when an appropriation is made by the General Board to any particular department of the work, or for any special object, the Annual Conference Committee shall not be at liberty to direct any part of such grant to any other department or object.

Amendment carried.

Sections 11, 12, and 13 were adopted.

Section 14, moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment that the name be changed to the Executive Committee.

Moved in amendment to the amendment that after the words, "eighteen members," be added, "to be elected by ballot."—*Lost.*

Amendment lost; original item carried.

Sections 15 to 19 inclusive adopted.

On motion, Report No. 2 on Missions was called up, read and adopted.

Moved and seconded, that Report No. 1 on Missions be adopted as amended.

Moved in amendment by S. F. Huestis, and seconded by W. Lathern, to insert the following:—

That each Annual Conference may appoint a Treasurer, through whom all remittances from the General Treasurer shall be sent. In case any Annual Conference does not make such an appointment, then all remittances to and from the Mission Rooms shall be made through the Superintendents of districts of such Conference.—*Carried.*

Moved and seconded,—

That the Japan, Victoria and New Westminster, and the Fort Simpson Districts only shall be considered missionary districts, and the Central Board may appropriate directly to each of the missions in these districts.—*Carried.*

On motion the Report was further amended as follows:—

That the Superintendent of a circuit or mission shall be treasurer of the branch society on his circuit or mission.

Report No. 1 adopted as amended.

Report No. 1 on Publishing Interests was on motion called up and considered item by item.

SECTION I.

Items 1 and 2 adopted.

Item 3, moved in amendment by J. S. Williamson, and seconded by W. G. Brown,—

That the item be amended by substituting the name of *The Methodist* for that of the *Christian Guardian.*

Moved in amendment to the amendment,—

That the sub-heading to the *Christian Guardian* be:—"with which is incorporated the *Christian Advocate, Christian Journal,* and *Observer.*"

The amendment to the amendment was lost; amendment also lost; original item carried.

Item 4, moved to adopt.

Motion pending at time of adjournment.

Adjourned. Benediction by Dr. Nelles.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, *Sept. 13th.*

The Conference met at two o'clock, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. P. Addison.

The Journals of the preceding session were read and confirmed.

The President called the attention of the Conference to the rule of order relating to the previous question, and, on motion, it was agreed that when a vote is called for to lay a question on the table, it shall be in order for the mover, if he has not spoken, to speak to his question.

The Rev. F. Chisholm gave notice of motion relating to the appointment of an Assistant Secretary.

Report No. 1 of the Committee on Education was read, and it was ordered that it be considered immediately after Report now pending on Publishing Interests.

On motion, it was ordered that the Report on Children's Fund shall be the order of the day as soon as the Report on Education is disposed of.

Report No. 3 on Temperance was read.

The Report on Finance was read.

Report No. 1 on Centenary of Organization of Methodism in America was read.

A memorial from Owen Sound was read, relating to the connection of Owen Sound District with the Guelph Conference. It was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

The consideration of the Report on Publishing Interests, pending at time of adjournment, was resumed.

The remaining items of Section 1 were all adopted.

SECTION II.—BOOK STEWARDS.

Item 1 was passed at a previous session.

Items 2 and 3 were adopted.

SECTION III.—EDITORS.

Item 1 was passed at a previous session.

Items 2, 3 and 4 were adopted.

It was moved and seconded,—

That Report No. 1 on Publishing Interests be adopted as a whole.—*Carried.*

Report No. 1 on Education was taken up *seriatim.*

Items 1, 2 and 3 were adopted.

Item 4 adopted, with the addition of the name of J. E. Rose, Q.C.

Item 5 was adopted.

It was moved and seconded that the Report be adopted as a whole.

Moved in amendment by the Rev. E. A. Stafford, seconded by the Rev. George Young, D.D.,—

That another item be added thereto, as follows:—Inasmuch as there are in the Province of Manitoba two regularly

constituted Boards, holding charters for the establishment of Collegiate Institutions, one that of "Wesley College" of the Methodist Church of Canada, the other that of "Trinity College" of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada; and as neither has yet made financial investments or begun educational work, this Conference appoints that the Board of Wesley College be increased by the addition of the Revs. George Young, D.D.; A. Carman, D.D.; E.A. Stafford, M.A.; Thos. Argue, James Woodsworth, John Semmens, Charles Ladner, and His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor Aikins; and Messrs. J. A. M. Aikins, A.M.; T. L. Hellwell, Freeman Lane, A.B.; A. Bowerman, A.M.; Thos. B. Badgeley, A.B.; and J. H. Bell, B.A., Q.C.; and that said Board shall have full power to secure legislation for the amalgamation of the two charters, to employ Professors and Tutors, and to transact all other business necessary for the commencement of educational work at such time as such Board may deem expedient.—*Carried.*

Report adopted as amended.

Judge Dean moved, seconded by E. Roberts,—

That a committee be appointed to prepare a respectful and affectionate address to the Conference of the Bible Christian Church in England, setting forth the happy union which has been effected among all the members of the Methodist family in this Dominion, and urging upon them, with the greatest respect, the reasons which we think should prevail with them in giving their consent to the Bible Christian Conference in this country joining 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.

The motion was carried.

The Rev. J. Gray gave notice of motion relating to the Children's Fund.

On motion it was ordered that we adjourn, to meet at 7.30 p.m.

Adjourned, with benediction by the President.

THURSDAY EVENING, *Sept. 13th.*

The Conference met at half-past seven, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were led by the Rev. J. Milner.

The Journals were read and confirmed.

Report No. 8 of Committee on Leave of Absence was read, recommending granting leave of absence to the following:—

The Rev. John Shaw, on account of sickness; and Messrs H. M. Hibbard, C. H. Lambly and Dr. Inch, all permanently, on account of urgent duties.

The Report was adopted.

It was moved and seconded,—

That the order of the day be laid on the table until to-morrow morning, in order to consider the Report on Discipline.—*Carried.*

Report No. 4 on Discipline was read up to the section referring to the business of the Financial District Meeting, and adopted clause by clause, with the exception of sub-section 6, under item 7, relating to marriage of ministers, which was expunged.

On motion the Conference adjourned. Benediction by the Rev. William Briggs.

NINTH DAY.

FRIDAY MORNING, *Sept. 14th.*

The Conference met at nine o'clock, the President in the chair.

The Journals of preceding session were read and confirmed.

Report No. 2 on Annual Conference Boundaries was read.

Report No. 4 on General Superintendency was read.

Report No. 5 on Discipline was on motion taken as read.

Report No. 9 on Leave of Absence was read and adopted, which recommended leave of permanent absence to J. S. Clark, on account of pressing business engagements.

A notice of motion was given relating to the preparation of a digest of the Journals of this Conference.

Rev. S. F. Huestis gave notice of motion touching Printing, etc.

Rev. Alexander Campbell gave notice of motion relating to the raising of One Hundred Thousand Dollars to meet contingencies.

Moved and seconded,—

That Reports of Committees take precedence of all other business, and that no notices of motion be received save those which relate to the Reports of Committees before the House.—*Carried.*

The order of the day was taken up, and Report No. 1 on Children's Fund was read.

Preamble read. Moved to adopt.

Moved as a substitute,—

That, in view of the difficulties surrounding the management of the Children's Fund, we recommend its abolition.

Rev. J. Hunt moved an amendment, which was withdrawn.

Adjourned, with benediction by the Rev. W. Beer.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, *Sept. 14th.*

The Conference met at two o'clock, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. Thomas Griffith.

The Journals of previous session were read and confirmed.

Notice of motion relating to Contingent Fund was read.

Report No. 1 on the Œcumenical Conference was read.

A supplementary report from the Sunday-school Committee was read.

Report No. 1 on the Superannuation Fund was read, and, on motion, it was agreed that it be the order of the day when the Children's Fund is disposed of.

It was moved and seconded,—

That prior to the discussion of the above report, a copy of the Charter of the Fund be procured by the Secretary, if possible, for reference in the consideration of the Report. —*Carried.*

A Report on the Supernumerary Fund of the Eastern Conferences was read.

A Report on Sabbath Observance was read.

A Report of the Committee on Engrossing was read.

The Rev. L. Hooker gave notice of motion on Transfers.

The discussion on the Children's Fund was resumed, when it was ordered that speakers be limited to five minutes.

Dr. Carman moved the following amendment, seconded by the Rev. E. Roberts, to the substitute,—

That, inasmuch as diversity of opinion exists as to the continuance of the Children's Fund as it has existed in the Methodist Church of Canada and others of the Churches; and inasmuch also as some of the fields of labour and their preachers must suffer by its immediate abolition,

Resolved,—That this Fund be perpetuated at least till the General Conference of 1886, that in the meantime a duly appointed Commission obtain all needed information regarding the operation of the Fund, and report to the said General Conference; and that we proceed with the report to

adopt the necessary provisions for the government of the Fund.—*Carried.*

Item 1st read, and moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment by Dr. Allison, seconded by the Rev. S. F. Huestis, that the item be amended so as to read as follows:—

The Eastern Conferences, viz., the Nova Scotia, the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and the Newfoundland Conferences, shall be allowed to continue their Children's Fund on the same basis and under the same regulations as have previously existed in those Conferences when in connection with the Methodist Church of Canada, or according to such rules and regulations as they may see fit to establish.

Item adopted as amended.

WESTERN CONFERENCES.

All the items in this connection were adopted, with the substitution of "Children's Fund" for "Superannuation Fund" in the fifth section.

Moved that the report be adopted as amended.

Moved that it be further amended by the addition of the following:—

That in computing the membership in relation to the Children's Fund, only those members who are sixteen years of age and upwards shall be reckoned.—*Carried.*

Ordered that the report be adopted with its emendations.

Moved and seconded,—

That the Commission referred to in the Report passed regarding the Children's Fund consist of the Committee of the Methodist Church of Canada, already engaged in this work, with additions thereto from the other delegations, and appointed by them as follows:—Methodist Episcopal Church, three; Bible Christian Church, two; Primitive Methodist Church, two.—*Carried.*

Dr. Sanderson

Ordered that

7.30 p.m.

Dr. Sutherlan

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Adjourned.

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Williams,—

Dr. Sanderson read the Charter as requested.

Ordered that when we adjourn we adjourn to meet at 7.30 p.m.

Dr. Sutherland gave notice of motion relating to Bible Christian missionary money.

Adjourned. Benediction by the President.

FRIDAY EVENING, *Sept. 14th.*

The Conference met at half-past seven o'clock, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were led by the Rev. S. Card.

The Journals of the preceding session were read and confirmed.

Report No. 10 of Committee on Leave of Absence was read. The Committee recommended the granting of leave of absence to Messrs. R. Walker, R. I. Walker, J. F. Halstead, and Rev. W. W. Percival, all permanently, on account of pressure of business engagements.

The Report was adopted.

On motion, it was agreed that the order of the day, after the Report of the Committee on the Superannuation Fund, shall be the consideration of the Report on Transfer.

It was further agreed that the next order should be the Report on Redistribution of the Work.

On motion, it was ordered that Rev. W. S. Griffin be added to the Commission on the Children's Fund, and that Rev. T. G. Williams take the place of Rev. E. A. Stafford on said Commission.

The following resolution was moved by the Rev. T. G. Williams,—

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 Union, in order to ensure correctness and uniformity of action.—*Carried.*

Report No. 1 on Superannuation Fund was called up, and, on motion, it was ordered to consider it item by item.

Item 1 adopted.

Item 2. On motion of Mr. John Macdonald, a second item was adopted and inserted.

Item 3 adopted.

IV.—MANAGEMENT.

Item 1 adopted.

Item 2, moved to adopt. An amendment was moved by the Rev. Dr. Sutherland, when, on motion, both were laid on the table to be harmonized.

The Conference adjourned, with benediction by the Rev. J. Douse.

TENTH DAY.

SATURDAY MORNING, *Sept. 15th.*

The Conference met at nine o'clock, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. W. Jolliffe.

The Journals of the morning session were read and confirmed.

The Rev. W. Herridge gave notice of motion relating to levelling up.

The Rev. A. Sutherland moved,—

Whereas it was agreed in the Basis of Union, adopted by

the contracting Churches, that a debt of some $20,000 on the Mission Fund of the Bible Christian Church should be distributed among various Church Trusts in aid of which such debt was incurred:

And whereas the securities given by said Church Trusts are made in favor of the Treasurers of the Missionary Society of the said Bible Christian Church:

It is agreed that the matter be left in the hands of the said Treasurers, Rev. J. Kenner and Mr. R. Souch, to realize upon the securities as the same shall mature, and finally close up the whole business.

It is also agreed that, until the said debt is extinguished, the proceeds of the property belonging to the Bible Christian Church, which may be sold, shall be applied, after paying other debts of the Trust, to the reduction of said Mission Fund debt.—*Carried.*

Dr. Carman introduced a motion fixing the time of commencing operations of the new Church.—*Laid on table.*

Moved by Dr. Carman, seconded by Rev. E. Roberts,—

That a Committee of five be appointed to prepare an Address to the Churches.—*Adopted.*

Moved by Dr. Carman, seconded by Dr. Burwash,—

That a Committee of fifteen be appointed to oversee legislation.—*Adopted.*

Judge Dean submitted the Report of Committee on the Address to the Bible Christian Church in England. The Address as reported was adopted.

Moved by Dr. Dewart, seconded by W. Briggs,—

That the delegation meet at 12 o'clock noon, to appoint their proportion of the members of the Western section of the Book Committee.—*Carried.*

The President named the following as the Committee to prepare an Address to the Churches:—Dr. Dewart, George Abbs, W. Herridge, G. Webber, and Dr. Nelles. The Conference approved the same.

The Report on the Superannuation Fund, pending at the close of last sitting, was resumed.

Dr. Sutherland asked permission to change his amendment, and proposed in the stead thereof the following, moved and seconded, as a substitute for item No. 2,—

The Delegates from the aforesaid Annual Conferences of the General Conference shall meet not later than the sixth day of the sessions of each General Conference, to consider the affairs of this fund, and elect the aforesaid Board of Management. They shall also nominate one or more persons for the office of Treasurer, and from among those so nominated the General Conference shall elect, by ballot, a Treasurer or Treasurers of the said fund.

A General Superintendent shall be, *ex-officio*, Chairman of the Board; but if no General Superintendent be present, the Board shall elect its own Chairman. It shall also elect its own Secretary.

In case of death or disqualification of any member of the Board during the quadrennium, the Board is authorized to fill the vacancy.

Dr. Carman moved,—

That item of Report in the proposed substitute of Dr. Sutherland be referred back to the Committee to secure unity of administration of funds.—*Lost.*

Dr. Sutherland's substitute was carried.

Dr. Sutherland moved,—

That a General Superintendent shall be, *ex-officio*, Chairman of the Supernumerary Fund Board; but if no such Superintendent be present, the Board shall elect its own Chairman.

As it is important there should be uniformity as far as possible in the management of the various Connexional Trusts, this Conference recommends that the Eastern Conferences take steps for such amendments in the charter of their Supernumerary Fund as will harmonize the method

of electing its Board and Treasurers with the method already adopted in regard to the Superannuation Fund.

Laid over till Supernumerary Fund Report is considered.

Item 3 (under Section IV.) adopted.

Item 4 adopted.

Sections V. and VI., with subsections down to 7, under VI., were adopted.

Subsection 7 moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment,—

That the claims of a widow shall be four-fifths of the amount her late husband would have received.

Moved in amendment to the amendment,—

That each widow receives three-fourths of the amount her late husband would have been entitled to receive, and each child $15 till eighteen years of age.

The amendment to the amendment lost; amendment also lost; original item carried.

Subsections 8, 9 and 10 adopted.

VII.—SCALE OF PAYMENTS.

Sections 1 to 6 adopted.

Section 6 pending at time of adjournment.

Adjourned, with benediction by Dr. Withrow.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, *Sept. 15th.*

The Conference met at two o'clock, the President in the chair. After devotional exercises, the Journals were read and confirmed.

Delegations of Western Conferences reported Book Committees as follows:—

Toronto—Revs. W. Bee, T. Roberts, and Dr. Sutherland; Messrs. John Macdonald, R. I. Walker, and T. H. Willmott.

Niagara—Rev. Drs. Williams and Gardiner; Messrs. Johnson Harrison and Humphrey Arthur.

Guelph—Revs. James Gray and John Kenner; Messrs. G. H. Kennedy and A. S. Fisher.

London—Revs. E. B. Ryckman, D.D., W. R. Parker, E. Lounsbury; Mr. William Bowman.

Bay of Quinte—Rev. J. Bredin, J. Curts; Mr. W. A. Morrow and Judge Dean.

Montreal—Revs. T. G. Williams, A. B. Chambers, F. Chisholm; Dr. Lavell, Mr. William Bow.

Manitoba—Rev. Dr. Young.

The President submitted additional names to Committee named by chair this morning to prepare Address, viz., Rev. Drs. Badgley and W. H. Withrow.

The consideration of Report on Superannuation Fund was resumed.

Item 6 adopted.

VIII.—REGULATIONS.

Sections 1 to 5 inclusive adopted.

Section 6 lost.

Sections 7 and 8 adopted.

Section 9 amended and adopted.

Section 10 adopted.

Section 11. Moved that it be amended, by the addition of James Aylsworth, T. M. Edmondston, Matthew Wardell, and Thomas H. Willmott to the Committee.—*Amendment carried and then adopted.*

IX.—BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

Section 1 adopted, with the substitution of the name of David Graham for that of G. H. Kennedy.

Section 13 adopted.

Report was adopted as amended.

W. Herridge moved for the consideration of his motion (of which notice had been given) to remit Report to Com mittee.

Moved in amendment by Mr. John Macdonald,—

That the regular order of business be taken up.—*Amendment carried.*

The consideration of the paper on Supernumerary Ministers was held over, and Report of Committee on Transfers taken up.

General Resolution read and carried.

Item No. 1 being under consideration, it was moved in amendment by Rev. J. M. Simpson, seconded by E. D. O'Flynn,—

That the Transfer Committee be composed of the General Superintendents and the Presidents of the Annual Conferences interested.

In amendment to the amendment, the Rev. Dr. Sutherland moved, seconded by Rev. Dr. Carman, the following, viz. :—

In the matter of Transfers, each Annual Conference shall be represented by its President and one of the mini ters elected annually by ballot by such Conference.

The General Superintendents, in connection with the representatives of the Annual Conferences affected, shall be the Committee to make Transfers. But no Transfer shall be made without the concurrence of two of the Conference representatives with the General Superintendents.

The amendment to the amendment lost; the amendment also lost; the item adopted.

The session adjourned with devotional exercises.

ELEVENTH DAY.

MONDAY MORNING, *Sept. 17th.*

The Conference resumed its session at half-past nine, Dr. Williams in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. R. Jones.

Dr. Gardiner gave notice of motion for the appointment of a Committee to ascertain and report on what amount is necessary to be paid by each of the contracting parties to level up in the Superannuation Fund.

The consideration of the Committee's Report on Transfers was next taken up, and Mr. Brethour moved, seconded by Dr. Young,—

That in case an emergency arises between the Annual Conferences, making it necessary to transfer a minister to supply the work on any missionary field of the North-West or the Pacific Coast, the General Superintendents, together with the President and representative of any of the Annual Conferences interested, shall have authority to transfer such minister, provided they deem it desirable, and such minister is willing to be transferred.

It was then moved that the subject be laid on the table.

The motion was lost.

It was moved by the Rev. Mr. Griffin and seconded,—

That nevertheless such transfer shall not be final unless confirmed by the Transfer Committee at its annual meeting. —*Lost.*

Original resolution adopted.

The remaining sections of Report were adopted with an addition to the 8th section.

Report on Transfers was then adopted as amended.

The Report of the Supernumerary Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Fund was considered, and sections 1 to 5 adopted.

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The following resolution was then carried,—

That whereas the Constitution of the Supernumerary Fund of the Eastern Conferences makes provision that any change or changes in the Constitution can only be effected as the proposed change or changes shall have been concurred in by two-thirds of the members of the Fund present, and voting thereon in the said three Conferences; and whereas the Basis of Union enacts that no change is deemed necessary in regard to the Supernumerary Fund of the Eastern Conferences; and whereas, in order to bring the management of the Supernumerary Fund in harmony with the Superannuated Fund of the Western Conferences, it is deemed desirable that provision should be made in the Constitution of the Fund of the Maritime Provinces for the presence of a General Superintendent, as Chairman of the yearly meeting of the General Committee, and for the appointment by the General Conference of the Treasurer or Treasurers of the Fund on the nomination of the representatives of the Eastern Conference, assembled at the time and place of each General Conference; therefore resolved that this Conference recommends the Eastern Conferences to take steps to secure such changes in the Constitution of said Fund as shall secure the above object.

Moved and seconded,—

That the Constitution of the Supernumerary Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Fund be adopted as read.—*Carried.*

The Report was adopted as amended.

Report No. 2 on General Superintendency was read and adopted.

Report No. 3 on General Superintendency was called up and considered item by item.

Item 1 and 2 adopted.

Item 3, moved to adopt.

Moved by the Rev. J. C. Antliff, that it be amended by the addition of the following resolution,—

When a General Superintendent shall visit any foreign or remote mission in the discharge of his official duties, he shall, with the concurrence of the Mission Board and the President of the Conference having jurisdiction in the territory, have power to make such arrangement of missionaries in the field as may seem advisable, and with the concurrence of the President of the Conference, as above, shall have interim powers of ordination.

Item pending at the time of the Conference adjournment. Benediction by the President.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, *Sept. 17th.*

The Conference met at two o'clock, the President in the chair. Religious services were led by the Rev. S. Bond.

The Journals were read and confirmed.

It was moved and seconded,—

That the Book Steward be requested to publish 2,000 copies of the digest to be prepared for the guidance of the Church officials in carrying out the details of the Union, and that one copy be sent to each Superintendent of circuit, the cost of publication to be paid out of the General Conference Fund.—*Carried.*

The Book Committee was called to meet at 5 p.m.

Notice of motion was presented by Rev. T. G. Williams for reconsideration of the Report on Superannuation Fund.

The following are the names of the Book Committee of the Eastern section:

Rev. Dr. McMurray.	Rev. Robert Duncan.
" John Lathern.	J. Wesley Smith.
" W. C. Brown.	Joseph S. Belcher.
" Dr. Pope.	Hon. W. G. Strong.
" Douglas Chapman.	H. J. B. Woods.
" James Dove.	J. E. Irvine.

It was moved and seconded that, in order to meet the

necessities of the case, and render the holding of Annual Conferences practicable,—

Resolved, That all members, clerical and lay, of Annual Conferences shall be expected to pay their own travelling expenses to and from Conference, and also to provide their own board and lodging while in attendance upon the same.

It was moved in amendment,—

That each Annual Conference make such provision for billeting its members as it may deem advisable.

The amendment was carried.

It was moved and seconded,—

That each Annual Conference shall be responsible for the expenses of its delegation to the General Conference.

On motion, it was laid on the table until Report on Finance be considered.

The President named the following as a Committee to secure a seal: Revs. W. R. Parker, John Bredin, W. Bee, E. Roberts, and Mr. James Aylsworth.

The appointment was confirmed by the Conference.

Dr. Withrow gave notice of motion relating to the Women's Missionary Society.

It was moved and seconded,—

That a Committee of one from each of the contracting Churches be appointed to ascertain the nearest possible amount that will be required by each denomination and by each preacher in what is described by levelling up. The Committee to be named by the Chair.—*Carried.*

It was moved and seconded—

That the resolution of Alexander Campbell relating to the raising of $100,000 be referred to the Committee on Organization of the Centenary of American Methodism.—*Carried.*

Report No. 2 on Church Property was read.

The consideration of Report No. 3 on General Superintendency was resumed.

The amendment of Rev. J. C. Antliff to the 3rd item, was on motion of Rev. F. B. Stratton, laid on the table.

Item 3 was then adopted.

Items 4 and 5 were laid on the table.

It was moved and seconded that No. 3 Report be adopted as amended.—*Carried.*

The Report of the Committee on Readjustment of the Work was taken up *seriatim.*

I. DISTRICTS.

Sections 1 to 6 were adopted.

II. ON STATIONING COMMITTEE.

Sections 1 to 4 were adopted, with the substitution of Clinton for Guelph as the place in which the Guelph Conference shall meet.

III. ON CIRCUITS.

Sections 1 (*a*) and (*b*) and 2 were adopted.

An additional section was added to the Report, and then the whole Report as amended was adopted.

On motion by Rev. Wm. Briggs, it was

Resolved, That the Secretary, Rev. F. B. Stratton, the Assistant Secretary, Rev. J. Cooper Antliff, B.D., and the Journal Secretary, Rev. John Bredin, be a Committee to prepare and publish the Journals of this Conference.

On motion of Dr. Sutherland, it was ordered that the next session of the General Conference of the Methodist Church be convened in the Metropolitan Church, City of Toronto, on the first Wednesday in September, 1886.

On motion, Report No. 1 of the Committee on Finance

was called up and read. It was ordered that it be considered *seriatim*.

Items 1 and 2 were adopted.

Item 3. It was moved and seconded that it be adopted.

It was moved as a substitute—

That the allowance for travelling and incidental expenses of the General Superintendents shall not exceed $1,000 per annum, making, with salaries included, an aggregate of $5,000 per annum for both, which amount shall be chargeable to the General Conference Fund.

That in view of the fact that much of the time and effort of the General Superintendents will be given to the Missionary and Educational interests of the Church, this Conference requests the Missionary Board to grant $1,500 per annum, and the Educational Board $1,000 per annum to said General Conference Fund.

It was moved in amendment to the substitute—

That the proportion be as follows: Educational, $750; Missionary, $1,750.

Resolutions pending at time of adjournment.

On motion, it was agreed that the order of business in the evening session be the Report on Discipline, and that the Committee on Discipline have leave to retire.

It was ordered that we adjourn, to meet at 7.30 p.m.

The Conference adjourned, with the benediction by Dr. Carman.

MONDAY EVENING, *Sept. 17th.*

The Conference met at half-past seven o'clock, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. W. Hansford.

The Journals were read and confirmed.

The President nominated Revs. Dr. Sanderson, Dr. Gardiner, W. Bee, J. Kenner, and Mr. T. H. Willmott as the Committee to consider the apportionments for levelling up. The nomination was approved by Conference.

The Secretary read a letter from the Rev. Dr. Wood in reference to his appointment as Honorary Secretary of the Missionary Society.

Moved by the Rev. Dr. Withrow, seconded by the Rev. S. F. Huestis,—

That this Conference desires to express its hearty sympathy with the Woman's Missionary Societies of the Methodist Church of Canada and of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, as valuable auxiliaries in missionary work; and recommends the incorporation of these Societies with the missionary organization of the Methodist Church as now constituted.—*Carried.*

Rev. Dr. Carman presented draft of Address to the Governor-General, which was read and adopted.

The following Committee to present the Address to His Excellency the Governor-General was then ordered by the Conference as follows: The General Superintendents, Revs. Dr. Williams, W. Hansford, Mr. John Macdonald, and Senator Ferrier.

The consideration of Report of Finance Committee was resumed.

In amendment to the 3rd item in the Report, it was moved by the Rev. T. G. Williams, seconded by the Rev. Geo. McRitchie,—

That the amount necessary to meet the salaries and expenses of the General Superintendents be divided as follows, viz.: three-sixths to the General Conference Fund, two-sixths to the Missionary Society, and one-sixth to the Educational Society.

The amendment to the substitute was withdrawn.

Substitute lost.

Amendment to item carried.

Item 3 as amended and item 4 were approved.

Item 5 was read. Several amendments were proposed, and after considerable discussion were, on motion, lost, and the original item carried.

Item 6 was struck out.

Item 7. Rev. Dr. Ryckman moved in amendment,—

That to meet General Conference expenses a collection be taken up in all our congregations; that the said collection be expected to average three cents per member from the Newfoundland and Manitoba Conferences, and five cents per member from the other Conferences; that any deficiency that may arise in any Conference be charged against the expenses of the delegation of that Conference; and that if still there remain a deficiency in the General Conference Fund, there be made a *pro rata* reduction of the expenses of delegates, in order that no debt be accumulated.—*Lost.*

Item 11 of Report No. 2 of the Committee on Discipline was taken from the table in this connection, and being amended, on motion of the Rev. Dr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Jas. Aylsworth, was adopted as a substitute for the 7th, 8th, and 9th items of the Report of the Finance Committee under consideration. The following is the resolution as adopted:—

The General Conference shall direct an annual collection to be made throughout the whole work, for meeting the amount chargeable to the General Conference Fund; and the Annual Conferences shall fix the time when such collection shall be taken up in the churches. A collection for this purpose shall also be taken up in the church in which the General Conference shall be held during its sitting.

Moved and seconded, that the officers of the General

Conference appointed for the purpose disburse only the amount on hand for General Conference expenses, leaving each delegate deficient in his expenses by an equal amount.

Ordered that the vote be now taken.

The above resolution was carried.

Item 10 was carried.

The Report was adopted as amended.

It was ordered that we proceed to elect a Clerical and a Lay Treasurer for the General Conference Fund, by nomination and vote.

Mr. Robert Walker was elected as Lay Treasurer, and Rev. Dr. Rose as Clerical Treasurer.

Report No. 2 of Committee on Discipline was adopted as amended.

Report No. 4 on Discipline was taken up at "Business of Financial District Meeting," and all of said section adopted.

Section 3, "Regulations affecting Graduates and Conference Students" having been read, the 1st item, amended by eliminating "Manitoba," was adopted as so amended.

All of said section 3, down to the item relating to allowance of a year of probationary term to a student attending two years at college, or a probationer taking a degree, was approved. To said item it was moved in amendment by the Rev. Dr. Ryckman, seconded by Rev. Dr. Aylsworth,—

That all after the words "two or three years" be struck out, and the following substituted, viz.: "He shall be allowed one year on his probation, and if he proceed to a degree within the term of his probation, he shall be allowed two years."—*Lost.*

The item was adopted.

The items following, down to end of said section, were adopted.

SEC. III.—"QUARTERLY OFFICIAL MEETING."

The 1st item was amended by adding, after the words "Board of Trustees," the words, "he being a member of the Church in the Circuit to which the Trustee Board which he represents belongs, and whose appointment shall be annual."

The items following, to the memorandum *Note*, were adopted. The *Note* was eliminated. Item 5, under sub-section 2, was amended by adding "first and second" before "third Quarterly Official Meeting;" then to the end of the sub-section relating to Quarterly Official Meetings, was adopted. The part relating to election of lay representatives, occurring in the Discipline of the Methodist Church of Canada, was restored (it having been struck out by the Committee).

The Conference adjourned, with Benediction by the President.

TWELFTH DAY.

TUESDAY MORNING, *Sept. 18th*

The Conference met at nine o'clock, the President in the chair. Religious services were conducted by Rev. J. Hunt.

The Journals were read and confirmed.

Rev. Dr. Withrow read the Address of Conference to the Churches.

On motion, it was adopted.

It was moved and seconded, that there be 10,000 printed copies of Address sent to the Churches, and that it be printed in all the connexional papers.—*Carried.*

On motion, it was ordered that the Secretary be author-

ized to receive the funds necessary to pay the expenses of this Conference, and make requisite payments.

Report No. 6 on Discipline was, on motion, taken as read.

Report No. 4 on Discipline resumed at Section IV.

The remaining items of the Report were read and adopted.

Report No. 4 was adopted as amended.

Report No. 3 on Discipline was taken up and considered *seriatim.*

Items 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, adopted.

Sub-secs. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, adopted.

Sub-sec. 4, moved to adopt. Moved in amendment that the word "four" be substituted for the word "three."

On motion, it was laid on the table, to consider the Report of Committee on Itinerancy.

Report called up and item relating to time a minister may remain on a charge was first read.

Moved in amendment by J. T. Pitcher, seconded by J. S. Williamson,—

That on invitation of three-fourths of an Official Quarterly Meeting, the Stationing Committee may station a minister a fourth year.

Laid on the table.

Moved in amendment to the amendment by J. S. Williamson, and seconded by T. G. Williams,—

That after the words "three years" the following be added: "Nevertheless, upon the request of three-fourths of all the members of the Quarterly Official Meeting, the Stationing Committee may station a minister a fourth and a fifth year."

Laid on table.

Ordered that the vote be now taken.

On motion, the item in Report on Itinerancy was adopted.

Moved and seconded, that the "Book Stewards and Editors" be substituted for "General Conference Officers." —*Lost.*

Item 1st on Itinerancy adopted.

Item 3rd. Moved that so much of this item as was passed in Report on Discipline No. 4 be expunged.—*Carried.*

Balance of item was, on motion, adopted.

Report on Itinerancy was adopted as amended.

Report No. 3 on Discipline resumed.

Item 4th, moved to adopt. Moved in amendment by Rev. G. Webber, seconded by Rev. J. C. Antliff, that the word "four" be substituted for "three."

On motion, it was ordered that the vote be now taken.

Amendment lost.

The remaining items in the Report were adopted.

Report No. 3 was then adopted as a whole.

Report No. 5 on Discipline was called up.

The item relating to Superintendents of Districts was read and adopted.

Moved and seconded that we adopt 2nd item.

Moved in amendment that the word Superintendent be changed to Chairman.

Moved in amendment to the amendment, that the word Superintendent, as relating to the preacher on a circuit, be changed to Pastor.

Moved by Rev. E. Roberts as a substitute,—

That in every case where there is any possibility of mis-

understanding the term Superintendent, that the word District or Circuit be added, as the case may be.—*Carried.*

Moved and seconded,—

That the Sunday-school Committee's Report be considered as the first order of business of afternoon session.—*Carried.*

The Conference adjourned, with benediction by Rev. W. Briggs.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, *Sept. 18th.*

The Conference met at two o'clock, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were led by the Rev. J. Curts.

The Journals were read and confirmed.

The motion of which the Rev. S. F. Huestis gave notice was called up and adopted, as follows :—

Moved by the Rev. S. F. Huestis, seconded by the Rev. W. Briggs,—

Whereas The Methodist Church on its organization will possess two well-equipped printing and publishing houses, and whereas it is prescribed to be the duty of the Book Stewards and Editors to furnish an ample and suitable supply of religious literature; therefore, be it resolved that we request every minister of the Church to bring before the people among whom he ministers the claims of the connexional publishing houses for their patronage; and that they be solicited especially to subscribe for the periodicals of the Church; also that Superintendents of Circuits use their utmost influence to secure the use of our own Sunday-school periodicals and books in all the schools of our Church.—*Carried.*

Moved by the Rev. Dr. Rice, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Withrow, and

Resolved,—That this Conference desires to express its hearty thanks to the people of Belleville for the hospitable entertainment which it has enjoyed. The members of this

Conference will cherish the kindest remembrance of their pleasant sojourn in the homes of this beautiful city, in which the unification of Canadian Methodism has taken place.—*Carried.*

The Rev. W. Tindall moved, seconded by the Rev. W. Williams,—

That Dr. Williams be appointed to edit a Discipline.—*Carried.*

The Rev. Dr. Badgley presented Report No. 1 on the Centenary of the Organization of American Methodism.

Report No. 2. on the Centenary of the Organization of American Methodism was called up and read.

Dr. Gardiner offered an amendment.

Reports No. 1 and 2 were on motion recommitted with the amendment.

Report No. 1 of Committee on Procuring a Seal was read.

Moved by the Rev. Dr. Stone, seconded by the Rev. W. Briggs,—

That the basis upon which the equalization of personal interest in the Book Room be calculated, be the net assets of the Methodist Book and Publishing House of the Methodist Church of Canada, as shown by the exhibit of the Book Committee at the May meeting of the present year; and that the quotient obtained by dividing this sum, less 25 per cent. as provided for in the basis, by the whole number of ministers and probationers of the Methodist Church of Canada, exclusive of Supernumeraries, as reported in the minutes of the Western Conferences for this year, represent the sum that each minister and probationer of the other contracting bodies be required to pay into the funds of the Publishing House of the united Church.

On motion, the resolution was laid on the table.

CONTINGENT FUND.

Moved by the Rev. J. Gray, and seconded by Rev. James Curts,—

That each Annual Conference shall have a Contingent Fund, to be called the Contingent Fund of the Methodist Church.

Object.

The object of this Fund shall be :

1st. To relieve cases of special affliction and defray extraordinary expenses incurred in the services of the Church.

2nd. The surplus, if any, to be used for such objects as each Conference may define.

Source of Income.

The sources of income shall be :

1st. Collections to be taken upon all circuits.

2nd. The public collections taken up at each Annual Conference.

Committee.

Each Annual Conference shall elect seven ministers and seven laymen, who shall be the Contingent Fund Committee for such Conference. It shall be the duty of this Committee to consider all claims properly presented to it, and appropriate all the funds placed at their disposal to their proper objects, as directed by the Conference.

Each Annual Conference shall provide such regulations in reference to this fund in accordance with the foregoing provisions as they may deem necessary.—*Carried.*

The order of the day was called for. Report No. 1 on Sunday-schools was considered.

The Report, save the supplement, with changes of names as inserted in Report, was adopted as read.

The Supplementary Report was read.

Moved that it be adopted. An amendment was offered by the Rev. F. Chisholm to substitute other names. On motion it was lost.

The Report was adopted, with the addition of the name of the Rev. E. Barrass.

Moved by Dr. Withrow, and seconded by the Rev. W. Briggs,—

That the Executive Committee of the Sabbath-school Board be :—Messrs. W. Kennedy, J. B. Boustead, and Revs. W. H. Laird, S. J. Hunter, J. C. Antliff, and Dr. Withrow. —*Carried.*

The Conference resumed the consideration of Report No. 6 on Discipline.

Item 1st, relating to ministers sitting on financial boards, etc., was read and adopted.

Moved and seconded, that W. Kennedy be Treasurer, and Dr. Withrow be Secretary of the Sabbath-school Board. —*Carried.*

Moved and seconded, that the vote taken on item 1st, Report 6 on Discipline, be reconsidered.—*Carried.*

The Rev. J. C. Antliff moved as a substitute for item 1st the following :—

That we strongly recommend the ministers and probationers of our Church not to become members of any secular board of any trading company or any corporate body organized for the purpose of trading or investing of funds.

Substitute carried, and added to Section iii. of Chapter I., Report No. 5.

Report No 2 on Temperance was called up and adopted.

Report No. 3 on Temperance was called up and read, and on motion was laid on the table.

It was moved and seconded, that the Conference adjourn, to meet at 7.30 p.m.

Adjourned. Benediction by Dr. Douglas.

TUESDAY EVENING, *Sept. 18th.*

The Conference met at half-past seven o'clock, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. J. Gray.

The Journals were read and confirmed.

The Report on Centenary of the Organization of American Methodism—a substitute for 1 and 2, which were recommitted—was read and adopted.

The Revs. J. A. Williams, D.D., and James Gardiner, D.C.L., were on motion elected Delegates as provided in last-named Report.

The Report of the Special Committee on the Superannuation Fund was read, and, on motion of the Rev. Dr. Stone, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Sanderson, it was resolved to substitute therefor the following:—

That the amount of the Superannuation Funds held by the Methodist Church of Canada, on the 20th instant, be the sum which shall determine the *pro rata* amount to which each minister from the other contracting bodies shall level up.

The resolution moved by Dr. Stone (and laid upon the table), relating to the manner of ascertaining the amount of Book Room Stock to be levelled up, was taken from the table and adopted.

On motion, the Report of the Committee on the Course of Study was ordered to be considered *seriatim*.

Item No. 1 was read. Moved to adopt,—

Moved in amendment by T. G. Williams, seconded by G. McRitchie, and

Resolved,—That Preliminary Course of Study be,—

English Branches.

English Grammar and Composition.
Arithmetic.
Geography.
Ancient History (Schmitz).
Modern History (Green).
Biblical History (Smith's New Testament History).
Theology—Wesley's Sermons, I. to LII. (Burwash's Edition).
Wesley on Christian Perfection.
The 2nd Wesleyan Catechism.

The amendment was carried.

Item 2 was adopted as amended by the substitution of the Greek Grammar for the Sermon on the Mount. (Greek).

Items 3, 4 and 5 were adopted.

Moved in addition to the Report,—

That probationers who have entered upon and pursued their studies without Greek shall be examined in the Revised Version instead of the Greek Testament.

That to the first year's course be added Fletcher's Checks, I. to V., instead of the New Testament History.

That to the third year be added Bain's Rhetoric and Blaikie's, "For Work of Ministry," and Fletcher omitted. —*Carried.*

The sections of the Report, "For Graduates in Arts" and "for Probationers" at College, were adopted.

Dr. Burwash moved, seconded by the Rev. J. C. Antliff,—

That students who have commenced with Watson's Institute shall complete their Theology with this text-book.—*Carried.*

Moved by Dr. Douglas, seconded by W. Hansford,—

That it shall be required, as far as possible, that every probationer for our ministry shall avail himself of the advantages of a theological training in our schools.—*Carried.*

Report No. 7 of the Committee on Discipline, referring to Appeals, was on motion called up, read and adopted, with the addition of the following two resolutions :—

Moved by Rev. S. Bond, and seconded by Rev. W. R. Parker,—

(1.) Any questions of law arising in the Annual Conference during its sessions shall be determined by the General Superintendent or President presiding, but any member of the Conference may appeal from such decision to the Court of Appeal. (2.) The President of an Annual Conference shall also have authority to decide questions of law arising in the Conference Committees over which he presides, but any member of such Committee shall have right to appeal to the Court of Appeal.—*Carried.*

Moved by Rev. S. Bond, and seconded by Rev. W. R. Parker,—

(1.) Any question of law arising in any of the Committees or Boards over which he presides, shall be decided by the General Superintendent presiding ; but any member of such Committee or Board, or any minister or member whose interests are affected by such decision, shall have the right to appeal to the Court of Appeal.—*Carried.*

On motion, it was ordered that the six highest names of clerical and six highest names of the laymen, resulting from ballot, be the Court of Appeal.

The following were appointed the Commission on Children's Fund :—

Rev. G. H. Cornish.
" J. S. Ross.
" S. J. Hunter.
" J. H Starr.
" W. Hansford.
" T. G. Williams.
" Thomas Marshall.
" Dr. Milligan.
Rev. A. Morton.
A. J. Donly.
J. J. Pierson.
Thomas H. Willmott.
W. F Hall.
J. W. Smith.
W. E. Dawson.

—*Carried.*

It was moved by Thos. H. Willmott,—

That, in accordance with a resolution passed by this Conference, the following names be added to the Commission on the Children's Fund of the Methodist Church of Canada, who shall constitute a Commission on that Fund for the united Church :

Rev. O. G. Collamore.	Rev. W. S. Griffin.
" J. M Simpson.	" J. Milner.
" G. Abbs.	E. S. Whipple.
" E. Roberts.	

That Rev. T. G. Williams be Chairman, and Revs. J. L. Ross and Thos. Marshall be Secretaries of the Commission.—*Carried.*

The following were appointed a Committee to procure the Legislation necessary for the unification of the Church :

Rev. Dr. Rice.	Judge Jones.
" Carman.	Hon. S. L. Shannon.
" Williams	" J. J. Rogerson.
" Dewart.	S. C. Biggs.
" Sutherland.	A. A. Stockton.
Rev. J. C. Antliff, B.D.	J. E. Rose, Q.C.
" E. Roberts.	A. L. Morden, Q.C.
" J. S. Williamson.	J. J. McLaren, Q.C.
" J. E. Mavety.	John Macdonald.
Judge Dean.	—*Carried.*

The Report of the Committee on Church Seal was presented and adopted.

The Rev. W. Briggs was appointed to procure the said seal.

It was moved by Dr. Carman, and seconded by Rev. J. C. Antliff,—

That the date of legal consummation of Union be left with the Committee on Legislation, but that it be not later than July 1st, 1884.—*Carried.*

It was moved and seconded,—

That we now proceed to elect a clerical and lay Treasurer of the Superannuation Fund for the Western section.—*Carried.*

Dr. Sanderson and Rev. James Gray, clerical, and Governor Aikins were put in nomination, and, on ballot, Rev. James Gray and Governor Aikins were declared elected.

The consideration of Report No. 5 on Discipline was resumed at the section "on the Superintendents of Districts." The section was read and adopted.

The section relating to Superintendents of Circuits was read, and, after eliminating "in the absence of the Chair man" from the 2nd item, and "March" from the time to take Contingent collection, was adopted.

The Rev. Dr. Rice, General Superintendent, nominated twenty-six persons from whom the Court of Appeal was to be elected by ballot.

The following constitutes said Court of Appeal as provided for in Report:

Rev. Dr. Williams.	Judge Jones.
" Gardiner.	Judge Dean.
" Sutherland.	Thomas Thompson.
Rev. Thomas Crompton.	A. L. Morden, Q.C.
" James Gray.	J. J. McLaren, Q.C.
" George Webber.	W. Windett.

On the nomination of Rev. Dr. Rice, the General Conference Committee was elected as follows:

Rev. Dr. Elliott.	Rev. W. Pirritte.
" Young.	" S. F. Huestis.
" Nelles.	" W. G. Brown.
" Sanderson.	" George Abbs.
Rev. W. Herridge.	Hon. J. Ferrier.
" E. Roberts.	Dr. Inch.

The Conference adjourned, with benediction by the President.

THIRTEENTH DAY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, *Sept. 19th.*

The Conference met at nine o'clock, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. R. Whiting.

The Journals were read and confirmed.

Moved by Rev. W. C. Henderson, seconded by Rev. W. Williams, and

Resolved,—That the standard qualification for young men recommended to be received into our Conferences as probationers shall not be lower than 50 per cent. of the marks on the preliminary course of study in the aggregate, and 30 per cent. in each subject. Any candidate who may present a Public School teacher's certificate of the second class, or a certificate of having passed a matriculation examination at any of our universities, shall not require to be examined in the English branches of the preliminary course, but he shall be required to pass an examination on the subject of Biblical history and theology before the Examining Board of his Conference, or of the college at which he may be pursuing his studies.—*Carried.*

Moved by Dr. Stone, and seconded by Rev. W. Bee,—

That fraternal delegates from the General Conference be sent to the Methodist Episcopal Church, to the Methodist Episcopal Church South, the Wesleyan Methodist Church in England, the Primitive Methodist Church in England, to the Bible Christian Church in England, and to the New Connexion Methodist Church in England, and that the following be the delegates: To the Methodist Episcopal Church, Rev. Drs. Nelles and Aylsworth; to the Methodist Episcopal Church South, Rev. W. Briggs; to the several Churches in England as named, Rev. Dr. Rice.—*Carried.*

Moved by Rev. Wm. Briggs, seconded by Dr. Stone,—

That the Treasurer of the General Conference Fund be

instructed to pay to the Rev. John Bredin, Journal Secretary, the sum of thirty dollars.—*Carried.*

Moved by Dr. Gardiner, and seconded by Dr. Burwash,—

That the course of study adopted by this Conference shall be required of all probationers at the examination in April, 1885.—*Carried.*

Report No. 1 on Church Property was read.

Moved to adopt.

Moved that the items in the Basis of Union touching Church Property be inserted in the Report on Church Property.

It was ordered to be inserted.

Report adopted as amended.

Report No. 2 on Church Property was read, and on motion was filed.

Report No. 3 on Church Property was read, and on motion it was adopted with the addition of the following:—

That in case the disposal of property is plainly desirable before the legal consummation of Union, it shall be competent for the United District Meetings, and Chairman, Superintendents, and Presiding Elders, and United Trustee Boards to act, as in basis, proceeding with a good degree of unanimity.

Resolved,—That the following be a committee in conjunction with the General Superintendents to write fraternal addresses: For the address to the Wesleyan Methodist Church in England, Rev. Dr. Williams; for the address to the Primitive Methodist Church in England, Rev. J. C. Antliff; for the address to the Bible Christian Church in England, the Rev. George Webber; for the address to the Methodist New Connexion Church in England, Rev. D. Savage; for the address to the Methodist Episcopal Church (North), Editors of the *Guardian;* for the address to the Methodist Episcopal Church (South), Rev. Dr. Badgley and Rev. W. Briggs.

Report on Statistics called up.

Statistical portion adopted as read.

Resolutions read and adopted.

Report adopted as a whole.

Report No. 2 on Boundaries adopted.

Report No. 2 on Education was read and adopted.

Report of Committee on Sabbath Observance read and adopted.

Report of Committee on Œcumenical Council was adopted.

The Report on Relation of Children to the Church was on motion adopted.

The consideration of Report No. 5 on Discipline was resumed, commencing at Section VIII. on "Duty of Preachers to God, etc."

The whole of the Report was adopted, with slight changes which were incorporated in the Report.

Report No. 6 on Discipline was then taken up, and with slight verbal changes was adopted as a whole.

Report No. 8 of Committee on Discipline on motion was received as read.

Item 1st was read.

Moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment that the word "obey" be inserted.

This amendment was lost.

Moved to amend the item by inserting the paragraphs "I, N, take thee, M," etc., in brackets.

Amendment carried.

Item 1st was adopted as amended.

Item 2nd, Burial of the Dead. The whole section was adopted.

Item 3rd, Ordination of Ministers. Moved to adopt.

Moved in amendment that the following be inserted: Will you respectfully obey the ministers unto whom may be committed the oversight of the brethren and the government of the Church, in so far as their requirements are in harmony with the Discipline and with the Word of God?

The amendment was lost.

Original item was adopted.

Adjourned to meet at 1.30 p.m.

Benediction by the President.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, *Sept. 19th.*

The Conference met at half-past two o'clock, the President in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. J. Markham.

The Journals of the preceding session were read and confirmed.

Moved by the Rev. Dr. Carman, seconded by the Rev. E. Roberts,—

That when this Conference adjourn it shall stand adjourned to meet at call as follows: if the call be made before the consummation of legislation affecting our legal Union, it shall be made by the President and Secretary of this Conference under its provisional organization; if the call be made after the consummation of Union by legislation, etc., as aforesaid, it shall be made by the General Superintendents, with the advice of the General Conference Special Committee.—*Carried.*

Moved by the Rev. Dr. Carman, seconded by the Rev. E. Roberts,—

That 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 labour to which the brother would have been transferred be designated.—*Carried.*

Report No. 8 on Discipline was resumed. The remaining clauses were all adopted.

On motion, Report No. 8 was adopted as amended.

It was moved and seconded that the names of Revs. Dr. Potts, J. J. Rice, and T. G. Williams be added to the Sunday-school Parliament Committee.—*Carried.*

Rev. J. J. Rice was nominated Assistant-Secretary. On motion, the Secretary was authorized to cast the ballot for the Conference.

Rev. J. J. Rice was elected.

Moved and seconded, that the balance of Notices of Motion be discharged.—*Carried.*

Moved by the Rev. S. F. Huestis, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Rice,—

That the cordial thanks of this General Conference be presented to the Press for the full and fair reports of the proceedings furnished to the Public; the Conference is deeply indebted to the reporters for the manner in which they have done this service.—*Carried.*

Moved by the Rev. S. F. Huestis, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Carman,—

That the best thanks of this Conference be extended to the Rev. John A. Williams, D.D., for the kind, courteous, prudent, satisfactory, and eminently Christian manner in

which he has conducted the business of this United General Conference; and we unanimously trust that his life may long be spared to lead and bless the hosts of our united and beloved Zion, whose grand interests have so long and sacredly lain near his heart.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Moved by the Rev. W. R. Parker, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Burwash,—

That the thanks of this Conference are hereby tendered to the several Railway Companies which favoured the delegates with reduced fares.

Moved by the Rev. Dr. Dewart, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Stone,—

That the cordial thanks of this Conference be presented to the Secretary and Assistant-Secretaries for the courtesy, promptness, and ability with which they have discharged the duties of their office during the sessions of this Conference.—*Carried.*

Moved by the Rev. Dr. Dewart, seconded by the Rev. Wm. Briggs,—

That the thanks of this Conference be presented to the Rev. John Bredin for his services as Journal Secretary.

Moved by the Rev. J. R. Gundy, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Carman,—

That the thanks of this Conference be given to the Rev. E. Roberts, Vice-President, for the faithful and acceptable performance of his duties.—*Carried.*

Moved by the Rev. Wm. Briggs, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Young,—

That the thanks of this Conference be given to the pastors of the Methodist churches in this city for their courteous attention to the members of the Conference, in providing for them comfortable homes; and also to the Trustees of the Bridge Street Church for their kindness in

the use of this large and beautiful church for the Conference sessions.—*Carried.*

CLOSE OF CONFERENCE.

The Journals of the afternoon's session were read and confirmed.

At half-past three o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, the 19th day of September, 1883, the 758th hymn was sung, prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Young, and the sessions of the United General Conference of the Methodist Church closed, the Rev. Dr. Williams, President, pronouncing the benediction.

JOHN A. WILLIAMS, *President.*

F. B. STRATTON, *Secretary.*

JOHN BREDIN,

Journal Secretary.

APPENDIX No. I.

ADDRESSES.

ADDRESS TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

To His Excellency, The Marquis of Landowne, etc., etc., Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada, etc., etc.

May it please Your Excellency,—The General Conference of "The Methodist Church," formed by the union of the Methodist Church of Canada, the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, the Primitive Methodist Church of Canada, and the Bible Christian Church in Canada, assembled in the city of Belleville, this seventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty three, earnestly engaged in the great work of consummating the union aforesaid, and therefore fully representing the ministry, membership and adherents of our Churches, in glad anticipation of Your Excellency's coming unto us as the Governor-General of our Dominion, unanimously and cordially prepare and send a loyal greeting, a true and heartfelt welcome to Your Excellency in the name and on behalf of all our people, on your assuming the government over us, confided to you by Her Most Gracious Majesty, our Beloved and Revered Sovereign, Queen Victoria.

We welcome you joyfully because of personal dignity and worth: we welcome you because of noble family and fair fame. But we welcome you especially because you come

to us as the representative of a Government we have found mighty, generous and free; an example and defender of religion, liberty and law over all the globe; a Government under whose august and beneficent institutions we count it our chief political privilege and pride to live; a Government, kingdom and empire whose glorious traditions and history are to us a joy and a crown. We have a precious, an inestimable delight in this kinship of glory, this rich heritage of renown—not less precious than the kinship of blood—that lifts up the hearts of Britons in all climes, in patriotic affection and loyal devotion to the land and the throne that are the bright examplar of constitutional government, and the sanctuary of the oppressed of all nations. We can assure Your Excellency that we are not of those who favor the severance of the British Colonies from the British Crown. Rather, would we say, let the bond of connection be firmer and stronger in British Imperial and Colonial relationship over all the continents and all the seas; for we believe, in the Providence of God, our mother land is set in the midst of the nations to demonstrate how supreme authority in the Crown is reconcilable with perfect liberty and equality to all the subjects, and how Christian civilization—the righteousness of the Holy Scriptures—exalteth a nation among the nations of the earth. Wherefore, as British subjects, with a thousand welcomes we hail you as the representative of Britain's fame, strength and glory among us; the precious bond linking our youthful Government on this vast continent to the Government of the ancient and honorable empire beyond the seas.

We beg to assure Your Excellency of our devotion to the Throne and Crown of Great Britain, of our true affection for the person of our Gracious Sovereign, Queen Victoria, and of our supreme loyalty to the Constitution and the Government she has been honored of God to administer so long and so well.

This very Conference, in which we are assembled and which now approaches Your Excellency with pledges of

fidelity and earnest support to Your Excellency in the discharge of the duties of your high office and in all wise and righteous administration, is to us a proof of our liberty of conscience and freedom of ecclesiastical and religious action under the benign sway of British sovereignty and law. Our four Methodist Churches, comprising three-quarters of a million of our Canadian people, over one-sixth of the entire population of the Dominion, having our Missions at home and abroad, our Colleges, our Publishing Houses and religious literature, and our varied institutions for the maintenance and advancement of the Work of God, we believe, under the care and direction of the Divine Father of the whole human race, are of a true conscience and simple faith forming one Body for the broad Dominion in its administration and laws that, from the Atlantic to the Pacific and to realms beyond, we may the more successfully spread the Gospel of the Great Salvation sent down to us from God out of Heaven; and, especially, that we may co-operate with and aid the other Christian Churches of our goodly heritage to establish all our people in the doctrines of religion, and perpetuate amongst us the blessings of intelligence, virtue and truth. In our sphere, and in our solemn and important work, we hope to aid Your Excellency in securing to all the people the benefits of good government, and holding up the example of a Christian people among all the nations of the earth.

And to this end, we can most confidently assure Your Excellency that we shall continually and devoutly pray to the Most High God, the King and Lord of the rulers of the earth, that great grace and wisdom be given unto Your Excellency as unto many illustrious predecessors in the administration and government, that the life and health of Your Excellency and your family may be precious in the sight of Him that sitteth in the circle of the heavens, and that your sojourn among us as our Governor-General may be pleasant and eminently prosperous. We would also beg Your Excellency to convey to your devoted wife, the Noble Marchioness, assurances of our highest esteem

and profoundest love and respect, and of our prayers that her life among this people may comfort, exalt and refine all our homes.

Signed in behalf of the General Conference of the Methodist Church.

J. A. WILLIAMS, *President.*

F. B. STRATTON, *Secretary.*

BELLEVILLE, Sept. 17th, 1883.

ADDRESS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH TO THE METHODIST PEOPLE OF CANADA.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN:

We send you greeting in the name of the Lord. In the providence of God, we, the representatives of the Methodist Church of Canada, the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, the Primitive Methodist Church of Canada, and the Bible Christian Church in Canada, have assembled for the consummation of the Union of these different branches of Canadian Methodism.

Acknowledging one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, we rejoice that the time has come for us to become one also as an organic whole. Preaching the same Gospel of free grace, singing the same hymns of Christian faith and hope, and rejoicing in the same experience of conscious salvation, it is evident that there was little to justify continued division. The strifes and dissensions through which the divisions of Canadian Methodism arose have passed away. We have learned to know each other as friends, and to love each other as brethren. We are therefore confident that we can more effectually promote the upbuilding of Christ's kingdom on earth by mass-

ing our resources and uniting our efforts than by continuing as separate Churches. In harmony with the godly judgment of the great majority of ministers and laymen of these Churches, we rejoice that this Union has now been accomplished. Among the manifold benefits that will result therefrom, the economy that will be effected will be manifest to all. In many parts of our country there has been a multiplication of Methodist churches beyond the need for the full and efficient preaching of Methodist doctrine. In the same town, or village, or rural community, separate Methodist congregations have assembled for worship where now they will come together with one accord, in one place, to seek the baptism from on high.

The present time is very opportune for the cessation of the waste of men and means through the divisions of Methodism. Vast areas of our country are being thrown open for settlement. An ever-swelling tide of immigration from the older provinces and from the crowded countries of the Old World is bringing a vast population to the virgin acres of our great North-West. It is an hour of highest privilege and duty. We are laying the foundations of empire in righteousness and truth. We are moulding the institutions of the future. We are shaping the destiny of the country. The heralds of the Cross must follow the adventurous pioneer to the remotest settlement of the Saskatchewan, the Qu'Appelle, and the Peace River, and the vast regions beyond. This we can do as a united Church with far greater efficiency and success than we ever could as separate organizations.

The wail of the perishing millions of heathendom appeals to our Christian sympathies as never before. God has opened wide doors in every land for the free course of His Word. As a Church we must awake to the need of increased missionary effort and missionary consecration. In our own land we are face to face with the most compact and well-organized system of Romanism on the earth. To its vaunted historic unity of organization we must oppose the spiritual

unity of a consolidated Methodism. To the growth of scepticism immorality, and Sabbath-breaking, which too often accompany the growth of population, we must oppose the counter influence of vital godliness and revival power.

This Union constitutes an important era in the history of Methodism in this land; and it depends upon the loyalty, zeal, and liberality of the ministers and members of the united bodies to make the future of our Church a history of spiritual power and progress that shall greatly excel the successes of the past. Upon the spirit with which we act, and the fidelity with which we perform the obligations arising out of our present position, great results depend.

There are some practical difficulties to be met and overcome, which require mutual forbearance and earnest, united co-operation on the part of all. Some of the Churches rendered superfluous by the Union will doubtless have to be closed, and places found for their ministers, but in these cases we apprehend little difficulty. A large proportion of these will be absorbed in the present ground occupied by the re-adjustment of circuits. In the North-West, mission fields are open for many more, if our friends to whom God has given wealth will only supply the means to send them. Fields of labor can easily be found for all effective men, if the Church has the liberality to sustain them.

The difficulties arising out of the relations of the different funds, and other connexional interests of the uniting Churches, are being satisfactorily adjusted; and we trust that the arrangements of districts and circuits now being made will conduce to the effective organization of the whole pastoral work. There may also be danger of an occasional jar of brotherly feeling from the attachment of the uniting parties to old associations, which they may unduly estimate. All should guard against over-sensitiveness, or jealousy, with regard to the extent to which one or the other of the uniting bodies may appear to have secured, in the new organization, things desired by them. Let the spirit of unity and love prevail. Let there be mutual confidence and

forbearance Let us be willing to judge every measure adopted on its own merits, and not be influenced by its authorship or associations. And, above all, let us remember that the power and progress of this united Church depend far more upon the religious consecration, faith, and zeal of its ministers and people than upon the constitution of its courts or the form of its polity.

If we pursue this course, apparent difficulties will vanish, and a true unity of spirit will pervade our organization and make it a mighty power for good. The brotherly spirit which has been manifested during the discussions of our first General Conference is a pledge and earnest of this desirable result. There has been so far an evident desire to conciliate and satisfy the representatives of all sections, as far as this has been practicable. We trust that the same spirit will continue to characterize all our intercourse and operations in the future; for only by such unity of spirit and action can we be an effective agency in the great work of spreading scriptural holiness throughout this vast country, which God has given us as our field of labor.

If, as a people, we continue faithfully to maintain the same scriptural doctrines, the same personal experience of salvation, the same earnest, godly efforts to bring sinners to a saving knowledge of Christ, which made early Methodism a great spiritual power, we have abundant reason to believe that a bright and prosperous future opens before us. The spectacle of so many distinct Churches being willing to make concessions for the sake of healing divisions must produce in the public mind a favorable impression of the Christian sincerity of the different parties to this Union. The consolidation of our resources will enable the united Church to work with greater power in the missionary, educational, and periodical and publishing departments of its work, and to bring the whole force of a united Methodism to bear on any connexional enterprise or interest which requires special support. And, above all, when all disturbing and unsettling discussions have ceased, and one common desire and purpose animate the whole body, we have a right to expect, if

we pray fervently and work faithfully, the special blessing of God, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, to crown our labors with success, and bless and ratify our Union. We do not say we have a right to expect a great revival simply because we have united our forces; but if we pray and work for it as a united Church, we have the best ground for hoping for a glorious ingathering of souls, which will do more than anything else to vanquish difficulties, promote true Union, and strengthen all the agencies of the Church for the work assigned them.

This Union lays weighty responsibilities upon the ministers and membership of the uniting Churches. First of all, we must follow the things which make for peace, and pursue such courses of action as shall strengthen the bonds of unity. There is also a pressing demand for increased liberality. There is an urgent necessity to sustain all the departments of our work, at this juncture, with increasing efficiency. We trust that the responsibility to carry out this Union of Canadian Methodism successfully will be felt by the entire membership of our Church; and that they will manifest a liberal spirit and contribute according to the ability which God has given them to sustain efficiently all the departments of the work of the united Church, that she may be launched on her great mission, supplied with needed resources, as well as sustained by the prayers and efforts of an earnest and united people.

Finally, brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might; and the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and we pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. For this cause we bow our knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend, with all

saints, what is the breadth and length and depth and height; and to know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge, that ye may be filled with the fulness of God.

Signed on behalf of the first united General Conference of the Methodist Church.

J. A. WILLIAMS,
President.

E. ROBERTS,
Vice-President.

F. B. STRATTON,
J. C. ANTLIFF,
Secretaries.

Belleville, Sept. 18th, 1883.

ADDRESS FROM THE UNITED GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE FOUR METHODIST BODIES IN CANADA TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN ENGLAND.

GREETING:

VENERABLE AND DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN.

We, the Ministers and Laymen delegated by the respective bodies of Methodists in this Dominion, known as the Methodist Church of Canada, the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, the Primitive Methodist Church in Canada, and the Bible Christian Church in Canada, assembled at the city of Belleville, on the 5th day of September instant, to carry out and perfect a scheme for a union of all these bodies into one body, to be known as "The Methodist Church," wish to approach you in a filial and fraternal spirit, and in the spirit of Him who prayed that they all might be one, even as He and the Father were one. We wish to approach you as the parent Church of one of these

uniting Churches, and to very respectfully explain to you, as far as we can in this brief Address, some of the reasons why we have mutually sought this union.

It is not many years since six branches of the Methodist family were carrying on distinct Church work within that part of Canada now known as Ontario. However such disintegration may affect the success of religious work in an older community, with its dense population and fixed social relations, it was found in this new country, where every one is known personally to his neighbours, and has more or less of personal intercourse with them all, that it was conducive neither to the success of Methodism numerically nor to its spiritual growth to have rural neighbourhoods, villages, and small towns divided into rival, sometimes into even hostile societies, in each of which was preached the same doctrines, was fostered the same peculiar means of grace, and was enforced the same discipline as to the Christian walk and life of its members.

Our different churches often stood so near each other that on quiet Sunday evenings the singing in one could be heard in another, and it sometimes happened that two or more congregations were uttering their praises to the one God in the words of the same Methodist hymn.

It was nearly always the case in such places that one church building and one half of the number of ministers employed would have been an ample supply for the wants of all the congregations if they were but united, thus leaving a large supply of men and money to be used in the many fields around us which were white for the harvest, and in which the laborers were few.

This state of things was a reproach to religion and a keen weapon in the hands of sceptics. Happily two unions were effected which, from the year 1874, has left but four distinct branches of our common Methodism in this country. Since that time a feeling has been ever growing in the breasts of the ministers and laity of all these Churches that we were all brethren, and soon it came to be the common

feeling that if we could not see eye to eye in all things, we should at least work together, so far as might be practicable, in the one work of saving men from the power of sin, and in building each other up as believers.

The result has been disastrous to our separate existence. At times filling each other's pulpits and joining in religious work, we have each found, to the astonishment of many, and to the joy of us all, that we were one in spirit and in aim; that the supreme wish of each branch was the glory of God and the salvation of men; and then came the thought, unbidden, into our minds, born of God in many hearts, as we believe, that we should be one—with one treasury in which to economise and husband our resources, and with one executive to mobilize our forces and save them from being frittered away in feeble duplications.

A scheme of mutual arrangement and concession was devised by a joint committee of all four Churches, which was accepted by such majorities of our ministers and laymen as to be practically nnanimous. This scheme, by a happy combination, has embraced all the distinctive features of all the bodies. While securing to the fullest the rights of the ministry, it has introduced equal lay representation in all the courts of the Church—a principle that has not, until now, been fully recognized by all the Churches.

And now, dear Fathers and Brethren, we approach the one unhappy incident in this most delightful and blessed union.

When we met at the time fixed for the consummation of this union, those of us who represent the Bible Christian Church in Canada made the saddening announcement that they had failed to secure your consent to their going with the rest of us, their brethren, into this union.

Dear Brethren, what could we do? Delegates from the four Churches were assembled, some coming from points much more distant from each other than are the frozen waters of the White Sea from the sunny waves of the Mediterranean.

Nearly three hundred ministers and laymen had come together at large expense, and in many cases at much personal sacrifice. Our Churches had become agitated, our congregations, or quarterly boards, and our conferences had every one pronounced upon the question. If the Bible Christian Church did not come in, the whole union must fail.

We could not go back, we could not stand still. The hour had come, the supreme hour, as we believed, in the history of the Methodist branch of the Church of Christ in this Dominion.

The delegation from the Bible Christian Church gave such explanations as satisfied us that the matter had not been brought to your attention at so early a date as it should have been to enable you fully to enquire into the merits of the question; and we felt so strongly the wisdom and piety of this union—we thought we saw so clearly the hand of God in it, and felt so surely His Spirit moving our hearts in this matter, and we took such consolation from the fact that you had not refused your consent, that, with all deference to your rights, with the most profound respect for your hesitation, we ventured upon the only course we could see open to us, and went on settling the constitution and terms of the new Church as though no difficulty stood in the way, feeling firmly persuaded in our own minds that when you were fully informed of all the facts, and knew of the interests that would have been jeopardized had we taken any other course, you would approve of what we had done, and would not only consent to your Canadian sons coming in with us all, but would give them, and us with them, your fatherly blessing. The "spirit of unity in the bonds of peace," which has pervaded our deliberations; the mutual forbearance and concession which has been shown by all parties, in arranging out of all our constitutions a new one; the glad obedience to the apostolic injunction, "in honour preferring one another;" the feeling that seemed to prevail in each heart that he is happiest who has the privilege of sacrificing most, so long as no vital principle is touched; the melting of heart to heart; the Divine unction which

seems to rest upon us and controls and guides our deliberations compel us to the belief that God is approving our work, and leads us to the humble yet confident hope that He will mark His approval of our lowly works for His glory by signal and speedy gifts of His grace. Beloved brethren, may we ask your prayers at the throne of the heavenly grace, that in this we may not be disappointed?

Dear Fathers and Brethren, we were especially desirous for this union at this time, not only that it might declare the oneness of Christ in us, but that it might enable us the more effectually to overtake the astonishing tide of immigration which is even now setting in to our great North-West, whose hundreds of millions of fertile acres will, before this generation hath passed away, give land to the landless millions of the mother country.

We feel that the responsibility of caring for the souls of the thousands from the mother land and from the older Provinces who will make for themselves homes there, who have been nurtured in the ministrations of Methodism, and of thousands more whom God would give to us as the hire of a faithful ministry—we feel that this responsibility rests upon us, and we dare not go into that country to take part in laying the foundations of an empire, in extent and material resources greater than all Europe, as four straggling bands, when we ought, as a united host, to march to the possession of our inheritance.

Brethren, you will not give us let or hindrance in this great work. We know that you will give us many of your children to become settlers upon these broad acres. The more of them that come, the better for themselves and for this fair land; and we promise you to nurture them as our children in the Lord, and to make up to them to the limit of our powers for the loss of the ministrations and pastoral oversight which they will leave in the old land.

Dear brethren, we shall begin our career as a Church, with fifteen hundred and twenty-three ministers, with one hundred and seventy thousand members, and numbering among

our congregations and adherents about one-fifth of the population of this Dominion. With stations in Bermuda, with Missions in Japan and among a great part of the Indians of this country, and with Domestic Missions everywhere that the sound of the white settler's axe may be heard, or that he may be seen to rear his cabin, all supported by the voluntary liberality of our people, and the prospect before us is one of glorious sacrifice and work. The responsibility is great. Will you join with us in praying that our humility and faith may be as great?

And now, venerable and dear Fathers and Brethren, the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

J. A. WILLIAMS, *President.*

F. B. STRATTON, *Secretary.*

Dated at Belleville, this 15th day of Sept., 1883.

APPENDIX No. II.

REPORTS.

(All the Reports are printed as they finally passed the Conference.)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

The Committee on Publishing Interests report as follows:—

1. That in accordance with the provisions of the Basis of Union, the Toronto Book and Printing Establishment, with the different publications at present published there, and the Halifax Book Room and the *Wesleyan* be continued as at present by the United Church.

2. In agreement with the views expressed by the Book Stewards representing the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist, and Bible Christian Book Establishments, we recommend that these Book Rooms be continued until the first of July next, or until whatever time the United Church shall begin its legal existence. The balance in money and other assets, on closing these establishments, to be paid over to the Book and Printing Establishment of the United Church, at such valuation as may be agreed upon; the amount thus paid to be credited as paid to the Publishing Fund of the United Church towards giving the ministers of the Churches mentioned above a claim on the amounts paid from the profits of the Book and Publishing House to the Superannuation Fund, as provided in the Basis of Union.

3. The Committee also recommend that the *Canada Christian Advocate*, the *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 the subscribers to these journals, a share of the net receipts from the subscriptions for the year to be paid to the Book and Publishing House of the United Church, in proportion to the time that the *Christian Guardian* shall be sent in place of the other papers. A similar course shall be adopted with regard to any of these papers which circulate in the Maritime Provinces, by supplying the *Wesleyan* on the same terms for the unexpired portion of the year. Provided, nevertheless, that any of these Book Rooms may be closed, or any of these papers discontinued, at an earlier period than that mentioned above, should it be deemed advisable to do so.

4. The Committee considered the expediency of opening a branch Book Room, and publishing a weekly paper in the city of Winnipeg, Manitoba. The Committee are of opinion that should a suitable Book Room be provided by our friends in Winnipeg, it may be expedient, at no distant day, to open such a branch in that place. With regard to the publishing of a weekly paper, though for some time to come it could hardly be expected to pay its way, yet in view of the expressed desire of the brethren of the Manitoba Conference we think the project should receive careful consideration. But as we had not all the facts before us necessary to form a safe and intelligent conclusion, we recommend the General Conference to authorize the Western Section of the Book Committee to consider the whole matter, and to adopt such measures as they may find necessary to carry out one or both projects, should they deem it desirable and practicable to do so.

5. We also recommend that "The Methodist Hymn-Book" now used in the Methodist Church of Canada be adopted by all the congregations of the United Church, and that in view of such use a suitable preface be supplied in future editions. But we deem it expedient that congrega-

tions belonging to the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist, and Bible Christian Churches may use the hymn-books now in use in these Churches until their present supply of such books require to be replaced by new books.

6. As the assets of the Book and Publishing House of the Methodist Church of Canada for the three Western Conferences are larger in proportion to the number of ministers in those Conferences than the similar assets of any one of the other contracting parties, it is agreed that each minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Primitive Methodist Church, and the Bible Christian Church, entering into the union, shall pay into the General Publishing Fund, in Toronto, such a sum as will make his interest equal to the *per capita* interest of the ministers of the three Western Conferences aforesaid. In equalizing the *per capita* interest as above, payments may be made in cash, or by notes, payable in one or two years from the date of union, such notes to bear interest at 6 per cent. per annum. It is further recommended that stock be taken and this arrangement carried out under the direction of the united Book Committee.

7. That the matter of enlarging and altering the form of the *Christian Guardian* be referred to the Western Section of the Book Committee, with authority to make such changes as they may deem expedient, in view of its new position as the Church paper of our united Methodism.

CONSTITUTION OF THE BOOK AND PUBLISHING ESTABLISHMENTS.

Section I.—The Book Committee—Its Powers and Duties.

The General Conference shall quadrennially appoint a Book Committee, to be composed of ministers and laymen residing within the bounds of the several Annual Conferences, as follows:—From the London Conference, four members; from the Guelph Conference, four members; from the

Niagara Conference, four members; from the Toronto Conference, six members; from the Bay of Quinte Conference, four members; from the Montreal Conference, five members; from the Manitoba Conference, one member; from the Nova Scotia Conference, five members; from the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Conference, five members; and from the Newfoundland Conference, two members. These members shall be elected by the delegates of the several Annual Conferences, meeting separately, and with the Book Stewards and Editors shall constitute the Book Committee for the quadrennial term following their appointment.

The first Book Committee shall be appointed by the delegates of the uniting Churches residing within the territory of each Annual Conference, as now fixed, meeting and electing their proportion of members; and this Committee shall continue in office till the General Conference of 1886.

At the first meeting after its appointment the Book Committee shall divide into two Sections, to be called respectively the "Western" and "Eastern" Sections of the Book Committee.

1. The Western Section shall consist of the members residing within the bounds of the Toronto, London, Guelph, Niagara, Bay of Quinte, Manitoba, and Montreal Conferences, thirteen of whom shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

2. The Eastern Section shall consist of the members residing within the bounds of the Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland Conferences, seven of whom shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

3. The Western Section shall have the control and supervision of the Book and Printing Establishment in the city of Toronto, and of any other that may be established by the General Conference within the bounds of the Toronto, London, Guelph, Niagara, Bay of Quinte, Montreal and Manitoba Cenferences.

4. The Eastern Section shall have the control and supervision of the Book and Printing Establishment in the city of Halifax, and of any other that may be established within the bounds of the Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland Conferences.

5. Each Section shall elect its own Secretary, and in the absence of a General Superintendent shall appoint its own Chairman.

6. The Western Section and the Eastern Section shall meet annually on the second Wednesday in May, in Toronto and Halifax respectively, when they shall fill up any vacancies that may have occurred in their numbers during the year.

7. They shall examine the proceedings of the Executive Committee and the business of each establishment during the preceding year.

8. They shall provide for an annual valuation of the stock, machinery, debts and other property, and annually appoint suitable persons to audit the accounts, and prepare a full and clear report to be laid before the Annual Conferences which they respectively represent.

9. They shall fix the salaries of the Book Steward or Book Stewards, and Editor or Editors.

10. Each Section shall have authority to suspend either a Book Steward or Editor for incompetency or for culpable neglect of the duties of his office, and to supply his place until the next General Conference: *Provided always*, that no such suspension shall take place except by the vote of *three-fourths* of the members of the Section.

11. In case of the death, resignation, or permanent disability of a Book Steward or Editor during his term of office, the Section having supervision of the establishment in which such vacancy occurs shall have power to appoint a successor to fill the office until the next General Conference.

12. At the end of each quadrennial term they shall cause a correct valuation of the real property, stock, machinery,

debts and other property to be made, entering such property at its actual value, and report the same to the General Conference.

13. Each Section shall, at the close of the quadrennial period, carefully review the book and publishing business within its jurisdiction of the preceding four years, and prepare a full report of the same to be presented to the General Conference.

14. A special meeting of the members of either Section may be called by the Book Steward and Editor, or by the Secretary, on the written request of any three members.

15. All real estate and other property connected with the Book and Printing Establishment in the city of Toronto, and any other that may be acquired within the bounds of the Toronto, Guelph, London, Niagara, Bay of Quinte, Montreal or Manitoba Conferences, shall be vested in the Western Section of the Book Committee and their successors in office, who shall apply all profits not required in the business exclusively for the benefit of the Superannuation Fund within the bounds of the aforesaid Conferences.

16. All property connected with the Book and Printing Establishment in the city of Halifax, and any other that may be required within the bounds of the Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, or Newfoundland Conferences, shall be vested in the Eastern Section of the Book Committee and their successors, who shall apply all profits not required in the business exclusively for the benefit of the Supernumerary Ministers and Ministers' Widows' Fund.

17. Each Section of the Book Committee shall also at its first meeting, and at each subsequent annual meeting, appoint an Executive Committee, who shall meet quarterly and review the business of the preceding quarter; and shall advise and decide in all matters submitted for their consideration.

18. The Executive Committee of the Western Section shall consist of two members from the London Conference,

two from the Guelph, two from Niagara, three from Toronto, two from Bay of Quinte, and two from Montreal, with the Book Steward and Editors. Seven shall constitute a quorum.

19. The Executive Committee of the Eastern Section shall consist of *five* members—three of whom shall constitute a quorum—who shall be selected from those members of the Eastern Section residing in the vicinity of the Book Room, in Halifax.

20. Each Executive Committee shall appoint its own Chairman and Secretary, and keep a correct record of the business transacted at its meetings, which shall be submitted to the respective Sections of the Book Committee at their annual meeting.

21. All books which may be published by order of the General Conference, under the direction of any one of the existing book establishments, shall be furnished to the other establishment at cost.

Section II.—The Book Stewards.

1. The General Conference shall elect by ballot a Book Steward, who shall have charge of the Book and Printing Establishment in Toronto, under the direction of the Western Section of the Book Committee; and also a Book Steward, who shall have charge of the Book and Printing Establishment in Halifax, under the direction of the Eastern Section of the Book Committee.

2. It shall be the duty of each Book Steward to purchase all materials and books required for the establishment under his charge, keeping in view the mental wants of the Church and the religious instruction of the people generally. Nevertheless, before purchasing plant or materials for improvement, involving unusual expenditure, he shall obtain the consent of the Executive Committee. He shall give the Committee such information as they may require concerning the state of the business, and present a quarterly statement of the affairs of the establishment to the Executive Committee. He shall also present annually to the

meeting of his Section of the Book Committee a balance-sheet exhibiting the financial state of the Book Room and periodicals, together with a cash account showing the sources whence the money has been received and the purposes for which it has been paid.

3. Each Book Steward shall conduct the business of his department in the most efficient and economical manner, and pay over to the Treasurer of the Superannuation or Supernumerary Fund such proportion of the profits as the respective Sections of the Book Committee shall determine.

Section III.—The Editors and their Duties.

1. The General Conference shall elect by ballot an Editor and Associate Editor, who shall have the editorial management of the *Christian Guardian;* and an Editor of the *Canadian Methodist Magazine* and Sunday-school periodicals; and an Editor who shall have the editorial management of the *Wesleyan.*

2. It shall be the duties of the Editors to make their respective periodicals soundly scriptural and instructive, and to put forth all reasonable efforts to render them the means of promoting right views on social, moral and religious questions, and of stimulating the zeal of our people in supporting all our connexional enterprises.

3. They shall likewise carefully supervise the printing of all books and periodicals published at the respective Book Rooms; and it is required that in all matters respecting the publication of the periodicals, the Book Stewards and Editors shall act in harmony.

4. The Book Stewards and Editors elected by the General Conference shall hold office for four years from the time of their election, or from one General Conference to another, and shall be eligible for re-election; but they shall continue in office, after the appointment of their successors, till the meeting of the Annual Conference to which they belong.

WM. BRIGGS, *Chairman.*
E. H. DEWART, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK.

For the thorough organization and government of the Sabbath Schools of the Methodist Church the following directions are given:—

1. It shall be the duty of every minister to see that, so far as possible, there shall be a Sabbath School in connection with each congregation under his charge; such school to be kept open, if at all practicable, during the whole year.

2. In organizing a new school, the Superintendent of the Circuit shall appoint, with the concurrence of the Quarterly Official Meeting, a suitable person to superintend the same, and the person so appointed shall, with the concurrence of the Superintendent of the Circuit, appoint the necessary officers and teachers, and proceed to organize in harmony with the following Constitution:—

I. NAME.

This Society shall be known as the ——— Methodist Sabbath School, and shall be under the supervision of the Quarterly Official Board of the ——— Circuit or Mission.

II. MANAGEMENT.

The management of the school shall be vested in a Committee consisting of the minister or ministers on the Circuit, the officers and teachers of the school, and not less than two, or more than five, other persons, members of the church, nominated by the Superintendent of the Circuit at the Second Quarterly Official Board Meeting, and elected by said meeting; and shall enter upon the duties of their office at the next ensuing meeting of the Committee of Management.

III. INSTRUCTION.

The instruction given in this school shall be the doctrines of the Word of God as expounded in the recognized standards of the Methodist Church. The Methodist Catechisms shall be taught in each school.

IV. OFFICERS.

The officers of the school shall be a Superintendent, Secretary, Treasurer, and Librarian. If necessary, an assistant in any of the above offices may be appointed. The Superintendent and his assistant must be members of the Methodist Church.

V. ELECTION.

The Committee of Management shall annually elect all the officers and teachers at its regular meeting next preceding the anniversary of the school. The Superintendent of the Circuit shall nominate the Superintendent of the school, who shall, after his election, nominate the rest of the officers and teachers, and, from time to time, fill such vacancy as may occur in the list of the officers and teachers.

VI. MEETINGS.

Regular meetings of the Committee of Management shall be held once a quarter, a report from which meeting, concerning the state of the school, shall be presented at the next ensuing meeting of the Quarterly Official Board.

Order of business:—

1. Devotional Exercises.
2. Calling the Roll.
3. Reading Minutes of Previous Meetings.
4. Unfinished Business.
5. Reports: of Superintendent, Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, Committees and Special Meetings.
6. Elections.
7. Miscellaneous.
8. Closing Exercises.

Special meetings may be called at any time by the Secretary, at the request of the minister or Superintendent of the school. Due notice of the nature of the business to be transacted, together with the time and place of meeting, shall be given to each member of the Committee. No other than the special business thus noticed shall be transacted

at special meetings. Where practicable, there shall be a weekly meeting of the teachers for the study of the lesson.

VII. ANNIVERSARY.

A public anniversary meeting of the school shall be held in the month of ———— in each year, when the reports of the school, as adopted by the Committee of Management, shall be read, the officers and committee for the year announced, and such other exercises as, in the judgment of the Committee, may be deemed expedient.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES.

The Superintendent of the Circuit is, *ex-officio*, Chairman of all Sabbath School Committees. In his absence, the Superintendent of the school shall preside. The Superintendent of the Sabbath School shall be a member of the Quarterly Board.

No person shall be permitted to retain a position as an officer or teacher whose character or religious opinions, in the judgment of the Committee of Management, or Quarterly Official Meeting of the Circuit, shall be deemed a sufficient ground of unfitness for service in our Sabbath Schools.

In order that the ministers may, from time to time, visit the Sabbath Schools on their Circuits, it is recommended that an open meeting of the school be held for that purpose once a quarter; if necessary, at the time of the regular preaching service.

The Superintendent of the school shall cause the Annual Schedule to be filled up, and present the same to the *Fourth* Quarterly Official Meeting of the Circuit. The Recording Steward shall prepare the Circuit Report, and forward it to the Annual District Meeting.

It is strongly recommended that the several grades of Sunday-school publications of our own Church be used in all our schools, instead of irresponsible publications, which are often hostile to the doctrinal teachings of Methodism and to the institutions of our country.

It is also strongly recommended that every means shall be made to secure the attendance of our Sunday-school children at the regular services of the church; and that special efforts shall be put forth, as the Providence of God may indicate, for the conversion of the children, and for their instruction in catechumen classes and ingathering into the Church.

TEMPERANCE PLEDGES.

In all the Sunday-schools of our Church earnest efforts shall be made to inculcate principles of total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors or injurious practices, and for this purpose the following pledge shall be provided:—

"I do hereby pledge myself to abstain from all intoxicating liquors, and from the use of tobacco in any form, also from the use of profane language, and the reading of bad books."

It is further recommended that the Committee of Management shall arrange for a temperance meeting in the school once a quarter, at which meeting addresses shall be given in keeping with the above pledge, and an effort made to induce all to subscribe thereto.

SABBATH-SCHOOL MISSIONARY SOCIETIES.

There shall be, wherever practicable, in connection with each Sunday-school, a Juvenile Missionary Society, for the collection of missionary money, the diffusion of missionary information, and the cultivation of a missionary spirit. It is also recommended that the Superintendent of the circuit, in conjunction with the Superintendent of the school, shall secure, if possible, the presence of the Sunday-school scholars at the Annual Meeting of the Missionary Society of the Church, and their participation in its services by singing missionary hymns and presenting their missionary offerings.

SETTLEMENT OF DIFFICULTIES.

Should any difficulty arise in connection with the school, which the Committee cannot satisfactorily adjust, the minister, Superintendent of the school, or any three members of

the Committee, may, on giving due notice to the Committee of their intention, refer the matter in dispute to the next Quarterly Official Meeting of the Circuit, when the cause shall be heard and finally decided.

DISTRICT MEETING.—SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK.

Each Annual May District Meeting shall appoint one member of the Annual Conference Sabbath-school Committee.

Each Chairman shall enquire at the May District Meeting, when the laymen are present, into the condition of the Sabbath-schools on every circuit by name, and call for the schedules, which shall pass under careful review and be tabulated for the Annual Conference.

There shall be a Sabbath-school Convention held in each district, to be composed of all the ministers and preachers in the district, all Superintendents of schools, and two or more delegates from each Sabbath-school in the district; to be held in connection with the Financial District Meeting, or at such other time as the May District Meeting may determine. The exercises of said Convention shall consist of discussions on Sabbath-school matters, essays, normal or model classes, public addresses, etc.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE.—SABBATH SCHOOL WORK.

1. Committee.

There shall be a Sabbath-school Committee for each Annual Conference, composed of one member from each district, as provided for by the last section, of which the President of the Annual Conference shall be the Chairman. But, in his absence, the Committee shall proceed to elect its own Chairman, and Secretary, and Treasurer.

It shall be the duty of this Committee to collect the statistics of the districts, and prepare therefrom the Conference Report, and make such recommendations to their Conference as the necessities of the work may require from time to time.

It is the duty of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Sabbath-school Committee to take charge of all books and papers belonging to our Sabbath-school work, to act as Corresponding Secretary of the Conference, and to forward all moneys received from the District Secretary to the General Treasurer as hereinafter provided. He shall make arrangements for the first meeting of the Committee so soon after the opening of Conference as may be convenient, and shall continue in office until his successor be appointed.

2. Annual Meeting.

There shall be a public Sabbath-school Meeting held in connection with the Annual Conference, for which arrangements shall be made by the Committee appointed to prepare the plan of public services for the Conference.

GENERAL CONFERENCE SABBATH SCHOOL WORK.

The General Conference shall appoint a Sunday-school Board, consisting of one minister and one laymen from each Conference. In the absence of both General Superintendents, the members of the Sunday-school Board may elect a Chairman *pro tem.*

The members of the Board belonging to the five Conferences of Ontario shall meet annually, at such time and place as one of the General Superintendents shall direct, for the purpose of receiving the report of the Secretary and Treasurer, and for the transaction of any necessary business.

COLLECTIONS.

An annual collection in aid of Sunday-school work shall be taken up in all our schools, to be called the Sunday-school Aid and Extension Fund collection. It is recommended that this collection be taken up at the open session of the school on the Quarterly Review Sunday in September, or at such other time as may be found most convenient. It shall be the duty of Superintendents of Circuits and Chairmen of Districts to see that such collections are taken up.

The District Financial Secretaries shall receive such collections in the same manner as the other connexional collections, and transmit the same to the Secretary of the Sunday-school Committee of the Annual Conferences.

The General Conference Sunday-school Board shall elect a Treasurer, to whom the Sabbath-school Secretaries of the Annual Conferences shall remit the Aid and Extension Fund collections.

This Fund shall be employed in making, under such regulations as the Board may frame, grants of Sunday-school periodicals and books to schools in destitute localities, and in promoting the establishment of new schools where none exist.

The Ontario section of the Sabbath-school Board may, if thought advisable, appoint a sub-committee or Executive Committee to make grants of books and transact other business.

The Editor of the Sunday-school periodicals shall be, *ex-officio*, a member of the Sunday-school Board, and shall act as its secretary. He shall prepare and cause to be forwarded all necessary schedules for the collection of Sabbath-school statistics. He shall, under the direction of the Executive Committee, conduct all correspondence with reference to the making of grants from the Aid and Extension Fund. He shall also, under the same direction, superintend the selection, examination and recommendation of suitable books for Sunday-school libraries, and publish and circulate catalogues of the same.

The Executive Committee shall appoint an auditor, or auditors, whose duty it shall be to examine all the accounts of the Secretary and Treasurer, and report to the Ontario section of the Board; and once in four years to the General Sabbath-school Board. The said audit shall be submitted to the Annual Conferences, and published in some of the Sunday-school periodicals.

The Committee would respectfully suggest that the following-named persons be the members of the Sunday-school Board until the next regular General Conference:

Newfoundland Conference—Rev. Geo. Boyd, Hon. J. J. Rogerson.

Nova Scotia Conference—Rev. J. Lathern, J. W. Smith.

New Brunswick and P. E. I. Conference.—Rev. S. T. Teed, Hy. J. Thorn (St. John).

Montreal Conference—Rev. Dr. Potts, Hon. Sen. Ferrier.

Bay of Quinte Conference—Rev. S. Card, W. F. Hall.

Toronto Conference—Rev. W. H. Laird, W. Kennedy.

Guelph Conference—Rev. A. Andrews, James Thompson (Clinton).

London Conference—Rev. W. H. Butt, C. A. Barnes (Forest).

Niagara Conference—Rev. J. Maxwell, George Aury.

Manitoba Conference—Rev. E. A. Stafford, S. R. Parsons (Winnipeg).

Signed on behalf of the Committee.

W. J. MAXWELL, *Chairman.*
W. H. WITHROW, *Secretary.*

SUPPLEMENTARY SABBATH-SCHOOL REPORT.

With reference to the Memorial of the Methodist Episcopal Sabbath-school Parliament Committee, the Sabbath-school Committee of this Conference recommend that the prayer of the Memoralists be granted; and that this General Conference appoint in the room and stead of the present Sabbath-school Parliament Committee the following Committee, to act as such till the next ensuing General Conference of the Methodist Church:—

SABBATH-SCHOOL PARLIAMENT COMMITTEE.

(22 Members.)

Rev. Dr. Jacques.
" J. Vanwyck, B.A.
" J. S. Bell.
" J. E. Mavety.
" E. D. O'Flyn (Madoc.)
" L. M. Booth (Brockville.)
" H. F. Bland.
" J. B Clarkson, M.A.
" W. P. Lacey (Sydenham.)
" G. Webber.
" J. C. Antliff, B.D.
Rev. W. H. Withrow, D.D.
" J. R. Gundy.
" R. Cade.
" A. Andrews
" Wm. Herridge.
" A. E. Russ, M.A.
" W. Pascoe.
" E. Barrass, M.A.
Jas. Aylsworth.
A. L Morden, *President.*
Rev. S. Card, *Secretary.*

Also that the following-named persons be the Normal Class Board of the Sabbath-school Parliament till the next ensuing General Conference of the Methodist Church :—

NORMAL CLASS BOARD OF THE SABBATH-SCHOOL PARLIAMENT.

(11 Members.)

Rev. J. T. Davis.
" E. N. Baker, B.A.
" J. S. Bell.
" W. Blair, M.A.
" W. H. Withrow, D.D.
" J. C. Antliff, B.D.
Rev. J. J. Rice.
C. A. Barnes, B.A.
R. Knox.
A. L. Morden.
Rev. S. Card, *Superintendent.*

It is distinctly understood that the business of these Committees shall be arranged by correspondence, and that the General Conference shall be in no way responsible for any expenses that may be incurred.

The Committee also recommend the addition of the name of Geo. Aury (Hamilton) to the Sabbath-school Board.

W. J. MAXWELL, *Chairman.*
W. H. WITHROW, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS.

Your Committee regret that on account of imperfect returns from some of the Annual Conferences, and a want of uniformity in compiling statistical tables, the subjoined statement is not as complete as it would otherwise have been.

The following Statistical Report of the number of Ministers, Members, Sunday-Schools, Church Property, etc., connected with the four Methodist Churches now entering into union is presented:—

I. Ministers and Members.

1. *Methodist Church of Canada.*

(*a*) Western Section.

Conferences.	Prob'rs for Ministry.		Ministers.				Members.		
	At Coll	At work.	Effective.	Sup'd.	Sup'y.	Total.	On trial.	Full.	Total.
Toronto	13	40	242	46	12	353	2617	33242	35859
London	14	36	239	40	10	339	2326	37584	39910
Montreal	8	22	157	18	7	212	1040	21203	22243
Manitoba	1	5	55	..	4	65	160	3188	3248
Total	36	103	693	104	33	969	6143	95217	101260

(*b*) Eastern Section.

Nova Scotia	3	10	72	21	2	108	608	9670	10278
New Brunswick	2	5	75	12	..	94	348	7701	8049
Newfoundland	..	8	35	2	..	45	1276	7781	9057
Total	5	23	182	35	2	247	2232	25152	27384

MINISTERS AND MEMBERS—*Continued.*

Summary.

CONFERENCES.	PROB'RS FOR MINISTRY.		MINISTERS.				MEMBERS.		
	At Coll	At work.	Effective.	Sup'd.	Sup'y.	Total.	On trial.	Full.	Total.
Western Conferences	36	103	693	104	33	969	6143	95217	101260
Eastern "	5	23	182	35	2	247	2232	25152	27384
Total	41	126	875	139	35	1216	8375	120369	128644

2. *Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada.*

Niagara.....	4	16	74	15	2	111	824	9303	10127
Ontario.....	1	4	59	7	1	72	620	6861	7481
Bay Quinte	2	4	56	13	1	76	439	7624	8063
Total	7	24	189	35	4	259	1883	23788	25671

3. *Primitive Methodist Church in Canada.*

	..	10	64	14	1	89	1413	6677	8090

4. *Bible Christian Church in Canada.*

	1	10	56	11	2	79	480	6918	7398

General Summary.

Methodist Ch. of Can.	41	126	875	139	35	1216	8375	120369	128644
Meth. Episcopal Ch...	7	24	189	35	4	259	1883	23788	25671
Primitive Meth. Ch...	..	10	64	14	1	89	1413	6677	8090
Bible Christian Church	1	10	56	11	2	79	480	6918	7398
Grand Total.....	49	170	1184	199	42	1633	12151	157752	169803

II. Churches and Parsonages.

1. *Methodist Church of Canada.*

(*a*) Western Section.

CONFERENCES.	Churches.		Parsonages.		Value of Parsonage Furniture.	Total Value of Church Property
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.		
Toronto	645	$1608302	172	$265605	$32915	$1906822
London	660	1621993	176	276331	41196	1939520
Montreal	364	1115140	124	153520	26123	1294783
Manitoba	48	93000	36	17450	2699	113149
Total	1717	$4438435	508	$712906	$102933	$5254274

(*b*) Eastern Section.

Nova Scotia	207	....	59	....	....	$604254
New Brunswick	198	....	48	....	....	662485
Newfoundland	80	....	31	....	....	288804
Total East	485	....	138	....	....	1555543
Total West	1717	$4438435	508	$712906	$102933	5254274
Total	2202	....	646	....	....	$6809817

2. *Methodist Episcopal Church.*

Niagara	239	$529229	54	$49760	....	$578989
Ontario	175	396350	36	32650	....	525200
Bay of Quinte	131	388625	36	30700	....	419325
Total	545	$1314204	126	$113110	....	$1523514

Summary.

Methodist Church of Canada	2202	$4438435	646	$712906	$102933	$6809817
Methodist Episcopal Church	545	1314204	126	113110	....	1523514
Primitive Methodist	231	....	50	....	....	402266
Bible Christian	181	....	55	....	....	395210
Grand Total	3159	....	877	....	....	$9130807

III. Sunday Schools.

1. *Methodist Church of Canada.*

(*a*) Western Section.

CONFERENCES.	No. of Schools.	No. of Teachers.	No. of Scholars.	Meeting in Class.	Volumes in Library.	Moneys Raised.		
						Missions	General S. S. F.	For Schools.
						$ c	$ c	$ c
Toronto	554	4795	39428	5623	65218	5385 81	430 90	21663 24
London	551	5920	45558	6279	79253	4814 46	392 34	20771 62
Montreal	329	2346	18368	2402	36038	....	74 13	....
Manitoba	68	263	2275	87	3532	46 00	17 30	635 00
Total	1502	13324	105629	14391	184041	10246 27	914 67	43069 86

(*b*) Eastern Section.

Nova Scotia	180	1321	10037	1176	19020	1632 06	58 88	2284 88
New Brunswick	164	1204	8882	854	15505	1030 71	81 01	3250 27
Newfoundland	122	932	7772	931	4166	1165 79	58 75	821 61
Total East	466	3457	26691	2961	38691	3828 56	198 64	6356 76
Total West	1502	13324	105629	14391	184041	10246 27	914 67	43069 86
Total	1968	16781	132320	17352	222732	14074 83	1113 31	49426 62

2. *Methodist Episcopal Church.*

Niagara	183	1377	10770	....	....	....	....	4109 63
Ontario	130	975	7362	....	....	....	....	3053 68
Bay of Quinte	119	830	5836	....	....	....	....	2140 14
Total	432	3182	23968	....	....	....	....	9303 45

Summary.

Meth. Ch'ch of Canada.	1968	16781	132320	17352	222732	14074 83	1113 31	49426 62
Meth. Epis. Church	432	3182	23968	....	....	....	....	9303 45
Primitive Methodist	152	1172	9065	....	....	....	....	....
Bible Christian	155	1299	9699	1178	17439	626 24	....	4629 48
Grand Total	2707	22434	175052	18530	240171	14701 07	1113 31	63359 55

Your Committee have examined the Circuit, District, Conference, and other Schedules, as revised and arranged by the Secretary of this Committee, and expresses its hearty approval of the same.

Your Committee recommend the Conference to order:—

1st. That the Book Steward publish Schedules and District Books for the use of Circuits, District Meetings, and Conferences, as so revised and arranged, thereby securing uniformity in detail, and preventing inaccuracy in all future numerical and financial returns.

2nd. That the Secretary of this Committee be requested to assist in preparing the Schedules in accordance with the above recommendation.

3rd. That full returns of all statistics gathered for the May District Meetings be published annually in the Minutes or Journals of the several Conferences.

4th. That the Secretaries of all the Annual Conferences be instructed to have the Minutes or Journals of their Conference printed on octavo size page, in order to the binding of all in one volume when desired.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ROBERT CADE, *Chairman.*

GEO. H. CORNISH, *Secretary.*

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

No. I.

Your Committee, recognizing the great importance of the Temperance question, as affecting all the interests that go to make a people great, prosperous, wise, virtuous, and happy, have given their best and most prayerful attention to its consideration. The Temperance question, as we understand it to-day, is two-fold:—

FIRST. *Total Abstinence from all that can intoxicate,* and

SECOND. *Total Prohibition of the manufacture and sale of all spirituous and fermented liquors as beverages.*

To this question, as above stated, our Church bears a most intimate and solemn relation, a relation which we cannot evade, which we dare not deny, and which would be sin to us if we sought in the least to minify. Out of that relation come duties which we must discharge as best we may in the fear of God. The Methodist Church in this Canada of ours, up to this present hour, and in all her branches, has believed the liquor traffic to be a sin against God and crime against humanity; and in agreement with this faith has taken no equivocal position in her relation thereto.

She has found no room for standing ground anywhere but in an unequivocal attitude of antagonism to it. As evidence, witness our General Rules, which say, speaking of things to be avoided by all seeking the privileges of the membership of the Church, "Drunkenness, buying or selling spirituous liquors, or drinking them, unless in case of extreme necessity." Witness the declarations repeatedly made by Annual and General Conferences, and the sympathy and active support given to all Temperance organizations for the last fifty years. Every movement looking towards a restriction of the sale of strong drinks has received her heartiest aid. Every movement to save the weak and fallen through the use of liquor has found in her a friend. Every movement that promised to educate public opinion and quicken the public conscience has been encouraged and strengthened by her ministers and people. Her pulpits have given no uncertain sound, and her united voice and action have unceasingly declared the liquor traffic to be dangerous to our homes, a source of great corruption to society, the cause of a vast amount of crime and pauperism, and directly responsible for the ruin of great multitudes of souls in eternal perdition. The words of the Eternal Spirit, in deep-toned utterance, fall upon our heart with a meaning and power that awaken us as the call of the trumpet awakens armed hosts to battle—"No drunkard shall inherit the kingdom of God." The Church cannot afford to neglect the care of the weak and fallen, to be indifferent to any agency by which public opinion may be educated to a greater abhor-

rence of the use of and trade in strong drinks; neither can she afford to approve of any license law which licenses its sale, believing all license to be a compromise with evil, and all moneys received from such licenses to be the price of blood—of our brother's blood.

Standing, as we do to-day, on the threshold of a new era in our history, it is fitting that this United General Conference, composed of the four contracting Methodist bodies in Canada, and joining hands and hearts in this union, should enter into a solemn league and covenant against the manufacture, use and sale as a beverage, of all that does intoxicate; and pledge our earnest endeavours to promote by every effort of tongue and pen, by prayer and work, total abstinence and total prohibition.

The motto upon our banner, known and read by all men, shall be—"Total Abstinence for the individual, and entire Prohibition for the State."

The era of resolutions only has passed away; the era of *action* has begun.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

We respectfully submit the following recommendations:

1. *On Temperance in the Home and the Sabbath School.*

The characters of our children are, for the most part, made or marred in the home. We would earnestly recommend all our people to have family pledge cards in their homes, on which the names of parents and children shall be written; and our Sabbath Schools, working in harmony with the home, shall organize, as far as possible, Bands of Hope, or other Juvenile Societies, and hold a public meeting 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. *On Temperance Text-books in the Common Schools.*

With reference to the introduction of Temperance Text-books into the Common Schools of our Dominion, we recog-

nize its importance, and recommend that the necessary steps be taken, in conjunction with others, to secure the accomplishment of this desirable end.

3. *Temperance Literature.*

"The pen is mightier than the sword!" Use it, then, to the utmost to advance the cause of Temperance and Prohibition. Circulate papers and tracts in every home and Sunday-school in the nation. Sow the country knee-deep with literature of the right kind, and an immense gain will soon be had for the success of the cause we seek to promote.

4. *The "Canada Temperance Act" of 1878.*

This Act, known as the "Scott Act," is the only form of Prohibition we have on the statute-books of our Dominion, and, believing it can be made productive of great good to the cause of ultimate prohibition, we recommend our people in every county where it is not now in force to take steps for the submission of said Act to a vote of the ratepayers. The effort necessary to bring this Act to a vote in any county will lead to the dissemination of a vast amount of information and the consequent education of public opinion, which would not be attained by vastly greater effort aiming only at the idea of Temperance in the abstract.

5. *Voting for Temperance Candidates only.*

We believe in the right of a free people to protect themselves from the action of all laws that protect and license a trade that is fraught with so much danger to their peace and safety. And as no regulation of the liquor traffic will arrest to any appreciable extent, and for any length of time, the evils arising from the use of liquors as a beverage, we earnestly recommend the tens of thousands of the Methodist people having the franchise to vote for those Candidates only who pledge themselves to give such legislation as will remove from the statute-books all laws licensing the sale of strong drinks for purposes of beverage, and as will enact such laws as shall forever destroy the thrice-accursed busi-

ness of drunkard-making. We strongly recommend all to vote as they pray; then they can pray as they vote. It is a contradiction that should at once and forever end, that a Christian man will pray in one hour that God will remove the liquor traffic from our midst, and the next hour vote to perpetuate it.

6. *The Entire Prohibition of the Liquor Traffic.*

We accept of no Local Option law as the ultimate legislation on this question. Local Option laws are but partial prohibition and temporary expedients, valuable so far as they go; but the only and completely effective remedy for a legalized evil is to make it illegal by repealing all laws protecting and licensing it, then to gather all the force of law, backed up by an educated public opinion, for its utter extermination. We aim at and will be satisfied with nothing less than "Total Prohibition for the State." We recommend the use of argument, book, tract, petition and other moral and legal means to attain the end for which we both pray and labour.

7. *The Woman's Christian Temperance Union.*

We commend the work of the ladies of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union to the prayerful sympathy and help of the Church. They are co-workers in the great cause of Temperance and Prohibition. Be generous towards them in the recognition of all their claims, assured that woman's work in this reform is an essential and mighty force in the success that awaits it.

Woman's place in the home is supreme; her place in the school as an educator is equal to that of man; her place in the learned professions is now freely accorded, not of compliment, but of merit; and it only remains for the Government to grant her the right of the franchise, which right is fast being recognized by those who lead in the van of progress.

8. *Sacramental Wine.*

Shall we put upon the Lord's table a kind of wine that we would not put upon our own? Shall we give to God's children in the wine cup a poison we would not give to our own? Shall we put before a reformed and converted man at the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper a cup that contains even the smallest quantity of alcohol, which was the cause of his former stumbling and overthrow? God forbid. We earnestly recommend and entreat the Official Boards of our Church to secure for sacramental purposes the pure, unfermented juice of the grape, and use that only.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. LAMBLY, *Chairman.*
D. L. BRETHOUR, *Secretary.*

REPORT No. II.

The Committee report progress and respectfully ask leave to submit the following request:—

That the Conference appoint a Public Temperance Meeting to be held on Wednesday evening next (12th inst.) at 7.30 o'clock, in the Bridge Street Methodist Church, to be addressed by several ministers and laymen from various parts of the Dominion in ten-minute speeches.

D. L. BRETHOUR.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE ON ANNUAL CONFERENCE BOUNDARIES.

No. I.

The Committee on "Boundaries of Conferences" beg to submit the following Report:

1. That Conferences be formed having the same names and boundaries as the following existing Conferences of the

Methodist Church of Canada, viz. :—Manitoba, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland.

2. That the remaining portion of our work be formed into the following Conferences :—London, Guelph, Niagara, Toronto, Bay of Quinte, and Montreal.

3. London Conference.

Districts.	Circuits.	Effective Ministers.	Superan'd.	Members.
London	19	31	7	3973
St. Thomas	16	23	3	2629
Chatham	25	29	2	4270
Sarnia	24	28	4	3124
	84	111	16	13996
Methodist Episcopal Conference	34	44	7	4129
Primitive Methodist	12	12	5	1151
Bible Christian	10	10	2	1018
Totals	140	177	30	20294

4. Guelph Conference.

Guelph	18	17	2	2398
Stratford	16	19	..	2341
Wellington	17	24	2	2941
Goderich	18	24	3	3604
Walkerton	12	17	4	2036
Owen Sound	16	16	2	2161
	97	117	13	15481
Methodist Episcopal Church	15	18	3	2034
Primitive Methodist	12	13	2	1038
Bible Christian	8	8	1	1210
Totals	132	156	19	19763

5. Niagara Conference.

Districts.	Circuits.	Effective Ministers.	Superan'd	Members.
Hamilton	19	23	9	3891
Niagara	23	23	6	3047
Brantford	13	18	5	2522
Woodstock	12	14	4	1977
Simcoe	16	20	2	3193
	83	98	26	14630
Methodist Episcopal Church	29	43	7	4913
Primitive Methodist	8	8	1	807
Bible Christian	3	3	..	233
Totals	123	152	34	20583

6. Toronto Conference.

Toronto	20	31	22	4459
Brampton	12	16	3	2455
Whitby	18	25	5	3318
Bradford	16	21	1	2708
Barrie	11	12	2	1298
Bracebridge	14	10	3	1085
Collingwood	13	15	2	2048
Algoma	17	9	2	565
Victoria and New Westminster	15	12	1	577
Port Simpson	11	5	..	778
Japan	7	12	..	230
	154	168	41	19521
Methodist Episcopal Church	25	21	4	3023
Primitive Methodist	35	38	8	4563
Bible Christian	10	17	2	2324
Totals	224	244	55	29431

7. Bay of Quinte Conference.

Districts.	Circuits.	Effective Ministers.	Superan'd	Members.
Belleville	18	19	2	3551
Cobourg	14	21	8	2621
Lindsay	16	23	2	2011
Peterboro'	16	15	..	2201
Napanee	11	13	..	2217
Picton	12	13	1	2037
	87	104	13	14638
Methodist Episcopal Church	34	48	10	6256
Primitive Methodist	..	..	..	....
Bible Christian	14	15	5	1309
Totals	135	167	28	22203

8. Montreal Conference.

Montreal	28	30	8	2993
Kingston	13	15	6	1771
Brockville	21	27	3	4718
Perth	15	17	2	2162
Pembroke	12	14	..	1389
Ottawa	16	16	2	2486
Quebec	20	20	2	1687
Stanstead	12	12	1	927
Waterloo	14	14	3	1419
French	14	10	..	444
	165	175	27	19996
Methodist Episcopal Conference	31	23	6	4726
Primitive Methodist	6	5	..	467
Bible Christian	..	..	..	....
Totals	202	203	33	25189

Note.—The figures given above are only approximate, as owing to the fact that Circuits and Districts overlap each other, it was impossible to arrive at correctness.

A. Langford, *President.*

John F. Cerman, *Secretary.*

Report No. II.

The Committee have carefully considered the memorial from the Owen Sound District, requesting that said district be allowed to remain connected with the Toronto Conference, but owing to the very great difficulties in the way of equalizing the territory, membership, etc., in the several Annual Conferences, they are of the unanimous opinion that the District of Owen Sound should be connected with the Guelph Conference, as already decided.

A. Langford, *President.*

J. F. German, *Secretary.*

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEMORIALS.

No. I.

Your Committee on Memorials beg leave to submit the following Report :—

1. Memorials from the Thornburg and Innisfil Circuits, Bradford District and Manitoba Conference, all on Children's Fund. Referred to Children's Fund Committee.

2. Memorials from Bradford District and Schomberg Circuit on Lay Representation. Your Committee recommend that, as these Memorials seek to change the Basis of Union on the question of Lay Representation to the Annual Conference, they be not entertained.

3. Memorial from Bradford District and Innisfil Circuit on General Superintendency. Referred to Committee on General Superintendency.

4. Memorial from Collingwood District and Avening Circuit on the mode of electing Lay Delegates to the Annual Conference. Referred to Committee on Discipline.

5. Memorial from Wellington District on certain changes in the Discipline on the Ritual on Ordination. Referred to Committee on Discipline.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. C. BROWN, *Chairman.*

M. S. SMITH, *Secretary.*

REPORT NO. II.

Memorials were received from the following Circuits and Missions on the General Superintendency and Lay Delegation, and referred by the Memorial Committee to the Committee on Discipline:—Pakenham, South Mountain, Pembroke, Kingston 2nd, Arnprior, Battersea, Ulverton, North Gower, Winchester, Aylmer, Perth, Carleton Place, Cataracque, Kingston 1st, Hatley and Cassville, Robinson, Little York, Charlottetown, Bayfield, Fairville, New Germany, Liverpool, Canso, Dartmouth, Sherbourne Street, Orangeville, Mono Road, Spadina Avenue, Bloor Street, Parkdale, Yonge Street South, Yonge Street North, Alton and Amaranth, Darlington, Prince Albert, Markham, Colborne, Wooler, Castleton, Canton, Port Hope, Trenton, Shannonville, Thurlow, Bloomfield, Demorestville, Picton, Norwood, Minden, Schomberg, Alliston, Barrie, Gravenhurst, Bracebridge, Kirkville, Collingwood, Thomasburg, Chatsworth, Invermay, Hanover, Chesley, Prince Arthur's Landing, Zion Church (Winnipeg), Selkirk, Portage la Prairie, Burnside and Prospect, Nelsonville, New Westminster, Clinton, Lucknow, Wingham, Stratford, Kirkton, Seaforth, Mount Forest, Galt, Berlin, Dublin Street Church (Guelph), Norfork Street (Guelph), Nassagaweya, Sarnia, Point Edward, Watford, Oil Springs, Amherstburg, Harrow, Bothwell, Port Stanley, St. Thomas 1st, Dundas Street Centre, Queen's Avenue, London South, Westminster, Dorchester, Teeterville, Port Dover, Port Rowan, Oakland, Lynden, Jerseyville, Fairfield, St. Catharines, Smithville, and Fenwick.

Memorials referring to the Superannuation Fund—From Burlington, Glencoe, and Glanford. Referred to the Committee on the Superannuation Fund.

Memorials respecting Special Fund—From Quebec, Walkerton, and Arnprior. Referred to Committee on Finance.

Memorial from Newmarket. Referred to Committee on Church Property.

Memorial on change of name—From Dominion City. Referred to Committee on the Name of the Church.

W. C. BROWN, *Chairman.*

M. S. SMITH, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ANNUAL CONFERENCES AND MINISTERIAL STANDING.

Your Committee recommend for adoption the following regulations in regard to Annual Conferences:—

1. The territory occupied by the Church shall be divided into ten Annual Conferences.

2. Each Annual Conference shall be 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 elsewhere provided.

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

4. Laymen elected shall 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.

5. Each Annual Conference shall assemble not earlier than the first Wednesday in May, nor later than the last Wednesday in June of each year, and shall, within this limitation, determine the time and place of its meeting from year to year.

6. 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.

7. Each Annual Conference shall have a Secretary who shall keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Conference, which shall be signed by the President and Secretary, and preserved among the documents of the Conference.

8. The Annual Conference shall examine the character and qualifications of all ministers and probationers for the ministry belonging to the Conference, and its decisions shall be final except in cases of appeal on questions of law.

9. In case any minister's character shall be arrested, it shall be competent for the ministerial members to meet in Special Session to examine into the case and pronounce judgment, reporting their action to the Mixed Conference—such report to be for information and record, and not for discussion.

10. The President of the Annual Conference shall be, *ex-officio*, Superintendent of the District in which he may be stationed during the year of his presidency.

11. The Annual Conference shall elect by ballot, without debate, a Superintendent for each District from among the ordained ministers within the bounds of such District.

12. Each Annual Conference shall have a Stationing Committee composed of the President of the Conference (who shall preside in the Committee), the Superintendents of Districts, and one minister elected by each District Meeting, such election to be by the joint votes of ministers and laymen. Each Annual Conference shall station all the ministers and probationers for the ministry within its bounds according to the rules of the Discipline on the Stationing Committee, and it shall have authority to require that all appointments made by the Stationing Committee shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Discipline.

13. Each Annual Conference shall have authority to elect into full connexion and ordain any probationer within its bounds who has completed four years' probation and fulfilled all disciplinary requirements. Also, to elect and ordain probationers of less than four years' standing, when the necessities of the work require it.

14. Each Annual Conference, at its session next preceding the session of each General Conference, shall divide into Ministerial and Lay Electoral Conferences, for the purpose of electing delegates to the General Conference; each body electing its own representatives. The delegates shall be elected from within the bounds of said Conference, and the vote shall be by ballot. The Secretary of each Electoral Conference shall report to the Secretary of the Annual Conference the names of the delegates so elected, and the President and Secretary shall report the same to the General Conference Secretary.

15. When a minister is so unacceptable, inefficient or secular as to be no longer useful in his work, the Annual Conference may request him to ask a location, and if he refuse to comply the Conference shall bear with him till the session next ensuing, at which time, if he persists in his refusal, the Conference may, without his formal trial, locate him without his consent by a vote of two-thirds of those present and voting. Provided, nevertheless, in every case the Board of the Superannuation Fund shall, on recommendation of the Conference, refund the amount paid into

the fund by the minister located, together with such additional sum, if any, as may be deemed equitable by the Board. Nevertheless, when a minister has travelled twenty years, this rule shall not apply in such a manner as to deprive him of his claim on the Superannuation or Supernumerary Funds.

16. Each Annual Conference shall appoint a Special Committee, consisting of the President and Secretary of Conference, Superintendents of Districts, and five other members of the Conference, to be nominated by the President, who shall have power to consider and decide upon all matters affecting the Conference, which could not have been provided for at the time of the sitting of the Conference. The Special Committee shall report its proceedings to the next ensuing Annual Conference.

17. Each Annual Conference shall appoint a Local Missionary Board, constituted as it may determine. The said Board shall consist of ministers and laymen in equal numbers, the laymen to be elected by ballot by the laymen of each Annual District Meeting. It shall be the duty of the Board to apportion and disburse to the various missions, within the bounds of the Conference, such sums as the Central Missionary Board shall have placed at its disposal.

18. Each Annual Conference shall appoint a Board of Examiners, who shall meet the candidates and probationers for the ministry belonging to such Conference at one or more central places, and examine them upon the prescribed Course of Study, by printed or written questions, supplemented by oral examinations when necessary, and issue certificates to the successful candidates, to be presented to the Annual District Meeting.

19. In the event of the death or disability of the President of an Annual Conference, the ex-President shall immediately enter upon the duties of the presidency, and discharge them during the continuance of such disability, or to the end of the year; but in case there be no ex-President of such Annual Conference, then the Secretary of such Conference shall call together the Special Committee, who

shall elect by ballot a President, who shall continue in office till the ensuing Conference, or during such disability.

20. The business of the Conference shall proceed in the following order:

(1) The presiding officer shall open the Conference with the usual devotional services; and shall then cause the roll of the ministerial members to be called, and the names of the laymen elected by the District Meetings to be reported.

(2) What ministers have been transferred to or from this Conference?

(3) The Conference shall then elect by ballot, first, its President and then its Secretary.

(4) Are there any objections to any of our ministers or probationers for the ministry?

(5) What probationers for the ministry are now received into full connexion with the Conference and ordained.

(6) What probationers for the ministry remain on trial?

(7) Who are the probationers of three years?

(8) Who are the probationers of two years?

(9) Who are the probationers of one year?

(10) Who are the probationers on the list of reserve?

(11) What candidates for the ministry are now received on trial?

(12) Who are the superannuated ministers?

(13) Who are the supernumerary ministers?

(14) Who are now located?

(15) What persons who were in full connexion with the Conference now cease to be recognized as ministers among us?

(16) Who are now deposed from the ministry?

(17) Who are now deposed from the ministry and expelled from the Church?

NOTE.—The foregoing, except Nos. (1), (2), (3), shall be included in the business to be transacted by ministers alone.

(18) Who compose the several Conference Committees? The Stationing Committee? Pastoral Address? Memorials and Miscellaneous Resolutions? Statistical Returns? Sabbath Schools? Contingent Fund? Education of Candidates for the Ministry? The Missionary Committee? Temperance? Credentials?

(19) What ministers or probationers for the ministry have died during the past year?

(20) Where are the ministers and probationers for the ministry stationed for the ensuing year?

(21) What probationers for the ministry are appointed to attend Victoria College University, Albert University, Mount Allison Wesleyan College, The Wesleyan Theological College, or the Manitoba Wesleyan Institute?

(22) Who compose the Board of Examiners for this year?

(23) Who are appointed as examiners of the Conference students at the various institutions of learning?

(24) Who are appointed by this Conference to the General Board of Missions and to the Central Sabbath School Board?

(25) What is the number of church members, churches, and other places of worship, and attendance on worship on each Circuit and Mission? What is the number of baptisms administered, and of marriages solemnized by each minister?

(26) What is the number of ministers, probationers for the ministry, and laymen in the Quarterly Official Meetings? Of Sabbath Schools? And what Connexional property is returned? These questions to be answered in accordance with the authorized Conference schedules.

(27) What has been collected on each district for the various Connexional Funds? Have these amounts been remitted at the proper time to the several treasurers, and paid over to the several claimants?

(28) What are the reports of the several Committees?—The Book Committee? Pastoral Address? On Memorials and Miscellaneous Resolutions? On Statistical Returns? Sabbath Schools? Contingent Fund? Children's Fund? Educational Fund? Missionary Fund? and Superannuation Fund?

(29) What further measures can be adopted for the promotion of the work of God within or beyond the bounds of the Conference; and what are the recommendations of the District Meetings on this important subject?

21. The Annual Conferences are required to present, through the President of the Conference, to the General Conference, a tabulated statement of the membership of the church, the Sunday-schools, the number of churches, with the value of the same; the number of parsonages and their value, the number of burial-grounds and their value; and such other information as may help the General Conference to a correct estimate of the state of the Church.

JOHN MCMURRAY, *Chairman.*
S. BOND, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee beg leave to recommend:—

1. 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.

2. That no minister be re-appointed to a Circuit or a Mission within a less interval than six years.

3. The time for a candidate for our ministry to remain on trial as a probationer shall be four years; but if the candidate proceed to a degree in Arts or Divinity within the term of his probation, two years shall be allowed.

4. It is recommended that every candidate spend at least two years in Circuit work prior to being appointed to College.

THOMAS MARSHALL, *Secretary.*

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE ON GENERAL SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. I.

Your Committee recommend:

1. That the Itinerant General Superintendent shall preside over all sessions of the General Conference and over all Standing Committees of the same.

2. He shall not be stationed, but shall travel at large throughout the Church and render such service as the General Conference may direct.

3. He shall, when present in the Association with the President conduct the Ordination Services.

4. He shall sign all ordination parchments jointly with the President of the Annual Conference.

5. He shall be elected to hold office eight years, but if it be decided to elect more than one General Superintendent, one of them shall be elected to hold office for only four years, so that there may be a recurring election or re-election every four years. The words "four years" shall be understood as meaning the term from one General Conference to another.

6. That we elect two General Superintendents.

7. That the salary of each General Superintendent be $2,000 per annum, and the actual travelling expenses of fare on public conveyances.

G. DOUGLAS, *Chairman.*
J. S. WILLIAMSON, *Secretary.*

REPORT NO. II.

Your Committee would recommend:—

1. That the General Superintendent shall, when present, open the Annual Conference, and preside during the first day of its sessions, and afterward alternately with the President elected by the Annual Conference.

2. He shall be a member of the Annual Conference within the jurisdiction of which he resides when elected.

3. He shall not take part in the proceedings of his Annual Conference any further than his duties as the General Superintendent may require.

4. He shall be, *ex-officio*, a member of the General Conference sitting at the time his term of office shall expire.

5. He shall be eligible for re-election.

6. He shall be elected to the General Superintendency from among the ministerial members of the Church by ballot without nomination.

G. DOUGLAS, *Chairman.*
J. S. WILLIAMSON, *Secretary.*

REPORT NO. III.

Your Committee also recommend:—

1. That the General Superintendent shall be responsible to the General Conference for all his official acts.

2. That in case the General Superintendent elected be not a member of the General Conference, then the first remain-

ing reserve lay delegate from the Conference to which the newly-elected General Superintendent belongs shall become a member of the General Conference.

3. He shall have the general oversight of all Church interests and institutions, and do all in his power to forward them. Nevertheless, he shall not interfere with the functions of the ministers and other officers of the Church in their prescribed duties.

G. DOUGLAS, *Chairman.*
J. S. WILLIAMSON, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TRANSFERS.

The Committee on Transfers beg leave to submit the following Report :

General Resolution,—That in view of the division and multiplication of Annual Conferences, and the consequent restrictedness of territory within the bounds of each Conference, we deem it important that provision be made for a frequent interchange of ministers between the various Conferences, as a means of promoting a connexional feeling throughout the entire Church, and maintaining the Itinerancy in its integrity.

1. The General Superintendents, the Presidents of the Annual Conferences, and one minister elected by ballot annually in each Annual Conference, shall compose the Transfer Committee.

2. One of the General Superintendents shall preside at the Committee, and in case no General Superintendent be present, the Committee shall elect one of their number to the chair.

3. This Committee shall be divided into two Sections, as follows :—(1) The Western Section, to include the Montreal Conference and all Conferences west thereof ; (2) The Eastern Section, to include all east of the Montreal Conference.

4. The Western and Eastern Sections shall meet not later than the last Wednesday in April, the date and place to be arranged and published by the General Superintendents. The two Sections shall act independently of each other in reference to such transfers as may be proposed within their respective Conferences; but a transfer between Conferences in the Western and Eastern Sections shall be effected only by a majority vote of each Section voting separately.

5. That it shall be competent for the Newfoundland Conference to elect at their annual session two ministers from some of the Conferences in the Eastern Section as alternates to represent them on the Transfer Committee, in case it be inexpedient for the President or representative, or either one of them, to attend, in which case any vacancy in their delegation shall be filled by the alternates thus elected.

6. All communications from Presidents of Annual Conferences in relation to transfers from their Conferences, and from ministers who desire a transfer, shall be sent to each of the General Superintendents not later than the 10th day of March in each year.

7. The General Superintendent shall notify the President of each Annual Conference of all proposed or desired transfers to or from his Conference, not later than the 20th day of March in each year, and the President shall immediately notify any member of his Conference affected by such proposed or desired transfer.

8. A proposal to transfer a minister or probationer who has not requested it, may be made by any member of the Transfer Committee; provided that, in every case, notice of such proposal to transfer shall be given to the person concerned, on or before the 15th of March in each year; provided, also, that he shall have the right to state his case in writing, and the General Superintendents shall lay such statements before the Transfer Committee. Furthermore, when a President of an Annual Conference communicates to a General Superintendent any application for a transfer, or makes a proposal to transfer any minister

or probationer to another Conference, he shall, with such application or proposal, send the names of two or more ministers or probationers belonging to the Conference into which he seeks or proposes to secure a transfer; so that, if necessary for the preservation of equality of ministerial supply, one may be transferred from the Conference into which the other is proposed to be transferred. The President of an Annual Conference may submit other names instead of those suggested, but in all cases the ministers or probationers concerned shall be notified of such proposal.

9. The Committee shall have authority to transfer ministers for a definite term of six or nine years, such ministers to have the right of returning at the end of the period to the Conference from which they were transferred, should they so desire. This regulation shall not apply to those who are transferred at their own request.

10. Wherever a Circuit requests the appointment of a minister from another Conference, the Quarterly Official Meeting of such Circuit shall pay the moving expenses. Ministers transferred at their own request shall pay their own moving expenses, but in the case of the transfer of a minister who has not requested to be transferred, his moving expenses shall be paid by the General Conference Fund. Those transferred at the request of the missionary authorities shall receive their moving expenses from the Mission Fund.

11. The Transfer Committee shall have authority to fix the date at which the transfer shall take effect.

12. Each minister or probationer transferred shall be subject to the action of the Stationing Committee, and shall be under the special charge of the President of the Conference to which he is transferred until he is stationed.

13. The ultimate financial claims of any minister shall not be affected by such transfer.

14. The Secretary of each Transfer Committee shall, immediately after the rising of the Committee, report to

the President of each Annual Conference affected all transfers to and from his Conference, and the date at which such transfers shall take place.

15. The decisions of the Committee in all cases of transfer shall be final.

J. CURTS, *Chairman.*
A. LANGFORD, *Secretary.*

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE ON CHURCH PROPERTY.

No. I.

The Committee appointed by the Conference on Church Property beg leave to report and recommend as follows:—

1. That 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 entering into this union, 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 Church now being formed by the four contracting parties.

2. That all the property of the several descriptions above mentioned, that may be acquired after the coming into force of any legislation as to Church property that may be had in respect thereto, shall thenceforth be deeded to and held by Trustees in trust for the use of said Church according to the form of the deed or conveyance sanctioned by said legislation.

3. That any deed or conveyance so to be sanctioned should provide that 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.

4. That application be made to the now or next sessions of the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, and to the several Legislatures and proper legislative bodies of the several Provinces and Territories within the Dominion, and to each and all other Legislatures and Governments within which any such Church property is now or may be situate at the time of such application for the passing of such Acts as may be required to give effect to the purposes and provisions mentioned in this Report.

5. That the Committee on Legislation, or such other Committee as this Conference may specially appoint, be a standing committee to prepare and carry out the application for all such legislation as may be requisite as to said Church property, and that full powers be given to said Committee to attend to such legislation and to report at once upon the completion of such legislation to the General Conference Special Committee, so that proper steps may be taken by said Conference Special Committee to carry such legislation into effect, as far as possible, at the time that may be appointed by law for the commencement of the legal existence of the United Church.

6. This Committee has not prepared any tabulated statistics of the properties held by the several Churches entering into this union, but gladly refers to the excellent report thereof already presented to this Conference by the Committee on Statistics.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN GOODMAN, *President.*
WM. STRONG, *Secretary.*

REPORT NO. II.—*(Filed).*

REPORT NO. III.

The Committee on Church Property having learnt that some congregations are somewhat unsettled in consequence of a rumour having reached them that their Churches and Parsonages may be sold without their being consulted, beg to submit the following:—

1. That as we understand the Basis of Union, no Church or Parsonage can be sold without the consent of the Trustees of said Church or Parsonage.

2. That we recommend that all self-sustaining Churches be allowed to continue as they now are until they themselves express a desire for change.

That 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 in Basis, proceeding with a good degree of unanimity.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. GOODMAN, *Chairman.*
WM. STRONG, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE READJUSTMENT OF THE WORK.

The Committee appointed to consider the readjustment of the work, having given the subject very careful attention, beg to submit the following Report:—

For convenience, and in order that the several Conferences of the United Church may commence their work without hindrance or unnecessary delay, we recommend the following arrangements:—

I. IN RESPECT OF DISTRICT.

1. That the districts recognized by this General Conference shall form Provisional Districts of the Methodist Church, and that such districts shall each include whatever circuits or missions of the uniting Churches may lie within or be contiguous to its boundaries.

2. That a Provisional District meeting be held in each district, as suggested in clause 3, composed of all the min-

isters 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. That 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. That each District Meeting when assembled shall organize by electing a Chairman and Secretary *pro tem.*

5. That the lay members of these 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.

II. IN RESPECT OF THE STATIONING COMMITTEE AND CONFERENCE.

1. There shall be a Provisional Stationing Committee composed of all the Chairmen of Districts and presiding elders within the bounds of said district, and one representative elected by ballot from among the ministerial members of the district, and such election to be by the joint votes of ministers and laymen.

2. That where there are Presidents of Annual Conferences in the Methodist Church of Canada, they be em-

powered to call together the Stationing Committee aud Conference; 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 Conference.

4. It is further recommended that the times of meeting for the first Annual Conferences of the united Church shall be as follow:—

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,	"

III. IN RESPECT OF CIRCUITS.

1. That a Committee be appointed by the General Conference to readjust the Circuits and Missions, composed as follows:—

(*a*) All presiding elders and Chairmen of Districts of the uniting Churches having jurisdiction within the bounds of such districts respectively.

(*b*) In the North-West the Superintendents 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 Provisional District meetings, and through them to the Stationing Committees and Conferences.

3. That 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, they may be changed.

J. GARDINER, *Chairman.*

W. C. BROWN, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Your Committee beg leave to report as follows:

1. We find that the incidental expenses of this united Conference will amount to $200.

2. We recommend that this amount shall be distributed as follows:

Methodist Church of Canada	$120 00
Methodist Episcopal Church	40 00
Bible Christian Church	20 00
Primitive Methodist Church	20 00

3. We find that the salaries, travelling and incidental expenses of the General Superintendents until the next General Conference will be $13,500. This amount it is proposed to charge as follows, viz.:—Three-sixths to the General Conference Fund, two-sixths to the Missionary Society, and one-sixth to the Educational Society. The amount, therefore, to be raised by the General Conference Fund for this purpose would be $3,375 per annum.

4. We have estimated the following amounts as being probable as the expenditure of the following interests, viz:

Transfer Committee	$750 00
Court of Appeal	250 00
Delegations	600 00
General Conference Committees	200 00
Legislation	1,000 00
Or a total of	$2,800 00

for the interests named during the full period, or $1,400 per annum.

5. We find that the probable travelling expenses of delegates attending the General Conference will be $6,000. This gives a total expenditure of $22,300, made up as follows:

Salaries of General Superintendents, travelling and incidental expenses	$13,500 00
General Conference	6,000 00
Transfer, Court of Appeal and other Committees..	2,800 00
	$22,300 00

6. The General Conference shall direct an annual collection to be made throughout the whole work, for meeting the amount charged to the General Conference Fund, and the Annual Conference shall fix the time when such collection shall be taken up in the churches. A collection for this purpose shall also be taken up in the church in which the General Conference shall be held during its sitting.

7. The Officers of the General Conference, appointed for the purpose, shall disburse only the amount on hand for General Conference Expenses, leaving each Delegate deficient in his expenses by an equal amount.

8. It is further recommended that this Conference appoint a clerical and lay Treasurer, who shall be the Treasurers of this General Conference Fund.

J. KENNER, *Chairman.*

A. B. CHAMBERS, LL.B., *Secretary.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE "CENTENARY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF METHODISM IN AMERICA."

Your Committee present the following as a substitute for Reports Nos. I. and II. already presented to the Conference:

1. That this General Conference respond to the request of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and join with them in

the celebration of the organization of the said Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and that this Conference appoint a delegation of two to represent the Methodist Church.

2. That we deem it advisable to join with this the celebration of the unification of Methodism in Canada, coinciding as it does in time with the centennial of Episcopal Methodism in America.

3. We recommend the raising of a Memorial Fund to be devoted in part to the Superannuation Fund, and in part to a Sustentation Fund to meet urgent necessities arising out of the union of Canadian Methodism, such necessities not having been otherwise provided for.

4. That the carrying out of arrangements be referred to a Committee composed of the General Superintendents, Drs. Douglas, Nelles, Jacques, Dewart, Withrow, Revs. W. Herridge and E. Roberts.

5. That a Convention in the interest of the above Funds, and in connection with the above celebration, be held on the St. Lawrence Central Camp-ground, under the management of Revs. F. B Stratton, T. G. Williams, J. P. Wilson, S. Bond, Wm. Blair, J. Kines, T. W. McVety, L. Hooker, R. Harris, and Messrs. Arthur Chown, D. B. Jones, P. D. Cowan, and J. J. Rice. Also, that a similar Convention be held on the Grimsby Camp-ground, under the management of Revs. Dr. Williams, W. S. Griffin, Dr. Ryckman, Dr. Gardiner, Dr. Sanderson, J. S. Williamson, W. R. Parker, A. Langford, E. Roberts, R. Cade, and Messrs. Noah Philps, P. O. Fairfields, and E. S. Whipple.

6. That in view of the centennial now being celebrated in the Eastern Conferences, in connection with the introduction of Methodism into the Provinces there situated, your Committee recommend that such course be taken as the Annual Conferences may determine.

R. DUNCAN, *Chairman.*
E. I. BADGLEY, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUPERANNUATION FUND.

Your Committee, after careful investigation of the above named Fund, beg to submit the following Report:

Constitution of the Superannuation Fund.

I. NAME.

The name of this Fund shall be the Superannuation Fund of the Methodist Church.

II.

In the Act of Parliament to be secured incorporating the Superannuated Ministers' Society of the Methodist Church, a clause be introduced declaring that all former Acts relating to the existing Superannuated Ministers' Funds of the Methodist Church of Canada, the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Primitive Methodist Church, and the Bible Christian Church, are thereby repealed.

III. MEMBERS.

All ministers and probationers of the Manitoba, London, Niagara, Guelph, Toronto, Bay of Quinte and Montreal Conferences shall be members of this Fund.

IV. MANAGEMENT.

1. The Fund shall be managed by a Board composed of thirty-two members, sixteen of whom shall be laymen who are members of the Church.

2. The delegates from the aforesaid Annual Conferences to the General Conference shall meet not later than the sixth day of the session of each General Conference, to consider the affairs of this Fund and elect the aforesaid Board of Management. They shall also nominate one or more persons for the office of Treasurer, and from among those so nominated the General Conference shall elect by ballot a treasurer or treasurers of the said Fund.

A General Superintendent shall be *ex-officio* chairman of the Board, but if no General Superintendent be present, the Board shall elect its own chairman. It shall also elect its own secretary.

In case of the death or disqualification of any member of the Board during the quadrennium, the Board is authorized to fill the vacancy.

3. The Board shall have full authority, according to the Constitution, By-laws and Regulations of the Fund, to determine the number of years to be allowed, and the amount due to each regular claimant, and to make such appropriations in all special cases as they may consider right and proper.

4. The Board shall appoint a committee of five, who, with the Treasurers, shall invest the capital funds under the direction of the Board; provided always that no investment shall be made without the approval of a majority of said Board.

V. SOURCES OF INCOME.

This Fund shall consist of the income arising:

1. From the interest of such moneys as may have been or may be invested in its behalf.

2. From the annual subscriptions of all our ministers and probationers in the active work, which shall not be less than twelve dollars each, one-half to be paid to the Financial Secretary at the Financial District Meeting, and the other half at the May District Meeting; and by him immediately thereafter to be remitted to the Treasurers of the Superannuation Fund.

3. From such moneys as may be appropriated from the profits of the Book and Printing Establishments and from the Missionary Society.

4. From bequests and legacies made to the Fund. All such bequests and legacies shall be reserved and invested for the Investment Endowment Fund.

5. After the income from all other sources is ascertained,

the principle of assessment shall be applied in an equitable manner to all the Circuits, in order so to augment the annual income of the Fund as to make it equal to the annual claims thereon.

6. The basis of assessment shall be the ordinary amount raised on the Circuit for ministerial support and for all connexional funds, the Children's Fund alone excepted.

7. Each Circuit shall raise its proportion of the amount requisite to pay the superannuated ministers and ministers' widows their full disciplinary claim.

8. The calculations for each year shall be based on the income and returns of the year preceding.

9. It shall be the duty of the Treasurers annually to notify the Chairman of each District of the amount required from each Circuit in his District, such notifications to be made prior to the Financial District Meeting, when it shall be the duty of the Chairman to notify each Superintendent of the amount to be raised on the Circuit during the year for this Fund.

10. One-sixth of the annual subscriptions of the ministers and probationers shall be added to the capital of the aforesaid Fund from year to year.

VI. CLAIMANTS.

1. The period for computing ministers' claims upon the Superannuation Fund shall commence from the term of their being received by the Conference for our work.

2. The claims of a minister on the Fund shall not be prejudiced by his having engaged in the service of any department, society, or corporation within the church, provided such service is rendered by the appointment of his Conference.

3. All ministers hereafter coming to us from other Churches shall be allowed a claim upon the Fund according to the number of years they shall have travelled in connection with our Church.

4. No probationer shall be admitted into full connexion unless four years' subscription, at least, shall have been paid.

5. When a Superannuated minister has commuted his claim, and that of his wife, he shall not be allowed any further claims on this Fund, although he may return to the effective work by permission of the Annual Conference.

6. When a Superannuated Minister, who is a limited claimant, shall have received the full amount of his claim on the Fund, and is restored to the active work, the claim of such shall date only from his re-commencement as an effective minister in our work.

7. The claim of a widow shall be two-thirds of the claim of her late husband, and each child of a deceased minister shall have a claim on the above fund to the amount of twenty dollars per year, up to sixteen years of age.

8. When a minister dies who was employed in the active work twenty or more years, and leaves no claimant widow, but has a child or children unprovided for, the Board is authorized to make provision for their support. Nevertheless, the amount shall not be more than the widow would have been allowed had there been one, and only for such a period as the Board may deem proper and necessary.

9. No Superannuated minister shall have a permanent claim on the above Fund unless he shall have travelled twenty years.

10. Any minister who may fail before rendering five years of effective service, shall have refunded to him the amount he has paid into this Fund.

VII. SCALE OF PAYMENTS.

1. A Superannuated minister who has travelled five years shall have a claim of $25 per year; for 6 years, $32; for 7 years, $39; for 8 years, $46; for 9 years, $53; for 10 years, $60. The above claims shall hold good for five years only.

2. A Superannuated minister who has travelled eleven years shall have a claim of $68 per year; for 12 years, $76;

for 13 years, $84; for 14 years, $92; for 15 years, $100; which claims shall hold good for a period of eight years.

3. A Superannuated minister who has travelled sixteen years shall have a claim of $114 per year; for 17 years, $128; for 18 years, $142; for 19 years, $156; which claims shall hold good for ten years.

4. A Superannuated minister who has travelled twenty years shall have a permanent claim of $170 per year; for 21 years, $182; for 22 years, $194; for 23 years, $206; for 24 years, $218; for 25 years, $230; for 26 years, $244; for 27 years, $258; for 28 years, $272; for 29 years, $286; for 30 years, $300.

5. All permanent claimants who have rendered thirty years and upwards of effective service, shall have a claim of ten dollars a year for each year of such effective service.

6. Widows of deceased ministers, being members of our Church, shall receive two-thirds of the amount their husbands would have received, according to the above scale, except such widows as were fifteen years younger than their husbands at the time of their marriage, and were married after their husbands were fifty-five years of age. Such cases shall be referred to the Board.

VIII. REGULATIONS.

1. Any minister who may locate and enter into secular business, and subsequently be received into the Conference, shall not be allowed any claims for the time previous to his location.

2. The Board shall have power, upon the recommendation of the Annual Conference, to commute with such ministers as may be Superannuated from causes which do not disqualify them for secular business by payment of such sums as may be deemed equitable, instead of allowing them to become permanent claimants upon the Superannuation Fund.

3. Ministers who retire temporarily from the work on account of ill-health or accident, while they receive from the

Superannuation Fund, may also receive from the Contingent Fund or Missionary Fund, for service rendered in the regular or missionary work. Nevertheless, in all such cases, the minister shall be required to contribute twelve dollars annually to the Superannuation Fund, while thus employed.

4. Any minister who may be expelled from the Conference shall thereby forfeit the amount which he may have paid into the Superannuation Fund.

5. Any minister who shall leave the work for other employment shall thereby forfeit one half of the amount which he may have paid into the Superannuation Fund.

6. (Struck out of Report.)

7. No application for a superannuated relation shall be granted by an Annual Conference, except on a recommendation of a Committee on Conference Relations, to be appointed by the Conference, consisting of not less than seven members to whom such application shall have been referred. Nor shall the said Committee, in making their decisions, take into consideration anything else than this question, namely: "Is the applicant really worn out, or temporarily disabled, in the Itinerant service?" Provided, however, that in case the said Committee report adversely, the Conference may, by a vote of not less than three-fourths of the members present, grant such application.

8. When the claims upon this fund for any year shall exceed the income of such year, each claimant shall have deducted from the amount of his or her claim such a sum as shall be equal to a *pro rata* amount of such deficiency.

9. Each subscriber of five dollars or more annually shall have his or her name printed in the Minutes of the Annual Conference, and shall receive a copy gratis.

10. It was resolved that in reporting the ministerial status of the ministers to be incorporated by the union of the several Churches, that the same uniform rule of estimate of claim on the Superannuation Fund shall be made by all contracting parties.

11. It was further resolved that, *Whereas* the members of this committee have been assured by the representatives of the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist, and Bible Christian Churches, that it is their firm conviction that the Churches they represent will pay into the aforesaid fund the sum necessary to equalize their claims as Churches with those of the Methodist Church of Canada, your Committee therefore does not think it necessary to prepare a scale of payments to apply to individuals, but recommend that in the event of such scale being necessary, the following be a Committee to prepare it:—Rev. Dr. Sanderson (Convener), Rev. Dr. Stone, Rev. W. Bee, Rev. J. Kenner, Mr. John Macdonald, Rev. J. S. Williamson, and Messrs. J. Lister, T. M. Edmonson, T. H. Wilmott, Jas. Aylsworth, and Matthew Wardell.

IX. BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

1. Your Committee would respectfully submit the names of the following as a Board of Management for the present quadrennium:—Revs. Dr. Sanderson, Jas. Gray, W. Hansford, W. Tindall, J. T. Pitcher, Dr. Williams, Dr. Douglas, John Bredin, W. S. Griffin, J. H. Starr, Dr. Rose, John Douse, Dr. Gardiner, J. E. Mavety, Thos. Griffith, M.A., J. Kenner; and Messrs. Geo. Robinson, John Macdonald, M. S. Smith, John N. Lake, Lieutenant-Governor Aikens, Joseph Lister, W. E. Sanford, W. A. Morrow, Dr. Lavell, Isaac Simpson, E. D. O'Flyn, J. G. Robinson, Dr. Buck, David Graham, T. M. Edmondson and W. Field.

2. That as the Superannuates of the Bible Christian Church hold a relation to the English Conference which makes their case peculiar, we refer the consideration of their case in its final adjustment, to the Committee appointed for the consideration of individual cases.

G. R. Sanderson, *Chairman.*
Thomas Griffith, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE SUPERNUMERARY MINISTERS' AND MINISTERS' WIDOWS' FUND.

The representatives of the Annual Conferences of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland, being authorized by their several Conferences to act for them in all matters touching the Supernumerary Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Fund, respectfully report to this General Conference:—

1. That the Basis of Union expressly provides that "no change is deemed necessary in regard to the Supernumerary Fund of the Eastern Conferences;" and further, that the "Supernumerary Ministers' Fund for the three Conferences in the Maritime Provinces shall be for the present under the management of a separate Board, as has been the practice in the Methodist Church of Canada."

2. That the organic unification of the several Churches composing the Methodist Church does not require that any change be made in the Revised Constitution of this Fund, as published in the last edition of the Discipline of the Methodist Church of Canada.

3. That the principles embodied in the Basis of Union in reference to the "Superannuated Ministers' Fund for the Western Conferences," "Shall be applied in adjusting the relations to the Supernumerary Ministers' Fund of the three Eastern Conferences of any minister of the Bible Christian Church who may be included by the proposed Union in any of said Conferences."

4. The representatives of the Conferences above specified respectfully request that the Constitution of the Supernumerary Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Fund as found in the Discipline of the Methodist Church of Canada, be incorporated and printed in the Discipline of the Methodist Church.

5. The representatives further request that this General Conference shall instruct the Committee appointed to secure

a legal status for the United Church, to have inserted a clause in the proposed Act to secure the interests of all concerned in this Fund.

Respectfully submitted.

J. CASSIDY, *Secretary.*

CONSTITUTION OF THE SUPERNUMERARY MINISTERS' AND MINISTERS' WIDOWS' FUND.

I. *Name.*

This Fund, heretofore known as "The Supernumerary Ministers' and Ministers' Widows Fund" of the Conference of Eastern British America, shall hereafter be designated, The Supernumerary Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Fund of the Eastern Section of the Methodist Church, embracing the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and the Bermudas.

II. *Membership.*

All members of the Nova Scotia, the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and the Newfoundland Annual Conferences, complying with Article IV., Sec. I. of this Constitution, shall be members of this Fund.

III. *Management.*

1. The representives of the aforesaid Annual Conferences to the General Conference shall, at some time during the session of each General Conference, at a meeting held at the joint call of the Presidents of the said Annual Conferences to consider the affairs of this Fund, elect by ballot two persons—a minister and a layman, as General Treasurers of the Fund.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurers, so elected, to receive and disburse, from year to year, all the moneys con-

stituting the *Current Income*, according to the provisions of the Constitution; and also to hold and manage, under the supervision and direction of the Investment Committee, the Capital Stock of the Fund.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to prepare and present at each of the meetings of the General Committee a particular account, duly audited, of all the business transacted for the Fund during the previous Conference year.

The Treasurers, so elected, are to hold office for *four years*, or until their successors are appointed, unless one or bothshould die, or resign, or become, in the judgment of the General Committee, disqualified for the discharge of the duties of the office. In any such case it shall be the duty of the General Committee to elect some other person or persons to fill the vacant place or places until the meeting of the General Conference.

2. *The General Committee* of this Fund shall consist of eight members, viz.:—The two General Treasurers and six other persons, that is, one minister and one layman, to be appointed annually from and by each of the said Annual Conferences.

This Committee, so constituted, shall meet annually, at the call of the General Treasurers, and *five* of its members shall constitute a *quorum* for the transaction of business.

It shall be the duty of this Committee, at each of its annual meetings, to carefully examine the reports of the Treasurers, and of the Investment Committee, of all the business transacted for the Fund, and to cause a full report of the results of such examination to be prepared for presentation to each of the Conferences interested, at its next annual meeting; also, a report embodying a summary of all the business of the four years, to be laid before the next quadrennial meeting of the representatives of the three Conferences aforesaid.

3. The Treasurers, together with *three* other persons, chosen by the General Committee, shall constitute an

Investment Committee, for the management of the Capital Stock of the Fund.

4. Each Conference named in Article II., shall appoint, annually, a *Conference Committee*, composed of its members in the General Committee, and *six* other persons, one-half of whom shall be ministers and the other half laymen. Each Conference Committee shall appoint its own Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer, and it shall be its duty to look after the interests of the Fund in the Conference by which it is appointed, especially to examine the returns from the several Districts, to ascertain whether due attention has been given on all the circuits to secure, in the different modes prescribed in this Constitution, the proper income for the Fund, and to call the attention of the Conference to any cases of apparent negligence. Furthermore, it shall be the duty of the ministerial members of this Committee to see that persons are not placed upon the lists of Supernumeraries in their respective Conferences, so as to be constituted claimants upon the Fund, prematurely, or without due consideration by the Conference.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer of each Conference Committee to receive all the moneys collected in his Conference for the Fund, and to account for the same to the General Treasurers; and, also, to prepare each year an abstract of the accounts of the current income and the capital stock, as reported by the General Committee, together with a list of the ministers' subscriptions, and of other subscriptions and donations of *Two Dollars* and upwards on the circuits, to be published in the Minutes of the several Conferences.

IV. *Current Income.*

1. Every member of the before-named Annual Conferences, not being a Supernumerary, shall be required to pay a subscription of *Two Dollars* annually, in advance, at the time of the District Meeting.

2. *Preachers on Trial* may pay the Annual Subscription for the period of their probation, either in advance from year to year, or by one equivalent payment at the end of their probation.

3. *Each Circuit* shall be considered as responsible for a yearly sum, equal, at least, on an average, of *ten cents* per member, including persons on trial, the number of members in all cases being taken from the published Minutes of the preceding Conference.

Every minister shall, at the first quarterly visitation of the classes, after Conference, explain the nature and reasonableness of the claims of this Fund upon the justice and liberality of our Church. He shall then enquire of each member what sum he or she is willing to subscribe, and shall enter the respective sums in the class-book, and it shall be the duty of the class-leader to collect these, and also subscriptions from the members absent at the time of visitation, and to pay the amount to the Superintendent of the Circuit.

An *Annual Collection*, in aid of this Fund, shall be made in all the churches and other preaching places in the month of December, and private application shall be made by the minister to friends on each circuit for subscriptions and donations.

The subscriptions of ministers and preachers on trial, the circuit contributions, the interest on the capital stock, and the amount received, from year to year from the Missionary Society, shall constitute the current income for each year available for the payment of annual claims.

V. *Capital Stock.*

The *capital stock* of this Fund shall consist of the amount now reported by the Treasurers as constituting the present capital stock, viz.:—$80,000\frac{66}{100}$, and all sums hereafter received as legacies; payments received under Article VI, Sec. 2, and the excess of Current Income above Current Claims in any year.

VI. *Claimants.*

1. Any minister, being a member of this Fund, on becoming a Supernumerary, except as hereinafter provided, shall have a claim on the Current Income so long as he shall remain a Supernumerary in connection with either of the Conferences specified in Article II. for an annuity, equal to the sum of all the Annual Subscriptions of *Ten Dollars* each, which he shall have previously paid to the Fund.

2. A widow of any minister having been a member of this Fund, except as hereinafter provided, shall, so long as she shall remain his widow, have a claim upon the current income for an annuity equal to one-half the sum of such subscription which her deceased husband shall have paid; provided, however, that if the wife of any member of the Fund shall die, and he should marry again, he must, in order to entitle his new wife to such an annuity, pay *five dollars* a year additional for each year of his connection with this Fund previous to his marriage, otherwise, her claim shall be considered as commencing only at the time of her marriage.

3. Any claim upon this Fund based upon not more than *ten years'* subscriptions thereto, shall not continue more years than the number of the Annual Subscriptions which constitute its basis; but the claims of ministers transferred to or from any other Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, who shall have paid subscriptions to the Superannuation Fund of the Western Conferences, or to this Supernumerary Fund, and whose Annual Subscriptions to the two Funds shall, together, be more than *ten*, shall not be subject to the limitations of the foregoing clause. Neither shall this limitation apply to ministers received into full connexion at or before the Annual Conferences of 1882.

4. Any minister of the Conference specified in Article II., being a member of this Fund, who shall be transferred to any other Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, may retain the standing in connection with this Fund which he had acquired previous to his transfer.

5. It is provided always that, when in any year the Current Income shall be insufficient to meet the claims of that

year in full, such claims shall be proportionately reduced by one equal percentage from all.

6. Any person who, by withdrawal, location, expulsion, or in any other way, shall cease to be a member of an Annual Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, may be repaid from the Capital Stock of this Fund the amount of his Annual Subscriptions, with simple interest.

VII. *Change in Constitution.*

No change shall be made in this Constitution until after notice thereof shall have been given to the General Committee, whose duty it shall be to report all such notices to each of the three Annual Conferences interested; nor then, unless the proposed change or changes shall have been concurred in by two-thirds of the members of the Fund present, and voting thereon, in the said three Conferences, the number of the contents and non-contents being carefully taken and put upon record in the Journal of each of the said Conferences, and shall be certified by the President and Secretary of each Conference to the next meeting of the General Committee. When the aggregate required number of *two-thirds* of all the members voting in the three Conferences shall be found to have been given in favor of the proposed change or changes, it shall be the duty of the General Committee to so report to the representatives of the aforesaid three Annual Conferences to the next ensuing General Conference, in order that the said proposed and requested change or changes may be confirmed by the General Conference.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE COURSE OF STUDY.

I.—CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY, WHO ARE NOT GRADUATES IN ARTS, WILL BE REQUIRED TO PASS AN EXAMINATION IN THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:—

1. *English Branches:*—

English Grammar and Composition; Arithmetic and Geography.

2. *History:*—

Ancient History (Schmitz); Modern History, (Green's Short History of the English People); Biblical History, New Testament History (Dr. Smith's).

3. *Theology:*—

Wesley's Sermons, I. to LII. (Burwash's Edition); Methodist Catechism, No. II.; Wesley on Christian Perfection.

FIRST YEAR'S COURSE.

1. *Biblical Introduction:*—

Angus' Hand Book, Pt. I., Chaps. I. to III. inclusive.

2. *Biblical History:*—

Smith's Old Testament History.

3. *Theology:*—

Wesley's Sermons, I. to LII. (Burwash); Fletcher's Checks, I. to V.

4. *Greek Grammar.*

SECOND YEAR'S COURSE.

1. *Hermeneutics :—*
   Angus' Hand Book, Pt. I., Chaps. IV. and V.

2. *Exegesis :—*
   Gospel of St. John, in Greek, Chaps. I. to X. inclusive.

3. *Church History :—*
   Blackburn's History of the Christian Church.

4. *Theology :—*
   Pope's Theology, Vol. I.

5. *Philosophy :—*
   Stewart's Outlines, with Supplement by McCosh.

THIRD YEAR'S COURSE.

1. *Exegesis :—*
   The Epistle to the Romans, in Greek, Chaps. I. to XI. inclusive, with Beet's Commentary on Romans.

2. *Homiletics :—*
   Kidder's Homiletics, and Blaikie's "For Work of the Ministry."

3. *Church History :—*
   Stevens' History of Methodism to the death of Wesley.

4. *Theology :—*
   Pope's Theology, Vol. II.

5. *Rhetoric :—*
   Bain's.

FOURTH YEAR'S COURSE.

1. *Theology :—*
   Pope's Theology, Vol. III.

2. *Apologetics :—*
   Wright's Logic of Christian Evidences, and Diman's Theistic Argument.

3. *Logic :—*
   Milne's Elementary Notions of Logic, and Day's Logical Praxis.

4. *Metaphysics :—*
   Murray's, Hamilton.

5. *Discipline of the Methodist Church.*

II.—FOR CANDIDATES WHO ARE GRADUATES IN ARTS.

PRELIMINARY COURSE.

1. *Theology :—*
   Wesley's Sermons (Burwash); Methodist Catechism, No. II., Revised Edition.

2. *Biblical History :—*
   Smith's New Testament.

FIRST YEAR'S COURSE.

1. *Biblical Introduction :—*
   Angus' Hand Book, Part I.

2. *Theology :—*
   Fletcher's Checks, I. to V.

3. *Biblical History :—*
   Smith's Old Testament.

4. *Theology :—*
   Wright's Logic of Christian Evidences, and Diman's Theistic Argument.

SECOND YEAR'S COURSE.

1. *Exegesis :—*

Westcott on the Canon; Matthew's Gospel Sermons on the Mount, in Greek; John's Gospel, in Greek, with Notes in Ellicott's Handy Commentary.

2. *Church History :—*

Kurtz' History of the Church to the Reformation.

3. *Theology :—*

Pope's Theology, Vols. I. and II.

THIRD YEAR'S COURSE.

1. *Exegesis :—*

Epistle to the Romans, in Greek, with Beet's Commentary; Westcott and Hort's Introduction to Greek Testament, Vol. II.

2. *Church History :—*

Fisher's History of the Reformation; Stevens' History of Methodism to the death of Wesley.

3. *Theology :—*

Pope's Theology, Vol. III, and Shedd's History of Doctrine, Vol. I.

4. *Discipline of the Methodist Church.*

III.—FOR PROBATIONERS AT COLLEGE.

FIRST YEAR'S COURSE.

1. Systematic Theology.
2. Exegesis: The Greek Testament.
3. Homiletical Studies: Rhetoric, and the English Language.
4. Logic.
5. Church History, or Hebrew, or Selections from the Vulgate, or Natural Science.

SECOND YEAR'S COURSE.

1. Systematic Theology.
2. Exegesis of the New Testament, in Greek.
3. Homiletical Studies and Elocution.
4. Metaphysics.
5. Church History, or Hebrew, or Selections from the Septuagint, or Natural Science.

THIRD YEAR'S COURSE.

1. Historic Theology.
2. Exegesis of the New Testament, in Greek.
3. Homiletical Studies.
4. Ethics and Evidences.
5. Old Testament Exegesis, or Natural Science, or Patristic Selections.

IV.—POUR LES PROPOSANTS DANS L'ŒUVRE FRANCAISE

1. Grammaire Française et Composition.
2. Arithmétique et Géographie.
3. Histoire Ancienne et Moderne (Lenormant).
4. Catéchisme Méthodiste, No. II.
5. Articles de Religion et Régles générales de l'Eglise Méthodiste.

PREMIERE ANNEE.

1. Vie de Jean Wesley (Lelievre).
2. Voie du Salut (Wesley).
3. Perfection Chrétienne (Wesley).
4. Manuel de la Bible (Angus), Part I., Chaps. I. à III.
5. Etude Biblique (Godet), Vol. I.
6. Histoire de la Réformation (D'Aubigné), Vol. I.

7. Philosophie Naturelle (Ganot), livres I. et II.

On requiert la lecture des sermons de Wesley 1re Serie, No. I. à 26.

DEUXIEME ANNEE.

1. Manuel de la Bible (Angus), Part I., Chaps. IV. à VII.
2. Etude Biblique (Godet), Vol. II.
3. Histoire de la Réformation (D'Aubigné), Vol. II.
4. Histoire de la Litterature Française (Vinet), Vol. I.
5. Philosophe Naturelle (Ganot), livres III. et IV.
6. Histoire de l'Eglise (Bonnefon).
7. Rhétorique (Girard).

On requiert la lecture des sermons de Wesley, 1re Serie, No. 27 à 52.

TROISIEME ANNEE.

1. Manuel de la Bible (Angus), Part II., Chaps. I. à IV.
2. Histoire de la Réformation (D'Aubigné), Vol. III.
3. Histoire de la Litterature Française (Vinet), Vol. II.
4. Histoire de la Théologie Protestante (Dorner), Part I.
5. Homilétique (Vinet).
6. Philosophie Naturelle (Grant), livres VI. et VII.
7. Epître de St. Jacques (Chapuis).

QUATRIEME ANNEE.

1. Manuel de la Bible (Angus), Part II., Chaps. V. à VII.
2. Histoire de la Réformation (D'Aubigné), Vol. IV. et V.
3. Histoire de la Théologie Protestante (Dorner), Part II.
4. Christianisme des Premiers Siecles (De Pressense).
5. Philosophie Naturelle (Ganot), livres VIII. et IX.
6. Discipline de l'Eglise Méthodiste de Canada.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. JOST, *Chairman.*
J. VANWYCK, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE CHILDREN'S FUND.

The Committee on the Children's Fund beg respectfully to submit the following Report :

After careful enquiry, they are of the opinion that the existence of a Children's Fund—or its equivalent—is desirable and helpful to the better adjustment of ministerial work. They would, therefore, respectfully recommend the General Conference to enact as follows :

EASTERN CONFERENCES.

1. With reference to the Eastern Conferences, viz., Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland Conferences, that they be allowed to continue their Children's Fund on the same basis and under the same regulations as have previously existed in those Conferences when in connection with the Methodist Church of Canada, or according to such rules and regulations as they may deem best.

WESTERN CONFERENCES.

2. With reference to the Western Conferences, viz., London, Guelph, Niagara, Toronto, Bay of Quinte, Montreal, and Manitoba, your Committee find that three of the four Churches forming these Conferences have had a fund of this description in connection with their economy, viz., the Methodist Church of Canada, the Primitive Methodist, and the Bible Christian Churches.

The Methodist Church of Canada has raised said fund by a *per capita* tax on its membership, varying from 38 to 43 cents, and has paid its claimants $30 per child in the Toronto and London Conferences, and $25 in the Montreal Conference.

The claimants on the fund have been such children of ministers engaged in the active work as were born after their fathers were received into full connexion with the

Conference. The claimants were on the fund up to the age of eighteen years.

The Primitive Methodist Church has raised said fund partly by taxation on membership, and partly by taxation on ordinary income, paying $26 to each child up to the age of sixteen years.

The Bible Christian Church has raised said fund by a *per capita* tax on membership of twenty-five cents, paying thereby $10.50 to each child up to the age of sixteen years.

The Methodist Episcopal Church has had no such fund, having made no special provision for the children of its ministers; the children of deceased ministers alone being provided for in their Superannuation Fund.

Your Committee recommend that each Annual Conference shall have a Children's Fund, under its own control and management, subject to the following regulations and restrictions.

1. The revenue of any such fund shall be raised by such form of assessment as each Annual Conference may in its judgment consider best, provided always the total amount of such assessment does not exceed what may be equal to thirty cents per member.

2. The amount payable to each child shall be not more than $25 per year up to eighteen years of age, and if in any case the fund shall not be sufficient to pay the full amount it shall be divided *pro rata* according to the amount on hand.

3. The claims of the children of the ministers connected with the Book and Printing Establishments, Colleges, and other Connexional Institutions, shall be paid by these respectively.

4. The claims of children whose fathers are employed on the French, German, or Indian Missions, or in Japan, shall be paid by the Missionary Society.

5. The claims of children of superannuated and deceased ministers shall be paid from the Children's Fund.

The claimants on this fund shall be only such children of ministers engaged in the active work as were born after their fathers had been received into full connexion with their respective Conferences; these ministers having first attained a four years standing in the said ministry.

This rule shall apply to the children of all such ministers in the uniting Churches.

In computing the membership in relation to the Children's Fund, only those members who are sixteen years of age and upwards shall be reckoned.

J. HUNT, *Chairman.*
J. PHILP, *Secretary.*

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

No. I.

The Committee on Education beg leave to report as follows:—

1. That it is the sense of this Committee, that both Victoria and Albert Colleges be continued for the present in active operation in 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 maintainance of Albert College as 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 Universities :—

Rev. Dr. Rice.	Rev. B. F. Austin, B.D.
" Dr. Nelles.	" F. B. Stratton.
" Dr. Burwash.	" J. J. Rice.
" Dr. J. A. Williams.	Dr. Aylsworth.
" Dr. Potts.	Judge Dean.
" Dr. A. Sutherland.	W. Kerr.
" Dr. Ryckman.	G. A. Cox.
" Dr. Carman.	John Macdonald.
" Dr. Jacques.	W. E. Sanford.
" Dr. Badgley.	J. J. Maclaren, Q.C.
" S. Campbell.	James Mills.
" W. I. Shaw.	W. Gooderham.
" D. G. Sutherland, LL.B.	R. I. Walker.
" J. C. Antliff, B.D.	James Aylsworth.
" A. L. Morden, Q.C.	T. Gilbard.
" S. B. Burdett, LL.D.	J. E. Rose, Q.C.

5. That the Commission have full power to act in behalf of the General Conference :—

(*a*) To decide the steps to be taken for the consolidation of the Universities, with the concurrence of the corporations having legal jurisdiction in the case—in so far as their respective rights and properties are concerned.

(*b*) To fix the location to be finally adopted, with the concurrence of the corporations, in so far as they are legally concerned.

(*c*) To secure the necessary legislation to validate the proposed changes, to amend or enlarge the charters, and to do such other acts as may be required.

(*d*) That the General Superintendents be the Conveners of the Commission.

6. In the matter of the Educational Society and College Collections :—

We recommend that an Educational Society, as constituted in the Methodist Church of Canada, be organized in the Methodist Church, subject to the regulations contained in the Discipline of the Methodist Church of Canada relative thereto; and that the Educational Fund of the Methodist

Church be administered for the assistance of probationers attending college, and in grants to those Connexional Institutions under the control of the General Conference, in which the training of candidates for the ministry is conducted.

7. That after the consummation of the consolidation of the Universities, the Committee think that the relief of Albert College from the support of University work, and the increased patronage which the Union may be expected to secure, may be fairly estimated as an equivalent for the collections hitherto received; but that until the next General Conference, in consideration of the discontinuance of the Albert College collections after the present year, the Educational Society pay to the College such sum annually as the Commission of Consolidation may deem equitable.

8. We recommend that in the Constitution of the Educational Society the following amendments be made:

(*a*) In Section 7, after the word "Conference," in the second line, there be inserted the following words: "transmit to the General Secretary an audited statement of his accounts for the year, and shall"—

(*b*) That to Section 9 there be added the words: "and to examine all accounts before payment by the Treasurers."

(*c*) That Section 10 be added as follows:

X. DUTIES OF THE GENERAL TREASURERS.

It shall be the duty of the General Treasurers to receive and account for the funds of the Society, and to disburse the same as ordered by the Conference or by the Advisory Board through the Secretary, and to present an audited account of the same to each General Conference.

9. We recommend the appointment of the following as members of the Advisory Board:—Rev. Dr. Rice, W. E. Sanford, Esq., *Treasurers;* Rev. Drs. Carman, Nelles,

Jacques, Douglas, and Stewart; J. R. Inch, Esq., LL.D.; and Dr. N. Burwash, *Secretary.*

10. That the "*Charles F. Allison Professorship*" Endowment Fund, and all other funds for the promotion of University work, whether pertaining to the Faculty of Theology or to the Faculty of Arts, in Mount Allison College, shall be under the supervision and management of the Board of Governors of the College.

11. We recommend that the Boards of Management of the several institutions of learning be continued in office till the next General Conference shall appoint their successors.

12. That inasmuch as there are in the Province of Manitoba two regularly constituted Boards holding charters for the establishment of Collegiate Institutions, one that of "Wesley College" of the Methodist Church of Canada, the other that of "Trinity College" of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada; and as neither has yet made financial investments or begun educational work, this Committee recommends that the Board of "Wesley College" be increased by the addition of Revs. George Young, D.D.; A. Carman, D.D.; E. A. Stafford, M.A.; Thomas Argue, Jas. Woodsworth, John Semmens, Charles Ladner; His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Aikins; and Messrs. J. A. M. Aikins, M.A.; T. L. Helliwell; Freeman Lane, A.B.; A. Bowerman, A.M.; Thos. Badgeley, A.M., and J. H. Bell, B.A., Q.C. And that the said Board shall have full power to secure legislation for the amalgamation of the two charters, to employ professors and tutors, and to transact all other business necessary for the commencement of educational work at such time as such Board may deem expedient.

13. The Committee beg leave to present the following Abstract of Statistics of the Educational Institutions of the Methodist Church:"

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OF THE METHODIST CHURCH.

STATISTICAL EXHIBIT.

NAME.	Real Estate and other Property.	Endowments.	Income.	Expenditure.	Professors	Students.	Graduates
Univ. of Victoria Coll.	$62563 58	$202055 79	$16215 72	$15319 15	9	390	1542
Mount Allison Wesleyan College and University	100000 00	115000 00	28153 19	28317 99	15	234	92
Wesleyan Theo. College, Montreal	35000 00	45000 00	3500 00	45000 00	2	23	
Albert College and Univ.	41000 00	51900 00	9000 00	8500 00	10	175	110
Stanstead Wes. College.	50000 00	25000 00	11000 00	12000 00	8	195	
Alma College	74000 00	....	18000 00	....	12	165	2
Wesleyan Ladies' Coll..	....	....	....	....	15	168	158
Ontario Ladies' College.	....	....	....	....	13	108	21
Methodist Academy, St Johns, Newfoundland	....	....	....	....	5	342	
Public Schools, Newfoundland	....	....	....	....	101	5608	
College, Manitoba.....	14000 00						

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. S. NELLES, *Chairman.*
J. R. JACQUES, *Secretary.*

REPORT NO. II.

The Committee on Education beg leave to report as follows:—

1. We recommend that Alma College be placed by legislation in the same relation to the United Methodist Church that it now holds to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

2. We recommend that the several proprietary Educational Institutions now having relation to the several contracting Churches sustain the same relation to the Methodist Church.

S. S. NELLES, *Chairman.*
J. R. JACQUES, *Secretary.*

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

No. I.

Your Committee beg to submit the following statement of the present condition—numerical and financial—of the Missionary Societies connected with the Methodist Churches entering into the Union:

I. Numerical.

CHURCHES.	Missions.	Missionaries.	Members	Native Assist'ts	Teachers	Interpreters.	T'tl Paid Agents.
Methodist Church of Canada:							
Domestic Mission.....	248	350	30149	....	....	....	350
Indian Missions.....	43	27	3337	12	30	11	80
French Missions	9	9	360	....	....	....	11
Foreign Missions	6	14	721	5	2	....	19
Total.....	307	400	34567	17	32	11	460
Methodist Episcopal Church....	54	54	5332	....	....	....	54
Primitive Methodist Church ..	48	43	4283	....	....	....	43
Bible Christian Church.....	35	37	2646	....	....	....	37
Grand Total	544	534	46828	17	32	11	594

II. Financial.

Churches.	Income.	Expenses.	Debt.
Methodist Church of Canada....	$160,000	$160,000	....
Methodist Episcopal Church	14,879	14,879	$12,600*
Primitive Methodist Church	8,890	8,890	....
Bible Christian Church	10,000	10,000	20,326*

* Provided for according to the Basis.

In regard to the debts above mentioned, your Committee report that steps are in progress by the Churches concerned to liquidate the debts before Union is consummated, in accordance with the terms of the Basis. And it is distinctly understood, that no part of these liabilities is to be assumed by the Missionary Society of the United Church.

In regard to future operations your Committee recommend:

1. That in view of the fact that some time must elapse before the necessary legislation can be secured, the Missionary Societies of the Uniting Churches continue as at present as regards both management and support, until the legal consummation of Union.

2. That after the consummation of Union there shall be one Missionary Fund for the whole United Church.

3. That in view of the fact that two itinerant General Superintendents have been elected, it is not expedient that a Superintendent of Missions for the North-West be appointed.

4. That we recommend that a rule be incorporated in the Discipline of the Church, that no new Mission shall be formed unless by a vote of the Annual Conference within whose boundary the Mission is proposed.

5. That in view of the inevitable extension of our Mission work in the near future, we recommend that, in the re-arrangement of the work, all possible effort be made by amalgamation and otherwise to create self-sustaining Circuits.

6. That we further recommend the appointment of one Missionary Secretary, who shall also be the Secretary-Treasurer of the Society, and one Lay Treasurer.

7. After careful consideration, the following Constitution was adopted, and is now recommended to the Conference for its adoption:

(1) That this Society shall be known as "The Missionary Society of the Methodist Church."

(2) That the object of the Society is the support and enlargement of the Indian, French, Domestic, Foreign, and other Missions, which are carried on under the direction of the Conference of the Methodist Church.

(3) That every person paying annually the sum of Four Dollars and upwards, and every person collecting annually Ten Dollars and upwards for this Society, shall be deemed a member, and entitled to a copy of the Annual Conference Report. And any person paying annually Twenty-five Dollars, or collecting for the Society Thirty Dollars or upwards, shall also be entitled to a copy of the General Report.

(4) That the Methodist Missionary Societies within the bounds of any Annual Conference shall, collectively, be entitled "The Auxiliary Missionary Society" for that Conference, and severally shall be entitled "Branch Societies" of such Auxiliary. Missionary Societies formed in our Sunday-schools shall be entitled "Juvenile Branches" of the Conference Auxiliary.

(5) That each Annual Conference may appoint a Treasurer, through whom all remittances from the General Treasurers may be sent. In case any Annual Conference does not make such an appointment, then all remittances to and from the Mission Rooms shall be made through the Superintendents of Districts of such Conference. The Superintendent of a Circuit or Mission shall be Treasurer of the Branch Society of his Circuit or Mission.

(6) That the money raised on any Circuit or Mission shall be transmitted, as soon as collected, to the Superintendent of the District, deducting only what has been disbursed for incidental and local expenses; and the Superintendent shall, in turn, remit promptly to the General Treasurer, through the Conference Treasurer, or directly, if there be no Conference Treasurer.

(7) That the Superintendent of each Circuit or Mission shall prepare annually, not later than the first day of the Annual District Meeting, a list of all subscribers of Two Dollars and upwards, also the aggregate of all collections

and sums under Two Dollars; such lists to be sent without delay to the Conference Treasurer or Chairman, who shall forward them to the Mission Rooms, together with a statement of the gross receipts, local disbursements, and remittances.

(8) That there shall be a General Missionary Board for the management of the Missionary Fund, which shall meet annually at such time and place as it may appoint. This Board shall be composed of the General Superintendents, the Officers of the Missionary Society; one minister, to be chosen annually by the ministers of each Annual Conference; one layman, to be chosen annually by the laymen of each Conference Missionary Committee; and eighteen other persons,—one-half of whom shall be laymen, to be appointed by the General Conference, and to continue in office four years.

(9) The duties of this Board shall be to review the Missionary work, and apportion the funds committed to it to the respective Conferences, according to the necessities of the various departments of the work. Also to make the necessary appropriations to the various Missionary Districts. Provided also, that the Japan, Victoria and New Westminster, and Fort Simpson Districts only, shall be considered Missionary Districts, and the Central Board may appropriate directly to each of the missions in these districts.

(10) When an appropriation is made by the General Board to any particular department of the work, or for any special object, the Annual Conference Committee shall not be at liberty to direct any part of such grant to any other department or object.

(11) Vacancies occurring amongst Conference representatives may be filled by the Special Committee of the Conference affected; the vacancies occurring among those appointed by the General Conference may be filled by the Committee of Consultation and Finance.

(12) In the event of the death or disability of any of the officers of the Society, the Committee of Consultation and Finance shall appoint a suitable person to fill the vacancy till the next meeting of the General Board, when

such appointment may be confirmed or changed, pending the meeting of the next General Conference.

(13) The Committee of Consultation and Finance shall also have authority to suspend any officer of the Missionary Society for incompetency, or for culpable neglect of the duties of his office, and supply his place till the next meeting of the General Board, which shall have authority to fill the vacancy till the next General Conference.

(14) A Committee, to be called the Committee of Consultation and Finance, shall be annually appointed by the General Board, consisting of the General Superintendents, the officers of the Missionary Society, and eighteen other members—nine ministers and nine laymen, the majority of whom shall be members of the General Board, who shall provide during the interval of the sessions of said Board for any exigencies that may arise. All the proceedings of said Committee shall be entered in a minute-book, and reported to the General Board at its next annual meeting.

(15) An annual public meeting of the members and friends of this Society shall be held at the time and place appointed by the General Board, connected with such religious services as may be deemed expedient.

(16) The General Conference shall appoint the General Secretaries and Treasurer of the Missionary Society, who shall be *ex-officio* members of the General Board.

(17) The General Secretaries shall, previous to each Financial District Meeting, furnish each Chairman of a District with a schedule, to be filled up by said Chairman at the Financial District Meeting, showing the estimated income and expenditure of each Mission for the support of the ministers and preachers, the amount of missionary grant recommended by the Financial District Meeting, &c.; which schedule shall be forwarded to the General Secretaries without delay. From these schedules the General Secretaries shall prepare a tabular statement for the information of the General Board, in order that its members may intelligently and justly apportion the funds of the Society to the several Conferences.

(18) It shall be the duty of the General Secretaries to

make themselves acquainted with the entire mission-field, by official correspondence, and personal visitation when practicable. It shall also be the duty of the Secretaries to publish the Annual General Report of the Society, and the Reports of the several Annual Conferences, with a statement of their income and expenditure.

(19) In the discharge of their duties, the officers of the Society shall act in harmony with the legally appointed courts and officers of the General and Annual Conferences. Provided always, that in case of any emergency arising that may require prompt action in the matter of supplying any remote Mission, it shall be competent for them, on the recommendation of the Committee of Consultation and Finance, to request the proper authorities of any Annual Conference to aid them in meeting such emergency, by appointing one of its ministers or preachers to such Mission.

GEO. YOUNG, *Chairman.*
J. GOODMAN, *Secretary.*

REPORT NO. II.

Your Committee beg to submit the following:—

The Committee recommend the following names as members of the General Board of Missions, in addition to the officers of the Society and those appointed by the Annual Conference and Conference Missionary Committees, for the ensuing quadrennium:

Ministers.	*Laymen.*
Rev. Dr. Young.	Hon. J. Ferrier.
" John Shaw.	Lieut-Governor Aikens.
" Dr. Douglas.	W. E. Sandford.
" Dr. Stone.	Robert Walker.
" S. F. Huestis.	George A. Cox.
" Dr. Potts.	James Paterson.
" E. Roberts.	A. L. Morden.
" James Gray.	W. Gooderham.
" W. Bee.	J. Hull.

GEO. YOUNG, *Chairman.*
J. GOODMAN, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

Your Committee beg leave to report, that only one communication on the subject of Sabbath observance has been laid before them. They do not, however, regard this fact as evidence that Sabbath desecration does not prevail to such an extent as to demand special attention on the part of this General Conference.

Whilst we believe that, in the observance of the Sabbath, this Dominion will compare favourably with other Christian countries, yet we have cause to fear that the evil of Sabbath desecration is spreading, and has already attained such magnitude as may well awaken the solicitude of all who desire the true prosperity of the people and the honour of God.

We would direct attention to the efforts made in the postal department to infringe upon the sanctity of the Sabbath; also to the manifestly increasing profanation of the Lord's-day, by continued work on the line of construction of the Canada Pacific Railroad, by the general running of trains upon that day, by excursions both by land and water, by opening photograph galleries, livery stables, barber and cigar shops, etc.

This state of things presents strong temptations to many to violate the sanctity of the Sabbath, and tends to weaken the public sentiment of regard for the same. Those who desire to keep holy the Sabbath, are disturbed by the noise and bustle occcasioned by the practices referred to; and many persons are deprived of the opportunities for physical rest, and moral and religious culture, which the day is intended to afford.

We also fear that in the homes of the people and in their individual life, there is great laxity of opinion and practice in relation to this matter. Much unnecessary work is required of domestics; and many persons make the day one of pleasure-seeking and visiting from house to house.

Another interference with the proper duties of the Sabbath is the selection of this day for funerals. Although a due regard for the interest of the living demand in some cases the prompt burial of the dead, still, in the great

majority of cases, the chief object is to obtain a large gathering, and thus not only is the quiet and sanctity of the Sabbath broken, the regular Sabbath services interfered with, the Sabbath-school deranged, and the labours of the ministers on the Lord's-day greatly increased, but also the practice in too many cases ends in religious dissipation. Your Committee would therefore suggest that in our Discipline a decided expression should be introduced opposed to such a practice, except in cases of extreme necessity.

In view of the foregoing considerations, your Committee strongly recommend that sermons on the subject of Sabbath observance be preached by our ministers throughout the Church, and that they urge upon parents and Sabbath-school teachers that they be particular in correctly teaching and guiding those intrusted to their care in this all-important subject.

Your Committee also recommend that this General Conference appoint a small but influential Committee which shall take all needful steps to secure the proper observance of the Sabbath, and also to confer and co-operate with similar Committees appointed by other Churches, and with Secretaries of Evangelical Alliances for the attainment of this end, and would suggest that the following gentlemen constitute the Committee: Rev. Dr. Cochran, Messrs. John Macdonald, Robert Walker, Warring Kennedy, and John Kent, Esquires.

D. SAVAGE, *Chairman.*
J. A. ROGERS, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE NAME OF THE CHURCH.

The Committee was organized by the election of Dr. Potts as Chairman and J. Lathern, Secretary.

On motion, recommended that the name of the United Church shall be "The Methodist Church."

JOHN POTTS, *Chairman.*
JOHN LATHERN, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE RELATION OF CHILDREN TO THE CHURCH.

1. We hold that all children, by virtue of the unconditional benefits of the atonement, are members of the kingdom of God, and, therefore, graciously entitled to baptism; but as infant baptism contemplates a course of religious instruction and discipline, it is expected of all parents or guardians who present their children for baptism, that they use all diligence in bringing them up in conformity to the word of God; and they should be solemnly admonished of this obligation, and earnestly exhorted to faithfulness therein.

2. We regard all children who have been baptized, as placed in visible covenant relation to God, and under the special care and supervision of the Church; therefore let every superintendent urge upon all parents in his congregation the duty and importance of presenting their children to God in the ordinance of baptism.

3. As soon as the children shall have attained an age sufficient to understand, let them be taught the nature, design, and obligations of their baptism, and the truths of religion necessary to make them "wise unto salvation;" let our catechisms be placed in their hands; and let all who can, read and commit the same to memory; let them be encouraged to attend class, and to give regular attendance upon all the means of grace, according to their age, capacity, and religious experience. Pray earnestly for them and talk with them at every suitable opportunity.

4. As far as practicable, it shall be the duty of every superintendent to obtain the names of the children of his congregation, to form them into classes for the purpose of giving them religious instruction, to instruct them regularly himself, as his other duties will allow; to appoint a suitable leader for each class, who shall instruct them in his absence, and leave for his successor a correct list of each class with the name of its leader.

5. Whenever a baptized child shall, by orphanage or otherwise, become deprived of Christian guardianship, the superintendent shall ascertain and report to the Leader's Meeting the facts in the case; and such provision shall be made for the Christian training of the child as the circumstances of the case may admit and require.

6. Let our ministers preach frequently to parents on the relation of children to the Church. And let the Superintendent of Districts inquire of each minister at the Annual District Meeting, if he has attended to the duty hereby assigned him.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. D. CURRIE, *Secretary.*

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLINE.

No. I.

Your Committee beg to report as follows:

I.

That the Basis of Union be published in the Book of Discipline.

II.

That the Doctrine, Articles of Religion, General Rules, Ordinances, Reception of Members, and Means of Grace as contained in the Book of Discipline of the Methodist Church of Canada, edition of 1879—from page thirteen to page thirty-three—be incorporated in the Book of Discipline.

III. CHURCH GOVERNMENT.—THE CONFERENCES.

The General Conference.

(1) The General Conference shall be composed of an equal number of ministerial and lay delegates.

(2) Each Annual Conference, at its session next preceding the session of each General Conference, shall divide into ministerial and lay Electoral Conferences for the purpose of

electing delegates to the General Conference, each body electing its own representatives. The delegates shall be elected from within the bounds of said Conference, and the vote shall be by ballot.

(3) The ministerial delegates shall consist of one member in every ten ministerial members of each Annual Conference, of which number the President shall always be one; provided, nevertheless, that a fraction of one-half shall entitle a Conference to an additional representative.

(4) Each delegate to the General Conference must receive a majority of votes of the members of the Electoral Conference who may be present and vote in order to an election.

(5) No laymen shall be chosen a delegate to the General Conference who shall be under twenty-five years of age, and who shall not have been a member of the Church continuously during the five years next preceding his election.

(6) Each Electoral Conference, after the election of the number of delegates as provided in paragraph 2, shall further proceed to elect a reserve delegate, and, in addition to this reserve delegate, it shall further elect one reserve delegate for every ten members it is entitled .to send. When by reason of death or other cause there is a vacancy in the delegation, the reserve delegate first elected shall be notified to fill the place, and failing him the next in order of election; provided always that the vacancy occurs before the meeting of the General Conference.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. D. RICE, *Chairman.*
F. CHISHOLM, *Secretary.*

REPORT NO. II.

Your Committtee beg leave to report as follows:—

1. That the President and Secretary of each Annual Conference shall send to the Secretary of the General Conference a certified copy of the election of delegates and

reserves to the next General Conference in the order of their election, as soon after the election as practicable. When vacancies occur the reserves of the several Electoral Conferences shall have precedence in the order of their election.

2. The next General Conference shall meet on the first Wednesday in September, in the year 1886, at nine o'clock a.m., and thenceforward the General Conference shall meet on the first Wednesday in September, once in four years, and in such place as the previous General Conference may determine.

3. When the General Conference is in session fifty of its members shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

4. The General Conference shall elect from the ministers of the Church by ballot, without debate, one or more Itinerant General Superintendents, in agreement with the Basis of Union.

5. A General Superintendent shall preside over all sessions of the General Conference, and over all the Standing Committees of the same; but in case no General Superintendent be present, the General Conference, or the Committees of the General Conference, shall elect by ballot, without debate, a President *pro tem.*

6. Each Conference shall elect by ballot, without debate, a Secretary or Secretaries, whose duty it shall be to keep a correct record of its proceedings, and to publish the Journals under the direction of the General Conference.

7. The General Conference only shall have full power to make rules and regulations for our Church, under the following

LIMITATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS:

(1) It shall not revoke, alter, or change any Article of Religion, nor establish any new standards or rules of doctrine contrary to our existing and established Standards of Doctrine.

(2) It shall not destroy the plan of our Itinerant system.

(3) It shall not make any change in the General Rules of our Society.

(4) It shall not do away with the privileges of our ministers or probationers for the ministry of trial by a Committee and of an appeal; neither shall it do away with the privileges of our members of trial before the Society, or by a Committee, and of an appeal.

NOTE.—The General Conference may, by a constitutional vote, vary or change any of the rules of our Society embraced in the 3rd of the above restrictive rules.

8. No change shall be made in the Basis of Union, affecting constitutional questions, or the rights and privileges of ministry or laity, except by a three-fourths majority of the General Conference, and, if required by either order of ministry or laity, a two-thirds majority of each order voting separately.

9. The General Conference by a vote of two-thirds of its members shall have power to increase or diminish the number, or alter the boundaries of the several Annual Conferences.

10. The General Conference shall appoint a Special Committee on the nomination of the General Superintendent of twelve members who shall, in association with the General Superintendent or Superintendents from one General Conference to another watch over and guard all the rights and privileges of our Church throughout the Connexion, promote as far as possible the recommendations of the General Conference, consider and decide upon any measure which may seem necessary for the general interests of the Church and could not have been foreseen at the meeting of the General Conference, and adopt such measures for their accomplishment as it may judge expedient. The said Committee to report to the General Conference.

11. The General Conference shall direct an annual collection to be made throughout the whole work for meeting the amount chargeable to the General Conference Fund, and the Annual Conference shall fix the time when such collec-

tion shall be taken up in the churches. A collection for this purpose shall also be taken up in the church in which the General Conference shall be held during its sitting. The officers of the General Conference appointed for the purpose shall disburse only the amount on hand for General Conference expenses, leaving each delegate deficient in his expenses by an equal amount.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. D. RICE, *President.*
F. CHISHOLM, *Secretary.*

REPORT NO. III.

Your Committee beg to report:

I.

That the General Conference Special Committee shall have power to call a special session of the General Conference at any time, which shall be composed of the members of the last regular General Conference, all vacancies having been filled according to the usual modes of election.

II. THE STATIONING COMMITTEE.

Each Annual Conference shall have a Stationing Committee, composed of the President of the Conference (who shall preside in the Committee), the Superintendents of Districts, and one minister elected by each District Meeting. Such election to be by the joint votes of ministers and laymen, the voting always being by ballot.

III.

(1) The Stationing Committee shall meet at the call of the President, at the place appointed for holding the Annual Conference, previous to the commencement of its sessions, to prepare a draft of the stations, which draft shall be printed and ready at the opening of the session for the use of members of Conference.

(2) The Stationing Committee shall meet as often as may be deemed necessary during the sessions of the Conference

for the revision of the stations, and each member of the Conference shall have a right to appear before the Committee to represent his case in regard to his appointment.

(3) The first draft of stations shall be placed on the table of the Conference at the close of the first session, the second and final draft at any time before the close of the Conference, as the Conference itself may order.

(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, and on the French and Foreign Mission Districts, and such ministers as may be appointed to our educational institutions. Nor shall a minister be re-appointed to a Circuit or Mission within a less interval than six years.

(5) On the division of a Circuit, no minister who has travelled successively the three preceding years on such Circuit shall be appointed to either part of it; nevertheless, this rule shall not apply to those places which may be transferred in adjusting the work by the Annual District Meeting, which transfer has been sanctioned by the Stationing Committee.

(6) The Districts are to be formed according to the judgment of the Stationing Committee, subject to the approval of the Annual Conference.

(7) Circuits are to be formed by the Stationing Committee, on the recommendation of the District Meeting. Provided, nevertheless, that Circuits supporting their own ministers or probationers for the ministry shall not be divided till such divisions have been approved of by their respective Quarterly Official Meetings, and their approval signified in writing by the Recording Steward, or otherwise by a two-thirds vote of the Annual District Meeting.

(8) No new Mission shall be established unless by a vote of the Annual Conference within whose boundary the Mission is proposed.

S. D. RICE, *Chairman.*
F. CHISHOLM, *Secretary.*

Report No. IV.

SECTION I.—ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETINGS.

1. The Territory occupied by each Annual Conference shall be divided into Districts.

2. Each Annual District Meeting shall consist of all Ministers and Probationers for the Ministry within its bounds, and one Lay Delegate for each Minister or Probationer in the active work from each Circuit, Mission, or Station throughout the District, to be elected by the Quarterly Meetings as hereinafter provided.

3. Each District shall be under the supervision of a presiding officer to be called the District Superintendent, who shall be elected by the Annual Conference as elsewhere provided. He shall preside at the District Meetings, oversee the temporal and spiritual interests of the Church in his District; and, with the Ministers and Probationers under his charge, shall administer and enforce the Discipline of the Church, being responsible therefor to the Annual Conference.

4. The District Superintendent shall fix the time and place of the *first* District Meeting, after which he shall fix the times and the District Meeting shall fix the places In the absence of the District Superintendent the District Meeting shall elect from among its Ministerial Members, by ballot, without debate, a Chairman *pro tem.*

5. The Examination of Ministerial Character shall be the business of the first day of the District Meeting, and shall be confined to the Ministerial Members alone.

6. The Lay Members of the District Meeting shall meet separately some time during the session and elect, by ballot, without debate, Lay Representatives to the Annual Conference, in the proportion of one for each Minister in full connexion within the bounds of the District. Laymen to to be eligible must be at least twenty-five years of age, and must have been members of the Church in good standing for five consecutive years next preceding the election.

7. After the Chairman has opened the meeting by the usual devotional exercises, a Secretary shall be elected by ballot, who shall keep a record of the proceedings in a book procured for that purpose. At the close of each meeting the Minutes shall be signed by the Superintendent and Secretary. The book shall be kept by the Superintendent, and brought to the Conference, and delivered by him to his successor.

SUB-SECTION 1.—*Method to be observed in conducting the business of the District Meeting. The Superintendent shall inquire,—*

First.—What members are now present?

Second.—Are the Ministers and Probationers blameless in life, conversation, and doctrine?

In the examination of Ministers and Probationers in the District Meeting, the Superintendent is required to ask the following questions, *distinctively* and *successively*, concerning every brother:

1. Is there any objection to his moral and religious character?

2. Does he believe and preach all our doctrines?

3. Has he duly observed and enforced our discipline?

4. Has he been punctual in attending all his appointments?

5. Has he competent abilities for our itinerant work?

A separate answer to each of these questions is expected to appear in the District Minutes.

SUB-SECTION 2.—*Regulations to be observed in relation to Probationers for the Ministry.*

§ 1. Every Probationer for the Ministry shall pursue the course of study prescribed by the General Conference, except as hereinafter provided; and before he shall be received into full connexion, he shall give satisfactory evidence to the Annual District Meeting, from year to year,

of his knowledge of the subjects and books included in such course of study.

§ 2. The Board of Examiners shall report to the Annual District Meetings those candidates who have passed a satisfactory examination in the Preliminary Course of Study; they shall also report the character of all the other examinations. These reports are to be recorded in the Minutes of the District, and presented to the Annual Conference.

§ 3. The Superintendent shall also examine every Probationer for the Ministry respecting his acquaintance with the books recommended to him, and the general course of reading which he has pursued during the preceding year. For this purpose every such Probationer is required to deliver to the Chairman of his District a list of the books which he has read since the preceding Annual District Meeting. This list shall be laid before the meeting, that the senior ministers may have an opportunity of giving to the Probationers such advice and directions respecting their studies as may appear necessary.

§ 4. In addition to the preceding course of inquiry the following questions are to be put every year by the Chairman to every Probationer for the Ministry on the District (it is enough to say that the usual questions were put to the Probationers and satisfactorily answered; or, if otherwise, to state the case):—

1. Have you now faith in Christ, and are you going on to perfection?

2. Have you attended regularly to private prayer, and to the devotional reading of the Scriptures, and books of a spiritual and experimental kind, in order to keep up devout and lively religious feelings in your own heart?

3. Have you carefully visited the sick under your charge, and others to whom you could obtain access?

4. Have you visited the people at their houses, inquiring into their religious state, praying with them, and administering wholesome counsel; and have you catechized the children of the schools, and those of your friends and hearers as you have had opportunity?

5. Have you had fruit of your ministry during the year, and are you endeavouring so to state the leading truths of Christian doctrine and experience in your discourses, and so to apply them with affection, and earnestness, and prayer, as to do all in your power to secure success in your work?

6. Answer the following questions in such terms as you would use in stating the doctrines they contain to an inquirer under religious impressions, or in your sermons:—What is Evangelical Repentance? What is Justification? What is Justifying Faith? What is the direct Witness of the Spirit? What is the indirect Witness of the Spirit? What is Christian Perfection? What is the difference between Justification and Sanctification? What is the difference betweer Justification and Regeneration? What is the difference between Sanctification and entire Sanctification?

Let these points be proved in order by appropriate passages of Holy Writ.

The brethren will see the propriety of conducting this part of the proceedings with peculiar deliberation and solemnity, as in the immediate presence of God; and they may enlarge on doctrinal questions as they may deem necessary, so as to lead the candidates to a right understanding, and an appropriate expression of our leading doctrinal peculiarities as a Church.

§ 5. In the annual examination of Probationers for the Ministry, it shall be the duty of Superintendents of Districts to include the disciplinary question, "Do you take snuff, tobacco, or intoxicating drinks?" and a distinct answer in the negative shall be required in every case, as a condition of continuing on probation, from year to year.

§ 6. The time for a Candidate for our Ministry to remain on trial, as a Probationer, shall be four years; at the end of which period, if recommended by the Annual District Meeting, he shall, after examination and approval by the Conference, be received into full connexion, and be publicly recognized.

§ 7. Every such Probationer, who has been thus recommended by the Annual District Meeting, shall attend the Conference of that year, except those labouring in distant Missions.

§ 8. Who have been on Probation for the Ministry *four* years, and are now recommended to be received into full connexion, and to be ordained?

§ 9. Who are recommended to be continued on Probation?

(*a*) Who are the Probationers of *three* years?
(*b*) Who are the Probationers of *two* years?
(*c*) Who are the Probationers of *one* year?

§ 10. What Probationers are on the List of Reserve? When a Candidate for the Ministry has been recommended to be received on probation, but not called out into the work in the course of the year, the Chairman shall make inquiry of the Superintendent of the Circuit, where he resides, whether he be still deemed a proper person to be employed in our regular ministry; and the result shall be reported to the Annual District Meeting.

§ 11. What Candidates are recommended to be received on probation for the Ministry?

SUB-SECTION 3.—*Regulations to be observed in reference to Candidates for the Ministry.*

§ 1. The Superintendents are required not only to examine very minutely in the Annual District Meetings all persons proposed as Candidates for our Ministry, but also to report distinctly in their District Minutes for the consideration of Conference, the opinion of the District Meetings after such examinations, respecting their health, piety, moral character, ministerial abilities, and educational acquirements, belief of our doctrines, attachment to our Discipline, and freedom from debt, as well as from all secular encumbrances.

§ 2. Before a District Meeting shall recommend a Candidate to the Conference to be admitted on probation, such Candidate must have been a member of our Church for one

year, and a Local Preacher in good standing for six months, and approved and recommended by the Quarterly Official Meeting of the Circuit or Mission on which he resides. He must also have passed a satisfactory written examination, and an oral examination such as the Examiners may deem necessary, on the subjects prescribed by the General Conference as the Preliminary Course of Study.

§ 3. Every Candidate thus recommended shall attend the ensuing District Meeting, and be examined before all the brethren present respecting his religious experience, his knowledge of divine things, his educational acquirements, his reading, his views of the doctrines of the Gospel, and his regard for Methodism in general.

§ 4. Every Candidate proposed to the District Meeting is then to be asked by the Superintendent the following questions, to each of which a distinct answer shall be required :—

Have you been converted to God? Have you now faith in Christ? Are you going on to perfection? Do you expect to be made perfect in love in this life? Are you earnestly striving after it? Are you resolved to devote yourself wholly to God and His work? Have you been baptized? What are your views on Infant Baptism and the Lord's Supper? Do you know the Rules of the Society? Do you keep them? Do you take snuff, tobacco, or intoxicating drinks? And will you continue to abstain from the use of them? Have you read the whole Discipline? Are you willing to conform to it? Have you considered the twelve rules of a Minister or Probationer, as contained in Sub-Section II. of Section IX. (*page* 255) of the Discipline, especially the first, the tenth, and the twelfth? Will you keep them for conscience' sake? Are you determined to employ all your time in the work of God? Will you preach at every suitable opportunity, endeavouring not to speak too long nor too loud? Will you diligently instruct the children in every place? Will you visit from house to house? Will you recommend fasting, both by precept and

example? Are you in debt? What is your age? Have you good health, and have you a sound constitution? Are you engaged to marry?

Do you sincerely and fully believe the doctrines of Methodism as contained in our twenty-five Articles of Religion, and as taught by Mr. Wesley in his Notes on the New Testament, and Volumes of Sermons?—especially the following leading ones—a Trinity of Persons in the Unity of the Godhead; the total depravity of all men by nature, in consequence of Adam's fall; the Atonement made by Christ for the sins of all the human race; the direct witness of the Spirit; the possibility of falling from a state of justification and holiness, and perishing everlastingly; the absolute necessity of holiness, both in heart and life; and the proper eternity of future rewards and punishments? Will you endeavour fully and faithfully to preach them? What is your religious experience? and what is your call to this work?

§ 5. After the examination the Candidate shall withdraw, and the Meeting shall determine whether he shall be recommended to the ensuing Conference, to be received as a Probationer for the Ministry.

§ 6. If the Superintendent deem it not convenient for a Candidate to attend the District Meeting, he may, with two other Ministers, examine him and report the result to the District Meeting.

SUB-SECTION 4.—*Other Regulations respecting Candidates and Probationers for the Ministry.*

§ 1. No Superintendent of a District, or other Conference officer, shall have authority to employ a married man during the year, with a view to his being received as a Candidate for the ministry, without the consent of the Annual Conference, or the Special Committee thereof. Nor shall any District Meeting recommend any married man to the Conference, for reception on probation for the ministry,

unless he has been previously employed in case of absolute necessity, in accordance with the foregoing restriction.

§ 2. No person shall be employed by a Superintendent of a District, with a view to entering the ministry, who has not been a member of our Church one year, and a Local Preacher in good standing for six months; nor shall he have authority to employ any such person, with a view to his reception into the ministry, without the consent of the Annual Conference, or of the Special Committee thereof; and in no case shall any person be so employed who has been rejected by an Official Quarterly Meeting, District Meeting, or Annual Conference.

§ 3. All young men taken into the work by Superintendents of Districts, in accordance with the above regulation, before the Second Quarterly Meeting, shall be allowed the full year.

§ 4. If a preacher who has been received on trial, but not into full connexion, desist from want of health, or is proved guilty of immorality, it shall be stated in the Minutes; but in all other cases his name shall be dropped in silence.

§ 5. A Probationer who marries while on trial shall be dropped in silence.

§ 6. Observe: taking on trial is entirely different from admitting a Probationer into full connexion. One on trial may be either admitted or rejected without doing him any wrong: otherwise it would have been no trial at all. Let every Superintendent explain this to those on trial.

§ 7. When a Probationer's or Candidate's name is not inserted in the Minutes, he must receive a written license from the President, or Superintendent of the District on which he resides.

SUB-SECTION 5.—*Miscellaneous Matters.*

1. What Ministers or Probationers for the Ministry have died?
2. Who are recommended as Superannuated Ministers?
3. Who are recommended as Supernumerary Ministers?

4. Who have retired from the Ministry?

5. Who have been suspended during the year; and what is the recommendation of the District Meeting in the case?

6. Can any measures be adopted for increasing the efficiency of our ministerial labours and the promotion of the work of God?

§ 1. Are all the means possible used to visit all the towns and settlements within the boundaries of each Circuit or Mission?

§ 2. Are there earnest attempts made, in every place where there are services, to form classes?

§ 3. Is sufficient time allotted in the arrangement for the quarterly visitation of the classes, and the renewal of tickets, for the Superintendent, or his assistant, to acquaint himself with the state of each member, and to give suitable advice to each? Have you regularly met the classes, and renewed the tickets quarterly?

§ 4. Have the General Rules been read during the year, and have they been given to the members on trial, according to the Discipline?

§ 5. Do the brethren pay sufficient attention to Pastoral visitation, and to catechizing the children of our members and friends?

7. These important enquiries shall be followed by a solemn review of the state of the work of God. And any suggestions for the religious improvement of our children and the members of our Church, and especially for the greater efficiency of our ministerial labours, are to be entered on the minutes of the District Meeting, and, when thought necessary, recommended to the consideration of the Annual Conference.

8. All the foregoing questions and directions shall be considered as belonging to the examination of character and Ministerial affairs.

SUB-SECTION 6.—*The following order shall be observed when the general business of the District Meeting is under consideration:*

§ 1. What Lay representatives are now present?

§ 2. What are the Receipts, and what is the Expenditure of each Circuit or Mission?

§ 3. What has been collected on each Circuit and Mission for Connexional Funds?

§ 4. What special cases are now recommended to the favourable consideration of the Committees of the several Connexional Funds?

§ 5. What is the number of ministers' children on the District having claims on the Children's Fund, and what are their respective names and ages? Have all the regulations respecting the Children's Fund been fully carried into effect in the District?

§ 6. What Probationers for our ministry are recommended to be sent to College?

Before any Probationer for our ministry shall be sent to College with recommendation for a loan from the Educational Fund, his circumstances shall be inquired into by the District Meeting, and the minute of the District, in his case, shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the Educational Committee of the Annual Conference. No loan shall be made to any who have not travelled at least one year.

§ 7. What is the number of Church members? The number of Churches and other Preaching places in each Circuit or Mission?

§ 8. What is the number of Ministers, Probationers for the Ministry, and Laymen in the Quarterly Official Meeting of each Circuit and Mission? What is the number of Sabbath-schools on the District, and what are the reports from the Circuits and Missions respecting the same? Have the Sabbath-school Schedules been duly filled up?

§ 9 What is the number of Baptisms administered, and of Marriages solemnized by each minister? Have all such

Marriages, solemnized during the year, been duly recorded, and the returns made according to law?

§ 10. What Churches or Parsonages have been built, enlarged or sold during the year. What Connexional property is insured? In what office? For how much? At what rates? What parsonages have been furnished? What other Connexional property has been acquired? What changes in relation to Church property are now recommended? What property has been destroyed by fire? Have the approved Conference Schedules been duly filled up?

§ 11. What can be done to improve the Financial state of the District?

(1) Are all the financial arrangements of the Church duly observed in each Circuit and Mission? The Quarterly Contributions at the renewal of tickets? The public collections and private subscriptions?

(2) What changes are recommended in the order and arrangement of the work on the Circuits and Missions? What new Circuits or Missions are recommended? What additional Preachers are required for any Circuit or Mission on the District?

§ 12. What ministers are elected to represent the District as members of the Annual Conference Committees?

§ 13. What Laymen are elected by this meeting as members of the Annual Conference.

§ 14. Can any measures be adopted for the promotion of the work of God in the District?

9. Two copies of the Annual District Meeting records shall be brought to Conference, in addition to the one entered in the District Book:—One copy for the Secretary of Conference, and one for the members of the District and of the Conference.

The Financial District Meeting.

10. A Financial District Meeting shall be held in each District, not later than the month of September in each year.

11. The Financial District Meeting shall be composed of the Superintendent and a Steward from each Circuit and Mission in the District.

SUB-SECTION 7. — *The business of the Financial District Meeting shall be:*

§ 1. To apportion to the several Circuits the amounts placed at its disposal by the Annual Conference.

§ 2. To examine into the circumstances and probable income of the Domestic, Indian, Foreign, and other Missions, in the same way as they examine into those of the Circuits, and recommend the amount which, in their judgment, should be appropriated towards the support of such Missions; which shall be reported by the Superintendent to the President of the Annual Conference and the Missionary Secretary.

§ 3. To arrange the claims of the children of Ministers on the District; and to receive from the Superintendent of the District the amount to be raised by each Circuit and Mission for the Superannuation Fund, and take into account the circumstances of any Circuit or Mission, which may be regarded as exceptional, and make provision for the relief of such exception: provided the District as a whole contributes the amount designated as its proportion.

§ 4. To make arrangements for Missionary and Educational Meetings, which arrangements shall be binding on all concerned.

12. In case of the death of the District Representative to the Annual Conference Missionary Committee, or when by the formation of a new District there is no District Representative, then the laymen present at the Financial District Meeting shall elect by ballot one of their number to fill the office of District Representative.

13. The Financial Secretary shall be the local Treasurer of the District, and shall pay to the Superintendents of Circuits, or on their order, the sums appropriated to their Circuits, which payments such Superintendents shall report to their respective Quarterly Official Meetings.

SECTION II.—REGULATIONS AFFECTING GRADUATES AND CONFERENCE STUDENTS.

§ 1. For the examination of Probationers for the Ministry attending Victoria and Albert Colleges, the London, Toronto, Niagara, Guelph, Bay of Quinte, and Montreal Conferences, shall each appoint one examiner, whose term of service shall, when practicable, extend to four years, who shall form a Board, to meet at Cobourg, and examine the students there attending, on all subjects prescribed by Conference.

The same Conferences shall appoint a similar Board for the Wesleyan Theological College at Montreal.

The New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, the Nova Scotia and the Newfoundland Conferences shall appoint a similar Board of two from each Conference, to examine the students at the Mount Allison Wesleyan College.

The examinations prescribed under questions *Second* and *Third*, in Annual District Meetings, shall be conducted annually at each College, by the examining Board appointed for such College, and a report of the same forwarded to each District Meeting concerned, as far as relates to students belonging to such District. But the Probationers for the Ministry, at College, shall not be required to attend the meeting of their Districts, except when they are to be recommended for ordination, in which case they shall attend.

Probationers for the Ministry appointed to attend College shall be responsible to the District Meeting from which they were recommended, and shall be recommended by said District Meeting, from year to year, for continuance on trial, or for reception into full connexion and ordination.

§ 2. The District Meetings and Annual Conferences are recommended to send no preacher on trial to College for a term of less than two years, and whenever possible to extend the time to three years.

§ 3. No preacher appointed to College shall be removed therefrom, except by authority of the President of his Con-

ference, with the consent of the Superintendent of his District and the President of his College, or Dean of Theology.

§ 4. Graduates in Arts shall, when received on trial, be allowed one year on their probation, provided they complete the Course of Study for the first two years in the first year.

§ 5. Graduates in Arts shall pursue the Course of Study prescribed.

§ 6. Graduates in Divinity shall be exempted from the regular course of study. In the case of candidates who, by permission of the Conferences to which they belong, are pursuing the B.D. course in any of our theological schools, the annual examination in such course of study shall be accepted instead of the annual examination in the regular course for any year. But, prior to being recommended to be received into full connexion and ordained, both these classes of candidates shall be examined on Wesley's Sermons and Notes on the New Testament, Fletcher's Checks I.-V., Stevens' History of Methodism, and the Discipline of the Methodist Church. This examination shall also be required of all candidates passing through our theological schools, who have not been examined on these subjects in their course of study.

§ 7. Probationers appointed to attend our Theological Schools shall pursue the course of study prescribed, except Undergraduates in Arts, who, in addition to their course in Arts, shall take such theological studies as may be deemed advisable by the Faculty in Arts of the University to which they are appointed.

§ 8. Candidates for our French work shall pursue the course of study prescribed.

§ 9. When a student, by appointment of an Annual Conference, attends a University or Theological School for two or more years, or proceeds to a degree within the term of his probation,—one year shall be allowed on his probation.

§ 10. No student of less than two years' standing at Victoria, Albert, or Mount Allison College, or at the

Montreal Theological College, shall be received as a candidate for our ministry without the recommendation of the Quarterly Official Meeting of the Circuit upon which he has been resident before entering College, together with a certificate of good moral and religious standing from the President of the College, or the Dean of the Faculty of Theology, with which he has been connected.

§ 11. After preliminary examination by the examining Committee of the College, students recommended by a Quarterly Official Meeting shall return to the District from which they are recommended for their further examination and recommendation to the Annual Conference.

§ 12. Any minister who has received aid from the Educational Society, and who shall retire from our ministry within ten years after his reception on trial, shall refund such amount to the Society before receiving a certificate of his standing.

§ 13. Young men attending College who may wish to become local preachers, may be received by the Quarterly Meetings of their Circuits as candidates, after due examination—provided they present certificates of moral and religious character from the Dean of the Faculty.

§ 14. The February Quarterly Official Meeting, or in the case of those who are leaving home to attend College, the August, or November Quarterly Official Meeting, may recommend such of its local preachers as it deems called to separate themselves entirely to the work of the ministry, and qualified therefor, to the next ensuing Annual District Meeting as candidates for the ministry. But no Quarterly Official Meeting shall recommend any candidate until he has served as a local preacher for at least six months.

SECTION III.—QUARTERLY OFFICIAL MEETING.

1. There shall be a Quarterly Official Meeting on each Circuit, Mission, or Station consisting of the Ministers and Probationers for the Ministry, the Local Preachers and Exhorters, the Circuit Stewards, the Leaders of Classes,

the Superintendents of Sabbath Schools (being members of the Church), one representative from each Board of Trustees, he being a member of the Church in the Circuit to which the Trustee Board which he represents belongs, and whose appointment shall be annual, and also of additional representatives who may have been appointed by the Societies of the Circuit. The apportionment, scale, and mode of election shall be arranged by the Fourth Quarterly Meeting of the year, but such additional representatives shall not exceed the number of the Stewards on the Circuit.

2. The Superintendent of the Circuit shall be the Chairman of the Quarterly Meeting, except when the Superintendent of the District shall be present, in which case the latter may preside.

3. The Quarterly Meeting shall hear complaints and receive and try appeals; recommend Candidates for the Ministry; manage and control Circuit finances; and discharge such other duties as the General Conference may from time to time determine.

4. The Quarterly Meeting shall, at the fourth regular meeting of the year elect, by ballot, without debate, the Lay Delegates to attend the ensuing Annual District Meeting in the proportion of one Delegate for each Minister or Probationer in the active work on the Circuit.

SUB-SECTION 1.—*The regular business of the Quarterly Official Meeting shall be:*

§ 1. To receive the financial returns from the Leaders, Stewards, and other persons entrusted with the funds of the Circuit; to pay the salaries and all the expenses of the Ministers and Probationers for the Ministry; and to receive from the Leaders' Meeting the report of the disbursement of the fund for the poor for the quarter.

§ 2. To hear complaints, and to receive and try appeals.

§ 3. At the *first* Quarterly Official Meeting to receive the recommendations of the Stewards' Meeting, and make the

estimate of the amounts necessary for the family or families of the Ministers or Probationers for the Ministry; and appoint the Steward to attend the Financial District Meeting.

§ 4. At the *second* Quarterly Official Meeting to appoint, on the nomination of the Superintendent, the Stewards of the Circuit, the number to be determined by the Quarterly Official Meeting—but not less than *three* nor more than *seven*, one of whom shall be the Recording Steward, who shall keep a record of the proceeding of the Quarterly Official Meeting in a book procured for that purpose. It shall also, on the nomination of the Superintendent of the Circuit, appoint the representatives to the Sabbath-school Committee, the number to be not less than *three* nor more than *five*.

§ 5. At the *first*, *second*, or *third* Quarterly Official Meeting to recommend candidates for the Ministry; *provided always*, that no person shall be recommended as a candidate until he has been a Local Preacher at least six months.

§ 6. At the *fourth* Quarterly Official Meeting—(1) To receive from the Superintendent of the Circuit the report of the number of members on the Circuit; (2) Also the reports of the Superintendents of the Sabbath-schools of the Circuit; (3) To appoint the Lay Representative or Representatives to attend the ensuing Annual District Meeting, *viz.*, one Representative for each Minister or Probationer for the Ministry appointed to the Circuit by the Stationing Committee, in addition to the Superintendent of the Circuit; (4) Where there is no Local Preachers' Meeting, to enquire into the character, gifts, labours, punctuality, and usefulness of every Local Preacher by name, and if there be no valid objection alleged and sustained, to renew their licenses; (5) To examine the character of the Exhorters, and if there be no valid objection alleged and sustained to renew their licenses; (6) Where there is no Leaders' Meeting to examine the character of all the Leaders, their punctuality in beginning and ending their Class-meeting in proper time, and whatever relates to their office; (7) To make arrangement

for the appointment of Representatives by the Societies of the Circuit; (8) The Quarterly Official Meeting may, where there is no Local Preachers' Meeting, at any of the regular meetings, give license to Local Preachers and Exhorters on the nomination of the Superintendent of the Circuit.

SECTION IV.—LOCAL PREACHERS' MEETING.

1. A Local Preachers' Meeting is composed of the Local Preachers on the Circuit, provided there are six Local Preachers on the Circuit of three years' continuous standing.

SUB-SECTION 1.—*Qualifications, etc.*

1. The Superintendent of the Circuit shall regularly meet the Local Preachers once a quarter; and no person shall be put upon the plan as a Local Preacher, or be permitted to preach among us as such, without the approbation of that meeting on the nomination of the Superintendent, or, if in any Circuit such a Local Preachers' Meeting cannot be held, they shall be proposed and appointed by the Quarterly Official Meeting of the Circuit; but no Minister or Probationer for the Ministry who has been suspended or expelled by the Conference shall on any account be employed as a Local Preacher without the consent of the Annual Conference.

2. The Superintendent of the Circuit, at each regular Local Preachers' Meeting, or at the Fourth Quarterly Official Meeting of the Circuit, shall enquire into the religious and moral character, doctrines, abilities to preach, and punctuality in attending appointments of each Local Preacher by name.

3. The questions proposed in the examination of the character of Local Preachers shall be the same as those proposed in regard to ministers, viz.:—

(1) Is there any objection to his moral and religious charactor?

(2) Does he believe and teach all our doctrines?

(3) Has he duly observed our Discipline?

(4) Is he punctual in attending all his appointments?

(5) Has he competent abilities for a Local Preacher?

4. Every person proposed to be received as a Local Preacher, or taken on trial, shall be asked by the Chairman or Superintendent the following questions, to which a distinct answer shall be required:—

What is your religious experience? Have you faith in Christ? Are you going on to perfection? Do you expect to be perfected in love in this life? Are you earnestly striving after it? Are you resolved to devote yourself to God and His work? Do you sincerely and fully believe the doctrines of Methodism, as contained in the Articles of Religion, and as taught by Mr. Wesley in his Notes on the New Testament and Volumes of Sermons, especially the following leading ones:—A Trinity of Persons in the Unity of the Godhead; the Total Depravity of all men by nature in consequence of Adam's fall; the Atonement made by Christ for the sins of all the human race; Justification by Faith; the direct Witness of the Spirit; the possibility of falling from a state of Justification and holiness, and perishing everlastingly; the absolute necessity of holiness both in heart and life; and the proper eternity of rewards and punishments. What is evangelical repentance? What is Justification? What is Justifying Faith? What is the direct Witness of the Spirit? What is the indirect Witness of the Spirit? What is Christian Perfection? What is the difference between Justification and Regeneration? What is the difference between Sanctification and entire Sanctification?

Will you endeavour fully and faithfully to preach these doctrines?

SUB-SECTION 2.—*Regulations in reference to Local Preachers.*

1. All Local Preachers shall meet in class. No exception shall be made in respect to any who may have been Ministers or Probationers for the Ministry in former years.

2. The name of every Local Preacher shall be recorded

on the Journal of the Quarterly Official Meeting of the Circuit in which he resides.

3. No Local Preacher shall hold Love-feasts without the consent of the Superintendent of the Circuit, nor in any wise interfere with his ministerial duties.

4. Ministers who withdraw from connection with an Annual Conference, and Ministers who are located by the action of an Annual Conference, shall not exercise the functions of the Ministry of our Church; but may, should they desire it, be considered as Local Preachers, and shall be subject to all the regulations affecting Local Preachers, and if charged with immorality, shall be proceeded against as other Local Preachers, and the Superintendent of the Circuit or Mission shall report the case to the Annual District Meeting.

Nevertheless, in case of condemnation, an ordained Local Preacher shall be allowed an appeal to the next Annual Conference. Provided that he signify to the Chairman of the Committee who tried the case, his determination to appeal, in which case the said Chairman shall lay the Minutes of the trial above mentioned before the said Annual Conference, at which the said Local Preacher so appealing may appear; and the said Annual Conference shall judge and finally determine from the Minutes of the said trial so laid before them.

When an ordained Local Preacher shall be expelled, the President of the Annual Conference shall require of him the credentials of his ordination to be filed with the papers of the Annual Conference within the limits of which the expulsion has taken place. And should he at any future time produce to the Annual Conference a certificate of his restoration, signed by the Superintendent and countersigned by the Secretary of the District Meeting, his credentials shall be restored to him.

5. When a Local Preacher or Exhorter removes from one Circuit to another, he shall obtain from the Superintendent of the Circuit a certificate of his official standing in the

Church at the time of his removal, without which he shall not be received as a Local Preacher or Exhorter in other places.

6. No Local Preacher coming to reside on any of our Circuits from another part of the world, although duly recommended, shall be allowed to preach or hold meetings in our churches unless he becomes a member of the Church and submits to its Discipline.

7. Should any Local Preacher belonging to any other Methodist Church make application to be received into our Church, the Superintendent of the Circuit, in concurrence with the Quarterly Official Meeting, or the Local Preachers' Meeting of the Circuit on which such Local Preacher may reside, is authorized to receive him, after having enquired into his qualifications and all the circumstances of his case.

SECTION V.—THE LEADERS' MEETING.

1. The Leaders' Meeting shall be composed of the Ministers and Probationers for the Ministry appointed to the Circuit, the Stewards of the Circuit, and the Leaders.

2. A Leaders' Meeting shall be held at least once a quarter, and oftener if necessary, to enquire:—(1) Are there any sick? (2) Are there any requiring temporal relief? (3) Are there any that walk disorderly and will not be reproved? (4) Are there any who wilfully neglect the means of grace? (5) Are there any changes to be made in the classes? (6) Are there any members on trial to be received into full membership? (7) Is there any miscellaneous business?

3. A return shall be made by the Leaders' Meeting to the Quarterly Official Meeting of the amount contributed to the fund for the poor, and the disbursements for the quarter.

4. It is the duty of the Superintendent of the Circuit to make strict enquiry in the Leaders' Meeting preceding the *Fourth* Quarterly Meeting, into the moral character of all the Leaders, their punctuality in beginning and ending

their class meetings in proper time, and whatever relates to their office; and if there be no objections alleged and sustained, they shall continue in office for the year; and in case there be no Leaders' Meeting, then the examination or enquiry shall be held at the Fourth Quarterly Meeting.

SECTION VI.—STEWARDS' MEETING.

1. The Stewards' Meeting shall be composed of the Superintendent of the Circuit or his colleague, and the Stewards of the Circuit.

2. They shall meet at least once a quarter previous to the Quarterly Official Meeting, to take an exact account of what has been collected for the support of the Ministers or Probationers for the Ministry on the Circuit, and to recommend to the Quarterly Official Meeting such measures as they may think necessary in order to the prompt payment of the Ministers.

3. They shall estimate the amount necessary to meet the expenses of the year, and report to the first Quarterly Official Meeting.

F. CHISHOLM, *Secretary.*

REPORT NO. V.

SECTION VII.—SUPERINTENDENTS OF DISTRICTS AND THEIR DUTIES.

1. Each District shall be under the supervision of a presiding officer to be called the District Superintendent, who shall be elected by the Annual Conference as elsewhere provided. He shall preside in the District Meetings, oversee the temporal and spiritual interests of the Church in his District, and, with the Ministers and Probationers under his charge, shall administer and enforce the discipline of the Church, being responsible therefor to the Annual Conference.

The District Superintendent shall fix the time and place of the first District Meeting.

2. A Superintendent of a District is constituted by the election of a majority of the Annual Conference.

3. When the stations have been confirmed by the second reading of them to the Conference, the Secretary shall read over successively the names of the Ministers stationed in each District, and the Conference shall elect by ballot one of its members so stationed to be Superintendent for the ensuing year.

4. Immediately after the election of the Superintedent of a District is declared by the President, the Superintendent shall nominate a Financial Secretary for his District, and the Conference, if it approves, shall appoint the same.

SUB-SECTION 1.—*The duties of a Superintendent are:*

§ 1. To take the oversight of the whole work on his District, according to the Discipline, as far as his duty to the Circuit on which he resides will permit.

§ 2. To take charge of all the Ministers, Probationers for the Ministry, Local Preachers, and Exhorters in his District.

§ 3. To change, receive, and suspend Ministers or Probationers for the Ministry in his District in the intervals of Conference, and in the absence of the President, as the Discipline directs: Provided, nevertheless, he shall not change any Minister or Probationer contrary to his wish, unless with the concurrence of two or more members of the Conference in his District.

§ 4. If any Minister or Probationer for the Ministry absent himself from his Circuit without the leave of his Chairman, the Superintendent shall, as far as possible, fill his place with another Minister or Probationer, who shall be paid for his labours out of the allowance of the absent Minister or Probationer, in proportion to the usual allowance.

§ 5. To preside as heretofore provided.

§ 6. To visit any Station or Circuit in his District when he may judge expedient.

§ 7. To see that every part of the Discipline is duly enforced.

§ 8. To give the President all necessary information of the state of his District.

§ 9. The District Superintendent is especially directed and required to visit any Circuit or Mission in his District when requested by the Superintendent of such Circuit or Mission in case of any dispute or difficulty which the Superintendent may desire assistance to adjust; also in all cases of appeal. In all these cases the Circuit or Mission visited shall pay the travelling expenses of the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall have authority to call in any Minister or Probationer of his District to supply his place when absent in visiting any Circuit or Mission. Should the District Superintendent, or Superintendent of Circuit, or any of his colleagues, be requested to withdraw, on any occasion, from any of our regularly-constituted meetings for business, he shall in no case do so; and, should he be obliged to withdraw from any such meeting during its sittings, the meeting will be thereby dissolved. And if any District Superintendent, or Superintendent of a Circuit, or other Minister, do willingly submit to any requisition, so as to withdraw from any such meeting before its conclusion, he shall, on proof thereof, receive due censure at the ensuing Annual Conference.

§ 10. In case of appeal on a Circuit or Mission of which the District Superintendent is the Superintendent, the President shall preside, or appoint a Superintendent of a District to preside at the hearing of the appeal.

§ 11. In the case of the death or disability of a District Superintendent during the year, the Financial Secretary shall call a meeting of the members of the District, who shall elect, by ballot, one of their number being a member of the Conference, as Superintendent until the ensuing Conference.

§ 12. In the occurrence of an event which could not have been foreseen, by which a Superintendent of a District is

prevented from being present and presiding in a District Meeting, it shall be lawful for the District Meeting to elect one of its own members to take the chair *pro tem.* in order that the business may be proceeded with.

SECTION VIII.—SUPERINTENDENTS OF CIRCUITS.

1. The Superintendent of the Circuit shall be Chairman of the Quarterly Meetings, except when the Superintendent of the District shall be present, in which case the latter may preside.

2. The Superintendent is the Minister on each Circuit and Mission, who is appointed from time to time to take charge of the societies therein.

SUB-SECTION 1.—*The duties of the Superintendent are :*

§ 1. To take the oversight of all the Ministers and Probationers for the Ministry in his Circuit or Mission.

§ 2. To renew the tickets quarterly in the classes; and see that all Public Collections in aid of the Circuit, or of the Connexional Funds, be regularly made in each congregation of the Circuit.

§ 3. To hold Quarterly Official Meetings; to preside in all Official Meetings of the Circuit, and to make all nominations to office. It shall be considered as a principle in Methodist Discipline that no Court should be recognized as Methodistic in which the Superintendent of the Circuit or Mission, or his Colleague, does not preside. To receive, try, and expel members, according to Discipline; and to give due notice to the Chairman of the District in all cases of appeal. To execute all our rules fully and strenuously against all frauds, and particularly against dishonest insolvencies, suffering none to remain in the Church on any account who are found guilty of any fraud. To explain and enforce the General Rules of the Church, which should be understood to prohibit our people from giving any countenance to card-playing or dancing. To enforce vigorously, but calmly, all the General Rules.

§ 4. To meet the Stewards and Leaders regularly; and examine the accounts of all the Stewards. To appoint all the Leaders, and change them when he sees it necessary, but not contrary to the wish of the Class, or without consulting the Leaders' Meeting. To make strict inquiry in the Leaders' Meeting, before the *Fourth* Quarterly Official Meeting, and where there is no such meeting, then in the *Fourth* Quarterly Official Meeting, into the moral character of all the Leaders. To license such persons as he may think proper to officiate as Exhorters, provided no person shall be so licensed without consulting the Stewards' and Leaders' Meeting, or Quarterly Official Meeting of the Circuit in which the person proposed resides. To make a plan of appointments for the Ministers, the Probationers for the Ministry, Local Preachers, and Exhorters on the Circuit, with the counsel of the Local Preachers' Meeting, or of the Quarterly Official Meeting where there is no Local Preachers' Meeting. To invite and earnestly urge the attendance and assistance of the Recording Stewards and other Lay Representatives at the District Meetings, according to rule.

§ 5. To hold Watchnights and Lovefeasts; but no Lovefeast shall last longer than an hour and a half. To appoint Prayer Meetings wherever he can in his Circuit, and to see that a Fast be observed in every Society on the Friday preceding every Quarterly Meeting. To see that the General Rules are read once a year in every congregation, and occasionally in each Society, by himself or his colleague; and that the Pastoral Address of the Annual Conference be read to all the Societies on his Circuit. To take care that every Society be duly supplied with books; and to urge upon all who are admitted into our Church to read attentively our General Rules, the Second Catechism, and other Methodist works.

§ 6. To take an exact account of the number of members in Society, and report the same to the *Fourth* Quarterly Official Meeting; also report the same to the Annual District Meeting, with the number of members who have been received on trial, or by ticket, and of those who have re-

moved, died, or ceased to be members, or have been separated from, or added to, the Circuit by the alteration of its boundaries; also the Report of the Sabbath-schools of his Circuit, as required by the Discipline; and, if a Superintendent of a Mission, to prepare a report of the religious state of his Mission, and read it in the Annual District Meeting, subject to the revision of that Meeting. To leave for his successor a Circuit book, containing an exact list of all the official members, and also of the names of all the members in his Circuit, arranged in their classes, as found at the *Fourth* Quarterly Official Meeting of the year.

§ 7. To remind members, from time to time, that none are to remove from one Circuit to another without a certificate of membership from the Superintendent of the Circuit, and to warn them that without such certificate they will not be received into the Church in other places; and also to forward a duplicate copy of such certificate by mail to the Superintendent of the Circuit to which they may be removing.

§ 8. To make application in the classes and to our friends on behalf of the Superannuation Fund, during the months of November and December, and to make a public collection for the same object in the months of November and December, paying the moneys thus received to the Financial Secretary, in time for transmission to the Treasurers of the Superannuation Fund on or before the first day of January.

§ 9. To see that collections are taken up for our Connexional Funds at the following times, viz.:

Contingent Fund, in the month of September. *Educational Fund* and *Missionary Society*, as arranged by the Financial District Meeting. *General Conference Fund Collection*, at such time as the Annual Conference may direct.

§ 10. To carry out the arrangements made by the Financial District Meeting in regard to the Missionary and Educational work on his Circuit. To pay promptly to the appointed Treasurers all money collected for the several Funds at the times directed by Conference.

§ 11. To encourage in all proper cases Field Meetings and Open-air Meetings on his charge, and also Camp Meetings as a Circuit or union of Circuits may, in their Quarterly Meetings, determine.

The authority of a Superintendent, who is removing to administer discipline upon a Circuit, shall cease with the final reading of the Stations to the Conference.

SECTION IX.

SUB-SECTION 1.—*Of the duty of preachers to God, themselves, and one another.*

Ques. 1. What is the duty of a preacher?

Ans. 1. To preach.

2. To meet the societies and classes.

3. To visit the sick.

4. To preach in the morning, where he can get hearers. We recommend morning preaching—at five o'clock in the summer, and six in the winter—wherever it is practicable.

Ques. 2. How shall the preacher be qualified for his charge?

Ans. By walking closely with God, and having His work greatly at heart; and by understanding and loving discipline, ours in particular.

Ques. 3. Do we sufficiently watch over each other?

Ans. We do not. Should we not frequently ask each other, Do you walk closely with God? Have you now fellowship with the Father and the Son? At what hour do you rise? Do you punctually observe the morning and evening hour of retirement? Do you spend the day in the manner which the Conference advises? Do you converse seriously, usefully, and closely? To be more particular, Do you use all the means of grace yourself, and enforce the use of them on all other persons? They are either instituted or prudential.

I. The instituted are—

1. Prayer—private, family, and public; consisting of deprecation, petition intercession, and thanksgiving. Do you use each of these? Do you forecast daily, wherever you are, to secure time for private devotion? Do you practise it everywhere? Do you ask everywhere, Have you family prayer? Do you ask individuals, Do you use private prayer every morning and evening in particular?

2. Searching the Scriptures, by

(1) Reading: constantly some part of every day; regularly, all the Bible in order; carefully, with notes; seriously, with prayer before and after; fruitfully, immediately practising what you learn there.

(2) Meditating: at set times by rule.

(3) Hearing: every opportunity. With prayer, before, at, after. Have you a Bible always about you?

3. The Lord's Supper: do you use this at every opportunity; with solemn prayer before? With earnest and deliberate self-devotion?

4. Fasting: do you use as much abstinence and fasting every week as your health, strength, and labour will permit.

5. Christian conference: are you convinced how important and how difficult it is to order your conversation aright? Is it always in grace? Seasoned with salt? Meet to minister grace to the hearers? Do you not converse too long at a time? Is not an hour commonly enough? Would it not be always well to have a determinate end in view? And to pray before and after it?

II. Prudential means we may use, either as Christians, as Methodists or as preachers.

1. As Christians: what particular rules have you in order to grow in grace? What arts of holy living?

2. As Methodists: do you never miss your class?

3. As preachers: have you thoroughly considered your duty? And do you make a conscience of executing every part of it? Do you meet every Society? Also the leaders?

These means may be used without fruit. But there are some means which cannot—namely, watching, denying ourselves, taking up our cross, exercise of the presence of God.

1. Do you steadily watch against the world? yourself? your besetting sin?

2. Do you deny yourself every useless pleasure of sense? imagination? honour? Are you temperate in all things? Instance in food. 1. Do you use only that kind and that degree which is best for both body and soul? Do you see the necessity of this? 2. Do you eat no more at each meal than is necessary? Are you not heavy or drowsy after dinner? 3. Do you use only that kind and that degree of drink which is best both for your body and soul? 4. Do you choose and use water f r your common drink? And only take wine medicinally or sacramentally?

3. Wherein do you take up your cross daily? Do you cheerfully bear your cross, however grevious, to profit thereby?

4. Do you endeavour to set God always before you? To see His eye continually fixed upon you? Never can you use these means but a blessing will ensue. And the more you use them the more you will grow in grace.

5. In order that we may try those who profess to be moved by the Holy Ghost to preach, let the following questions be asked, namely:—

§ 1. Do they know God as a pardoning God? Have they the love of God abiding in them? Do they desire nothing but God? And are they holy in all manner of conversation?

§ 2. Have they gifts as well as grace for the work? Have they a clear, sound understanding; a right judgment in the things of God; a just conception of salvation by faith? And has God given them an acceptable way of speaking? Do they speak justly, readily clearly?

§ 3. Have they fruit? Are any truly convinced of sin, and converted to God by their preaching?

(1) As long as these three marks concur in any one, we

believe he is called of God to preach. These we receive as sufficient proof that he is moved by the Holy Ghost.

(2) With the consent of the Quarterly Official Meeting the Superintendent of the Circuit may license such persons to exhort. After sufficient proof of their gifts and usefulness they may be further received as Local Preachers on trial, and on the expiration of three months' trial, should their examination by the Local Preachers' Meeting, or Quarterly Official Meeting, be satisfactory, they shall receive license as Local Preachers.

SUB-SECTION 2.—*Of the Rules for a Preacher's Conduct.*

Ques. 1. What are the directions given to a preacher?

Ans. 1. Be diligent. Never be unemployed; never be triflingly employed; never trifle away time, neither spend any more time at any place than is strictly necessary.

2. Be serious. Let your motto be, "*Holiness to the Lord.*" Avoid all lightness, jesting, and foolish talking.

3. Converse sparingly and conduct yourselves prudently with women. 1 Tim. v. 2.

4. Take no steps towards marriage without first consulting with your brethren.

5. Believe evil of no one without good evidence; unless you see it done, take heed how you credit it. Put the best construction on everything. You know the judge is always supposed to be on the prisoner's side.

6. Speak evil of no one; because your word, especially, would eat as doth a canker. Keep your thoughts within your own breast, till you come to the person concerned.

7. Tell every one under your care what you think wrong in his conduct and temper, and that lovingly and plainly, as soon as may be, else it will fester in your heart. Make all haste to cast the fire out of your bosom.

8. Avoid all affectation. A preacher of the Gospel is the servant of all.

9. Be ashamed of nothing but sin.

10. Be punctual. Do everything exactly at the time. And do not mend our rules, but keep them; not for wrath, but conscience' sake.

11. You have nothing to do but to save souls; therefore spend and be spent in this work; and go always, not only to those that want you, but to those that want you most.

Observe! it is not only your business to preach so many times, and to take care of this or that Society, but to save as many as you can; to bring as many sinners as you can to repentance, and with all your power, to build them up in that holiness without which they cannot see the Lord. And remember! a Methodist preacher is to mind every point, great and small, in the Methodist Discipline! Therefore, you will need to exercise all the sense and grace you have.

12. Act in all things, not according to your own will, but as a son in the Gospel. As such, it is your duty to employ your time in the manner which we direct; in preaching and visiting from house to house; in reading, meditation and prayer. Above all, if you labor with us in the Lord's vineyard, it is needful you should do that part of the work which we advise, at those times and places which we judge most for His glory.

Ques. 2. Are there any smaller advices which might be of use to us?

Ans. Perhaps these: 1. Be sure never to disappoint a congregation. 2. Begin at the time appointed. 3. Let your whole deportment be serious, weighty, and solemn. 4. Always suit your subject to your audience. 5. Choose the plainest text you can. 6. Take care not to ramble, but keep to your text, and make out what you take in hand. 7. Take care of anything awkward or affected, either in your gestures, phrase, or pronunciation. Do not usually pray, *extempore*, above eight or ten minutes (at most) without intermission. 9. Frequently read and enlarge upon a portion of Scripture; and let young preachers often exhort without taking a text. 10. Always avail yourself of the great festivals by preaching on the occasion.

SUB-SECTION 3.—*Of the Necessity of Union among Ourselves.*

1. Let us be deeply sensible (from what we have known) of the evil of a division in principle, spirit, or practice, and the dreadful consequences to ourselves and others. If we are united, what can stand before us? If we divide, we shall destroy ourselves, the work of God, and the souls of our people.

2. In order to a closer union with each other,—1. Let us be deeply convinced of the absolute necessity of it. 2. Pray earnestly for, and speak freely to, each other. 3. When we meet, let us never part without prayer. 4. Take great care not to despise each other's gifts. 5. Never speak lightly of each other. 6. Let us defend each other's character in everything, so far as is consistent with truth. 7. Labour, in honour, each to prefer the other before himself. 8. We recommend a serious perusal of *The Causes, Evils, and Cures of Heart and Church Divisions.*

SECTION X.—OF EMPLOYING OUR TIME PROFITABLY, WHEN NOT ENGAGED IN PUBLIC EXERCISES.

1. As a general method of employing our time, we advise you,—1. As often as possible to rise at four. 2. From four to five in the morning, and from five to six in the evening to meditate, pray, and read the Scriptures with notes, and the closely practical parts of what Mr. Wesley has published. 3. From six in the morning till twelve (allowing an hour for breakfast) read, with much prayer, some of our best religious books.

2. Other reasons may concur, but the chief reason that the people under our care are not better is, because we are not more knowing and more holy.

3. And we are not more knowing because we are idle. We forget our first rule: "Be diligent—never be unemployed—never be triflingly employed. Neither spend any more time at any place than is strictly necessary." We fear there is altogether a fault in this matter, and that few of

us are clear. Which of us spend as many hours a day in God's work, as we did formerly in man's work? We talk, —talk—or read what next comes to hand. We must—absolutely must—cure this evil or betray the cause of God. But how? 1. Read the most useful books, and that regularly and constantly. 2. Steadily spend all the morning in this employment, or at least five hours in four-and twenty. "But I have no taste for reading." Contract a taste for it by use, or return to your former employment. "But I have no books." Be diligent to spread the books, and you will have the use of them.

SECTION XI.—OF OUR DEPORTMENT AT THE CONFERENCES.

1. It is desired that all things be considered on these occasions as in the immediate presence of God; that every person speak freely whatever is in his heart.

2. In order, therefore, that we may best improve our time at the Conferences,—1. While we are conversing let us have an especial care to set God always before us. 2. In the intermediate hours, let us redeem all the time we can for private exercises. 3. Therein let us give ourselves to prayer for one another, and for a blessing on our labour.

SECTION XII.—OF THE MATTER AND MANNER OF PREACHING.

1. The best general method of preaching is,—1. To convince; 2. To offer Christ; 3. To invite; 4. To build up: And to do this in some measure in every sermon.

2. The most effectual way of preaching Christ is, to preach Him in all His offices; and to declare His law, as well as His Gospel, both to believers and unbelievers. Let us strongly and closely insist upon inward and outward holiness in all its branches.

SECTION XIII.—RULES BY WHICH WE SHOULD CONTINUE OR DESIST FROM PREACHING AT ANY PLACE.

1. It is by no means advisable for us to preach in as many places as we can without forming any societies. We

have made the trial in various places, and that for a considerable time. But all the seed has fallen by the wayside. There is scarce any fruit remaining.

2. We should endeavor to preach most,—1. Where there is the greatest number of quiet and willing hearers. 2. Where there is most fruit. We ought diligently to observe in what places God is pleased at any time to pour out His Spirit more abundantly, and at that time to send more labourers than usual into that part of the harvest.

SECTION XIV.—OF VISITING FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE, AND ENFORCING PRACTICAL RELIGION.

1. We can further assist those under our care by instructing them at their own houses. What unspeakable need is there for this! The world says, "*The Methodists are no better than other people.*" This is not true in general, but,

§ 1. Personal religion, either towards God or man, is too superficial among us. We can but just touch on a few particulars. How little faith is there among us! How little communion with God! How little living in heaven, walking in eternity, deadness to every creature! How much love of the world! Desire of pleasure, of ease, of getting money! How little brotherly love! What continual judging one another! What gossiping, evil-speaking, tale-bearing! What want of moral honesty! To instance only one particular: Who does as he would be done by in buying and selling?

§ 2. Family religion is wanting in many branches. And what avails public preaching alone, though we could preach like angels? We must, yea, every Minister, and every Probationer must instruct the people from house to house. Till this be done, and that in good earnest, Methodists will be no better.

§ 3. Our religion is not sufficiently deep, universal, uniform; but superficial, partial, uneven. It will be so till we spend half as much time in this visiting, as we now do in

talking uselessly. Can we find a better method of doing this than Mr. Baxter's? If not, let us adopt it without delay. His whole tract, entitled, *Gildas Salvianus;* or, *The Reformed Pastor*, is well worth a careful perusal. Speaking of this visiting from house to house, he says (p. 351), "We shall find many hindrances, both in ourselves and the people." 1. In ourselves there is much dulness and laziness, so that there will be much ado to get us to be faithful in the work. 2. We have a base, man-pleasing temper, so that we let them perish rather than lose their love; we let them go quietly to hell lest we should offend them. 3. Some of us have a foolish bashfulness; we know not how to begin, and blush to contradict the devil. 4. But the great hindrance is weakness of faith. Our whole motion is weak because the spring of it is weak. 5. Lastly, we are unskilful in the work. How few know how to deal with men, so as to get within them, and suit all our discourse to their several conditions and tempers; to choose the fittest subjects, and follow them with a holy mixture of seriousness, terror, love, and meekness!

2. But undoubtedly this private application is implied in those solemn words of the Apostle: "I charge thee therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at His appearing, and His kingdom, preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all long-suffering and doctrine."

3. Oh, brethren, if we could but set this work on foot in all our Societies, and prosecute it zealously, what glory would redound to God! If the common lukewarmness were banished, and every shop and every house busied in speaking the word and works of God, surely God would dwell in our habitations, and make us His delight.

4. And this is absolutely necessary to the welfare of our people, some of whom neither repent nor believe to this day. Look around, and see how many of them are still in apparent danger of damnation. And how can you walk and talk, and be merry with such people, when you know their case? When you look them in the face you should break forth

into tears, as the prophet did when he looked upon Hazael, and then set on them with the most vehement exhortations. O, for God's sake, and the sake of poor souls, bestir yourselves, and spare no pains that may conduce to their salvation! What cause have we to bleed before the Lord, that we have so long neglected this good work! If we had but engaged in it sooner, how many more might have been brought to Christ! And how much holier and happier might our Societies have been before now? And why might we not have done it sooner? There were many hindrances; and so there always will be. But the greatest hindrance is in ourselves, in our littleness of faith and love.

5. But it is objected:—

§ 1. "This will take up so much time we shall not have leisure to follow our studies." We answer, 1. Gaining knowledge is a good thing, but saving souls is a better. 2. By this very thing you will gain the most excellent knowledge, that of God and eternity. 3. You will have time for gaining other knowledge, too. Only sleep not more than you need; "and never be idle or triflingly employed." But, 4. If you can do but one, let your studies alone. We ought to throw by all the libraries in the world, rather than be guilty of the loss of one soul.

§ 2. "The people will not submit to it." If some will not, others will. And the success with them will repay all your labour. Oh let us herein follow the example of St. Paul! 1. For our general business, *Serving the Lord with all humility of mind:* 2. Our special work, *Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock:* 3. Our doctrine, *Repentance towards God, and faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ:* 4. The place, *I have taught you publicly, and from house to house:* 5. The object and manner of teaching, *I ceased not to warn every one, night and day, with tears:* 6. His innocence and self-denial, *Herein have I coveted no man's silver or gold:* 7. His patience, *Neither count I my life dear unto myself.* And among all other motives, let these be ever before our eyes: 1. *The Church of God, which He has*

purchased with His own blood. 2. *Grievous wolves shall enter in; yea, of yourselves shall men arise speaking perverse things.*

6. Write this upon your hearts, and it will do you more good than twenty years' study. Then you will have no time to spare: you will have work enough. Then, likewise, no Minister nor Probationer will stay with us who is as salt that has lost its savour. For to such this employment would be mere drudgery. And in order to it, you will have need of all the knowledge you can procure, and all the grace you attain.

7. The sum is, Go into every house in course, and teach all therein, both young and old, to be Christians inwardly and outwardly; make every particular plain to their understanding; fix it in their minds; write it on their hearts. In order to this, there must be precept upon precept, line upon line. What patience, what love, what knowledge is requisite for this! We must needs do this, were it only to avoid idleness. Do we not loiter away many hours in every week? Each try himself. No idleness is consistent with a growth in grace. Nay, without exactness in redeeming time, you cannot retain the grace you receive in justification.

8. Why are we not more holy? why do we not live in eternity? walk with God all the day long? Why are we not all devoted to God? breathing the whole spirit of missionaries? Chiefly because we are enthusiasts; looking for the end, without using the means. To touch only upon two or three instances: Who of us rise at four, or even at five, when we do not preach? Do we know the obligation and benefit of fasting, or abstinence? How often do we practise it? The neglect of this alone is sufficient to account for our feebleness and faintness of spirit. We are continually grieving the Holy Spirit of God by the habitual neglect of a plain duty. Let us amend from this hour.

9. In order to guard against Sabbath-breaking, evil-speaking, unprofitable conversation, lightness, expensiveness or gaity of apparel, and contracting debts without due care

to discharge them,—1. Let us preach expressly on each of these heads. 2. Read in every Society the sermon on evil-speaking. 3. Let the Leaders closely examine and exhort every person to put away the accursed thing. 4. Let the Ministers and Probationers warn every Society, that none who is guilty herein can remain with us. 5. Extirpate out of our Church buying or selling goods which have not paid the duty laid upon them by Government. Let none remain with us who will not totally abstain from this evil in every kind and degree. Extirpate bribery—receiving anything, directly or indirectly,—for voting at any election. Show no respect to persons herein, but expel all that touch the accursed thing. And strongly advise our people to discountenance all treats given by candidates before or at elections, and not to be partakers in any respect of such iniquitous practices.

SECTION XV.—THE ELECTION AND ORDINATION OF MINISTERS, AND THEIR DUTIES.

1. A Minister is constituted by election of the Annual Conference, and by laying on of the hands of those duly appointed thereto.

2. The duties of a Minister are,—

§ 1. To conduct all parts of Divine worship.

§ 2. To administer Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

§ 3. To solemnize Matrimony, and in general to perform all the work of a Christian Minister.

3. No Minister who ceases to travel without the consent of the Annual Conference, certified under the hand of the President, except in case of sickness, debility, or other unavoidable circumstances, shall, on any account, exercise the peculiar functions of his office, or even be allowed to preach among us; nevertheless, the final determination in all such cases is with the Annual Conference.

4. After approval of the Annual Conference, a General Superintendent, with the President of the Annual Conference, may issue a commission (to which the seal of the

Conference shall be attached) to authorize a Minister of the Church to ordain (according to our form of ordination) such missionary or missionaries stationed in distant parts of our work.

SECTION XVI.—THE RECEPTION OF MINISTERS FROM OTHER CHURCHES.

SUB-SECTION 1.—*Ministers who offer to unite with us from other Christian Churches may be received in the following manner :—*

§ 1. If they come to us with proper testimonials from any accredited Methodist Church, they may be received according to such credentials, provided they give satisfaction to the Annual Conference of their willingness to conform to our Church government and usages.

§ 2. Candidates for the Ministry from any body of Methodists, or from other Evangelical denominations, may be received as candidates for our Ministry, provided they give satisfaction that they are suitable persons to exercise the office; that they believe in the doctrines, and approve of the discipline, government, and usages of our Church. The Superintendent and any two Ministers (members of the Conference) of the District, within the bounds of which any such Candidate may be travelling or resident, are authorized to act as a Committee on behalf of the Annual Conference, to admit him into our Church; and he may be employed unt l the ensuing Annual Conference; and if he be recommended by an Annual District Meeting he may be received as a Probationer for the Ministry.

SUB-SECTION 2.—*The Reception of Ministers from other Bodies of Christians.*

§ 1. Those Ministers of other Evangelical Churches who may desire to unite with our Church, may be received according to our usages, on condition of their taking upon them our ordination vows when required, without the re-im-

position of hands, giving satisfaction to an Annual Conference of their being duly ordained Ministers, and of their agreement with us in doctrine, discipline, government and usages.

§ 2. Whenever any such Minister shall be received, he shall be furnished with a certificate signed by a General Superintendent and President :—

This is to certify that has been received into Conference as a Minister, he having been ordained to the office of the Ministry, according to the usages of the Church, of which he has been a member or Minister ; and he is hereby authorized to exercise the functions of his office in the Methodist Church so long as his life and conversation are such as becometh the Gospel of Christ.

Given under our hand and seal at this day of , in the year of our Lord

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CHAPTER I.—ADMINISTRATION OF DISCIPLINE.

SECTION I.—GENERAL PRINCIPLES.

1. The officer under whose supervision a trial is to be conducted shall furnish to the accused, at least one week before the trial, a copy of the charges, and a notice of the time and place of trial.

2. In every case of an equal division of votes in a Committee of Investigation, the presiding officer shall have a casting vote.

3. A majority of the Committee appointed to conduct a trial shall constitute a quorum.

4. A defendant may challenge for cause in the proportion of two in five of those nominated to form a Committee of Investigation, that is to say, may challenge, not peremptorily, but for reasons that are deemed sufficient by the presiding officer.

5. A majority of the Committee is competent to render a verdict.

6. The presiding officer shall see that a correct record be kept of the charges, evidence, and judgment in the case.

7. In all cases of trial and appeal the presiding officer shall refrain from delivering any charge to the Committee, or from interfering in any way with their liberty of judgment.

8. If the accused person evade a trial by absenting himself, after sufficient notice has been given him, and the circumstances of the accusation be strong and presumptive, let him be esteemed as guilty. In such a case no appeal is permitted to a higher court.

9. The testimony of non-members of the Church may be received.

10. A charge can be instituted only by a minister, a probationer for the ministry, or a member of the Church in full standing. No person preferring charges, or giving evidence in a trial shall be allowed to vote on the decision of the case.

11. A copy of the judgment of the Committee of Investigation, signed by the Chairman and the members of the Committee approving thereof, shall be furnished to the accused within two days from the time when such judgment shall have been delivered.

12. In every case of an appeal the appellant must, within one week from receiving a copy of the judgment of the Committee, give notice to the presiding officer of his intention to appeal.

13. When an appellant does not appear personally, or by a representative to prosecute his appeal, it goes by default.

14. In the conduct of an appeal the testimony presented to the lower court alone shall be received. If further evidence in the case is available, the Court of Appeal may order a new trial.

15. When the Appellate Court reverses the decision of

the Court below, the appellant is reinstated in his former membership without any action of the Court from which he took the appeal.

16. When a member of the Church has made himself amendable to a Church court, it shall be the duty of some member of the Church to institute charges, that the case may be proceeded with according to Discipline; but if for any cause those cognizant of the crime refuse to prefer charges, the Superintendent of the Circuit may institute a charge, and proceed against the party as provided by the Discipline.

17. No member shall be expelled from the Church unless by proper legal process, prescribed by the Discipline.

SECTION II.—THE TRIAL OF A GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT.

Ques. 1.—To whom is a General Superintendent amenable for his conduct?

Ans.—To the General Conference, which has power to reprove, suspend, or expel him for improper conduct, as may be deemed necessary.

Ques. 2.—What provision shall be made for the trial of a General Superintendent if he should be charged with improper conduct, or of immorality?

Ans.—If a General Superintendent be accused of immorality or improper conduct, the President of the Annual Conference in which the crime is alleged to have been committed shall select a Committee composed of three Superintendents of Districts, and five Superintendents of Circuits. The above mentioned persons, with the President aforesaid, shall examine into the charge; and if two-thirds of them verily believe him to be guilty, they shall have authority to suspend him until the ensuing General Conference. But no accusation shall be received against a General Superintendent, except it be delivered in writing, signed by those who are to prove the crime, and a copy of the accusation shall be given to the accused.

SECTION III.—OF THE TRIAL OF MINISTERS AND PROBATIONERS.

When a Minister, or Probationer for the Ministry, is under report of being guilty of some crime expressly forbidden in the word of God, as an unchristian practice, sufficient to exclude a person from the kingdom of grace and glory,—

§ 1. If the accused be the President of an Annual Conference, the Superintendent of the District on which the President resides,—or if the President of the Conference is the Superintendent of the District, then the senior Superintendent of a District, within the bounds of the Conference, is required to select a Committee of at least five ministers of the Conference, of which the accused is a member, to investigate the case, and preside at the trial.

§ 2. If the accused be a Missionary Secretary or a Superintendent of a District, the President of the Conference—or in his absence a Deputy appointed by him,—who shall be a Superintendent of a District, shall select the Committee to investigate the case, and shall preside at the trial.

§ 3. If the accused be a Minister, or a Probationer for the Ministry, then let the Superintendent, in the absence of the President, call as many Ministers as he may think fit—at least three—and if possible bring the accused and the accuser face to face.

§ 4. If the person be clearly convicted, he shall be admonished, reproved, suspended, or dealt with as the Committee may judge expedient, until the next ensuing Annual Conference, *when the President shall nominate, and the Conference appoint, a court of twelve, who shall consider and determine the case by a majority vote, the President or his nominee presiding. When a brother is put on his trial at the Annual Conference, before the trial proceeds, the President shall appoint a Committee of nine of the senior Ministers present, who, with a President presiding, shall constitute a court of appeal, to whom the accused, if not acquitted, may*

refer his cause—said court to be convened before the parties interested leave the seat of Conference.

§ 5. If the accuser and the accused cannot be brought face to face, but the alleged delinquent evades trial, it shall be received as presumptive proof of guilt, and out of the mouth of two or three witnesses he shall be condemned. Nevertheless, in that case, as well as in all others, the Annual District Meeting shall examine into it, and shall dispose of the case as it judges expedient; and shall report to the Annual Conference, where the whole matter shall be finally determined.

§ 6. If a Minister or Probationer for the Ministry be charged with immorality between the time of holding the Annual District Meeting and the Annual Conference, a Committee chosen as above directed shall investigate the matter, and shall have authority to admonish, reprove, or suspend the offender until the meeting of the Annual Conference, when the case shall be finally determined.

§ 7. If there be a difference between any of the Ministers, or Probationers, for the Ministry, the respective parties shall choose two Ministers, and the Superintendent of the District on which the respondent resides, with the four Ministers so chosen, shall be the final arbitrators to determine the matter in dispute.

§ 8. In case of dispute between a Minister, or Probationer for the Ministry, and any one of our members, relative to matters of secular business, the Superintendent of the District, shall recommend an arbitration, over which he shall preside, consisting of a Minister or lay member of our Church, chosen by each of the parties, which two persons thus chosen shall call a third member or Minister, to whom the matter shall be referred. In case of the failure of this arbitration to satisfy either of the parties, the dissatisfied party may proceed against the other before our regular Church courts.

§ 9. If any Minister or Probationer for the Ministry shall have contracted debts which he is not able to pay, let the

Superintendent of the District appoint three judicious Ministers to be a Committee of Inquiry into the circumstances of the supposed delinquent, and if, in their opinion, he has acted dishonestly, or contracted debts without a probability of paying, let him be reproved, suspended, or disposed of as the Committee may judge expedient, until the next ensuing Annual District Meeting.

§ 10. In cases of improper tempers, words, or actions, the person so offending shall be reproved by his senior in office. Should a second transgression take place, one or more Ministers, or Probationers for the Ministry, shall be taken as witnesses. If he be not then cured, he shall be tried at the next Annual District Meeting.

§ 11. When a Minister, or Probationer for the Ministry, holds and disseminates, publicly or privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of religion and doctrinal standards, let the same process be observed as in cases of gross immorality; but if the Minister or Probationer so offending do solemnly engage not to disseminate such erroneous doctrines, in public or private, he shall be borne with until his case be laid before the next Annual Conference, which shall determine the matter.

§ 12. If any Minister, or Probationer for our Ministry, follow a trade, or engage in any secular business that would detract from his ministerial character or usefulness, or interfere with the proper discharge of the duties assigned him by the Church, he shall, on proof thereof, be dealt with as in any other case of delinquency; and if he persists shall be excluded from the itinerant work. Selling our own books is an exception.

NOTE.—Ministers and Probationers are strongly recommended not to become members of any secular boards of any trading company, or any corporate body organized for the purpose of trade or for the investing of funds.

SECTION IV.—OF THE TRIAL OF LOCAL PREACHERS.

When charges are preferred against a Local Preacher the accused and the accuser shall respectively choose two Local Preachers, or other official members of the Circuit; or, in

the event of either or both parties refusing to make the necessary choice, the Superintendent of the Circuit shall name such persons as he may deem proper, being official members of any Circuit in the District, to constitute the Committee, and shall, with the said Committee, try the accused preacher, and they shall have authority, if he be found guilty, to admonish, reprove, or suspend him, till the ensuing Local Preachers' Meeting, or Quarterly Official Meeting, when the whole matter shall be determined.

§ 1. The Superintendent of the Circuit shall, on receiving a complaint against a Local Preacher, send a copy of the charge or charges and specifications to the person accused, with the name of the accuser or accusers, before he calls a Committee to examine into the charge.

§ 2. In cases of improper tempers, words, or actions, the person so offending shall be reprimanded by the Superintendent of the Circuit. Should a second transgression take place, one or more faithful friends shall be taken as witnesses. If he be not cured, he shall be tried at the next Local Preachers' Meeting, or Quarterly Official Meeting, and if found guilty and impenitent he shall be expelled from the Church.

§ 3. When a Local Preacher fails in business, or contracts debts which he is not able to pay, the Superintendent of the Circuit shall appoint three judicious members of the Church to inspect the accounts, contracts and circumstances of the supposed delinquent; and if, in their opinion, he has behaved dishonestly, or contracted debts without the probability of paying, he shall be suspended until the ensuing Local Preachers' Meeting, or Quarterly Official Meeting, which shall examine into and determine the case.

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§ 4. In every case, a Local Preacher under censure or suspension by the Local Preachers' Meeting, or the Quarterly Official Meeting, shall have the right of appeal to the ensuing Annual District Meeting, when the laymen are present,

by giving notice of his intention to do so to the Superintendent of the Circuit, within one week after receiving a copy of the judgment of the Committee, or Court of trial.

SECTION V.—OF THE TRIAL OF AN ACCUSED MEMBER.

1. An accused member shall be brought to trial before a Committee of not less than five, who, if practicable, shall not be members of the Quarterly Official Meeting (and who may, if the Superintendent judge necessary, be selected from any part of the Circuit), in the presence of the Superintendent of the Circuit, who shall preside at the trial, and cause exact minutes of the evidence and proceedings in the case to be taken.

§ 1. Let the accused and the accuser be brought face to face; but if this cannot be done, let the next best evidence be procured.

§ 2. If the accused person be found guilty, by a decision of a majority of the members before whom he is brought to trial, and the crime be such as is expressly forbidden by the Word of God, sufficient to exclude a person from the kingdom of grace and glory, let the Superintendent of the Circuit expel him.

2. But in cases of neglect of duties of any kind, imprudent conduct, indulging in sinful tempers or words, the buying, selling, or using intoxicating liquors as a beverage, dancing, playing at games of chance, attending theatres, horse races, circuses, dancing parties, or patronizing dancing schools, or taking such other amusements as are obviously of misleading or questionable moral tendency, or disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church:—

§ 1. First, let private reproof be given by the Superintendent, or the Leader of the Class.

§ 2. On a second offence, the Superintendent or Leader may take one or two faithful friends, and if there be acknowledgment of the fault and proper humiliation, we will bear with him for a season.

§ 3. On a third offence let the case be brought before the

Society, or a select number, and if there be no sign of real humiliation, the offender must be cut off.

3. If a member of our Church shall be tried and convicted of endeavouring to sow dissensions in any of our Societies, by inveighing against either our Doctrines or Discipline, such person so offending shall be first reproved by the Superintendent of his Circuit, and if he persist in such pernicious practices, he shall be expelled from the Church.

4. Nevertheless, if in any of the above-mentioned cases, the Superintendent differs in judgment from the majority of the Society, or the select number, concerning the innocence or guilt of the accused person, the trial, in such case, may be referred by the Superintendent to the ensuing Quarterly Official Meeting.

5. If there be a murmur or complaint from an excluded person, in any of the above-mentioned instances, that justice has not been done, he shall be allowed an appeal to the *next* Quarterly Official Meeting, or to the next Annual District Meeting, when the laymen are present, by giving notice to the Superintendent of the Circuit within one week from receiving a copy of the judgment of the Committee; and the majority of the members of the meeting present shall finally determine the case.

6. On any dispute between two or more of the members of our Church, concerning the payment of debts, or otherwise, which cannot be settled by the parties concerned, the Superintendent of the Circuit shall inquire into the circumstances of the case, and shall recommend to the contending parties a reference, consisting of one arbitrator, chosen by the plaintiff, and another chosen by the defendant, which two arbitrators so chosen shall nominate a third,—the three arbitrators being members of our Church. In all cases of arbitration, the report thereof shall be handed to the Superintendent of the Circuit.

7. But if one of the parties be dissatisfied with the judgment given, such party may appeal to the ensuing Quarterly Official Meeting for permission to have a *second* arbitration

appointed; and if the meeting see sufficient reason, they shall grant a *second* arbitration, in which case each party shall choose two arbitrators, and the four arbitrators shall choose a fifth, the judgment of the majority of whom shall be final; and any person refusing to abide by it shall be excluded from the Church.

8. If any member of our Church shall refuse, in case of debt or other disputes, to refer the matter to arbitration, when recommended by the Superintendent of the Circuit, or shall enter into a lawsuit with another member before these measures are taken, he shall be expelled, unless the cause be of such a nature as to require and justify a process at law.

9. To prevent scandal, when any of our members fail in business, or contract debts which they are not able to pay, let two or three judicious members of our Church inspect the accounts of the supposed delinquent; and if he has behaved dishonestly, or borrowed money without a probability of paying it, let him be expelled.

10. Whenever a complaint is made against a member of the Church for non-payment of debt,—when the accounts are adjusted and the amount ascertained,—the Superintendent of the Circuit shall call the debtor before a Committee of at least three, to show cause why he does not make payment. The Committee shall determine what further time shall be granted him for payment, and in case the debtor refuses to comply, he shall be expelled; but in such case he may appeal to the Quarterly Official Meeting, and their decision shall be final. And in case the creditor complain that justice is not done him, he may lay his grievance before the Quarterly Official Meeting, and their decision shall be final; and if the creditor refuses to comply, he shall be expelled.

11. After such form of trial and expulsion, such persons shall have no privileges of Society, or Sacraments in our Church, without contrition, confession, and proper trial.

CHAPTER I.—SUPPORT OF MINISTERS.

SECTION I.—MINISTERS AND PROBATIONERS FOR THE MINISTRY.

It shall be the duty of the Stewards to estimate the amount necessary to meet the salary and other expenses of the Minister, or Probationer, stationed on any Circuit or Mission; subject, however, to the approval of the first Quarterly Official Meeting, according to the following rule:

§ 1. The salary of a married Minister shall be $300 per annum, exclusive of the necessary expense of board, fuel, rent, horse-keep, and incidental expenses.

§ 2. The salary of an ordained single Minister shall be $250 per annum, exclusive of the necessary expense of board, horse-keep, and incidental expenses.

§ 3. The salary of a Probationer for the Ministry shall be $200 per annum, exclusive of the necessary expense of board, horse-keep, and incidental expenses.

§ 4. Every child of a Minister born after the father was received into full connexion and ordained, shall receive twenty-five dollars per annum—if the fund will permit—until eighteen years of age. *(See Report on Children's Fund.)*

SECTION II.—STEWARDS AND THEIR DUTIES.

Let the Stewards be men of solid piety, who both know and love the Methodist Doctrines and Discipline, and of good natural and acquired abilities to transact the temporal business.

§ 1. On each Circuit and Mission there shall not be less than *three*, nor more than *seven* Stewards, the number to be determined by the Quarterly Official Meeting, who shall be nominated by the Superintendent and appointed by the second Quarterly Official Meeting, one of whom shall be the Recording Steward.

§ 2. The duties of Stewards are,—1. To take an exact account of whatever has been collected for the support of

the Ministers and Probationers for the Ministry on the Circuit or Mission. 2. To make an accurate return of every expenditure of money, whether to the Minister and Probationers, the sick or the poor. 3. To seek the needy and distressed, in order to relieve and comfort them. 4. To inform the Minister of any sick or disabled persons. 5. To attend the Quarterly Official Meetings of their Circuits. 6. To give advice, if asked, in planning the Circuit. 7. To provide the elements for the Lord's Supper. 8. To write circular letters to the Societies in the Circuit to be more liberal if need be, and to let them know, when occasion requires, the state of the temporal concerns at the last Quarterly Official Meeting. 9. To fill up the Circuit schedule correctly; and to be subject to the President, the Superintendent of the District, and the Ministers on their Circuit.

§ 3. The Stewards shall be accountable for the faithful performance of their duties to the Quarterly Official Meeting of the Circuit.

§ 4. In case of the death or disability of a Steward, the ensuing Quarterly Official Meeting may fill up such vacancy.

§ 5. The duties of the Recording Steward are,—1. To keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Quarterly Official Meetings. 2. To fill up correctly the Circuit schedules, also the schedules of the Sabbath-schools of the Circuit, for presentation to the Annual District Meeting. 3. To attend the Annual District Meeting, unless in cases otherwise provided for.

§ 6. When a Recording Steward of a Circuit or Mission becomes incapacitated for the duties of his office, the Superintendent of the Circuit shall have authority to appoint another of the Stewards to that office until the next Quarterly Official Meeting, when his place shall be supplied according to discipline.

CHAPTER II.—CHURCH PROPERTY.

SECTION I.—PARSONAGES.

1. It is recommended by the General Conference that Parsonages be obtained on each of our Circuits and Missions wherever practicable, for the use of our Ministers and their families; and that such Parsonages be secured according to our deed of settlement; or, where this is impracticable, that suitable houses be rented.

2. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent and Ministers to use their influence to carry the above rules, respecting building and renting houses for the Ministers and their families, into effect. In order to this, each Quarterly Official Meeting shall appoint a Committee (unless other measures have been adopted) who, with the advice and aid of the Superintendent and Ministers, shall devise such means as may seem fit to raise moneys for that purpose. And the Annual Conferences shall make special inquiry of their members respecting this part of their duty. In case of the division of Circuits, in any form involving separate claims on parsonage property, and where an amicable settlement cannot be reached in any other way, it shall be the duty of each Quarterly Official Meeting concerned to appoint an arbitrator; these two thus chosen shall choose a third, to whom the whole case shall be submitted. In case either of the Circuits concerned fails to appoint an arbitrator, or the two chosen fail to agree upon a third, within one year after said division, it shall be the duty of the District Superintendent to appoint one. The decision of the arbitrators shall be in all cases final.

SECTION II.—CHURCHES AND CHURCH PROPERTY.

1. Let all our churches be built plain and decent, and not more expensive than is absolutely necessary.

§ 1. In order more effectually to prevent our people from contracting debts which they are not able to discharge, the erection of no new church on a circuit shall be proceeded

with without the approval of the Quarterly Official Meeting of the Circuit in which such building is to be erected.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the Quarterly Official Meeting of every Circuit, where it is contemplated to build a church or churches, to secure the ground or lot on which such church or churches are to be built, according to our deed of settlement, which deed must be legally executed; and also, said Quarterly Official Meeting shall appoint a judicious Committee of at least three members of our Church, who shall form an estimate of the amount necessary to build; and three-fourths of the money, according to such estimate, shall be secured or subscribed before any such building shall be commenced.

§ 3. All Church property must be legally secured, and the deed registered within one year after its execution.

2. In future, we will admit no charter, deed, or conveyance, for any church to be used by us, unless it be provided in such charter, deed, or conveyance, that the Trustees of the said church shall, at all times, permit such Ministers and Preachers belonging to the Methodist Church, as shall from time to time be duly authorized by the Conference or by the Ministers of our Church, to preach and expound God's Holy Word, and to execute the Discipline of the Church, and to administer the sacraments therein, according to the true meaning and purport of our deed of settlement.

SECTION III.—RECORD OF CHURCH PROPERTY.

1. In order to prevent forgetfulness and loss of Church property, a correct inventory of all our property, whether lands, churches, parsonages, or furniture, shall be kept.

2. The Book Steward, for the time being, shall be the Registrar, and shall provide and keep a proper book for the purpose, which book shall be laid before the General Conference for the inspection of its members.

3. Each Superintendent shall return a list and description of all Church property within his Circuit, Station, or Mission to the Annual District Meeting next preceding the

meeting of the General Conference, according to the General Conference Schedule; also the exact locality and other information needful, and whether, and where, the deeds are registered.

SECTION IV.—OF TRUSTEES.

1. When a new Board of Trustees is to be created, it shall be done by the appointment of the Quarterly Official Meeting, upon the nomination of the Superintendent of the Circuit, and shall consist of *not less than seven, nor more than twenty-one.*

2. No person shall be eligible as a Trustee to any of our churches, parsonages, schoolhouses, burial-grounds, or other property, who is not *a member of our Church.*

3. No person who is a Trustee shall be ejected while he is in joint security for money, unless such relief be given him as is demanded, or as the creditor will accept.

4. When and so often as one or more of the said Trustees, or of their successors in the said trust, shall die, withdraw, or cease to be a member or members of the Methodist Church, according to the Rules and Discipline of the said Church, the vacant place of the Trustee or Trustees so dying, withdrawing, or ceasing to be a member or members of the said Church, shall be filled with a successor or successors, being a member or members of the said Church, of the full age of twenty-one years, to be nominated and appointed as follows: that is to say,--to be nominated by the Minister having charge for the time being of the Circuit in which the said premises shall be situate, and thereupon appointed by the surviving or remaining Trustee or Trustees of the said trust, or a majority of them, if he or they shall think proper to appoint the person or persons so nominated, and, in case of an equal division of the votes of the Trustees present, at any meeting of the Trustees held for the purpose of such appointment, the Minister in charge of the said Circuit shall have a casting vote in such appointment; and if it shall happen at any time that there shall not be two surviving Trustees of the said trust, in every such case it

shall and may be lawful for the Minister aforesaid to nominate, and the Quarterly Official Meeting of the Circuit, if they approve of the persons so nominated, to appoint the requisite number of Trustees, the said Trustees of the said trust, by a vote of the majority of the members of the said meeting then present; and in case of an equal division of their votes, the Chairman of the said meeting shall have the casting vote in such appointment, and the person or persons so nominated and appointed Trustee or Trustees in either of the said modes of nomination and appointment, shall be the legal successor or successors of the said above-named Trustees, and shall have in perpetual succession the same capacities, powers, rights and duties, as belonged to and were exercised by the original Trustees.

SECTION V.—OF KEEPING TRUSTEES' RECORDS.

"*It shall be the duty of the Trustees, for the time being, to keep a book of record, in which the name or names of any person or persons nominated and appointed successors, and also the names of the persons so nominating and appointing them shall be entered, and the said entry be subscribed by the said nominators and appointers.*"

CHAPTER III.

SECTION I.—OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES.

1. The boundaries of Annual Conferences shall be determined by the General Conference.

2. There shall be ten annual Conferences in our work, viz.: London, Guelph, Niagara, Toronto, Bay of Quinte, Montreal, Manitoba, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland.

a. (For Boundaries, etc., see Report on Annual Conference Boundaries, page 157).

b. (For composition of Annual Conferences, see Report on Annual Conferences, page 163).

SECTION II.—OF THE FORMATION OF DISTRICTS AND CIRCUITS.

1. Districts are to be formed according to the judgment of the Stationing Committee.

2. Circuits are to be formed by the Stationing Committee, on the recommendation of the District Meeting: *Provided, nevertheless*, that Circuits supporting their own Ministers, or Probationers for the Ministry, shall not be divided till such divisions have been approved of by their respective Quarterly Official Meetings, and their approval signified in writing by the Recording Steward; or otherwise by a *two-thirds* vote of the Annual District Meeting, when the Laymen are present.

3. On the division of a Circuit, no Minister who has travelled successively the three preceding years on such Circuit shall be appointed to either part of it: nevertheless, this rule shall not apply to those places which may be transferred in adjusting the work by the Annual District Meeting, which transfer has been sanctioned by the Stationing Committee.

4. No new Mission shall be established unless by a vote of the Annual Conference within whose boundary the Mission is proposed.

CHAPTER I.—ON RITUAL.

SECTION I.—ORDER OF BAPTISM.

(I.) *The Ministration of Baptism to Infants.*

The Minister shall say to the Congregation:

Dearly beloved, forasmuch as our Lord Jesus Christ gave commandment to His Church to make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; and, whereas, these persons here present do bring this child, and do now present him for holy baptism, let us, being gathered together in the

name of Christ and in obedience to His command, hear for our instruction and encouragement in this service the teachings of His Holy Word.

"Jesus came to them and spake unto them, saying, All authority hath been given unto me in heaven and upon earth. Go ye, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."—Matt. xxviii. 18-20.

"They brought unto him little children, that he should touch them: and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was moved with indignation, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me; forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall in no wise enter therein. And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them."—Mark x. 13-16.

"The promise is unto you and to your children, and to all that are afar off."—Acts ii. 39.

Hear also the words of the Lord from the Old Testament:

"And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee."—Genesis xvii. 7.

"I will pour out my Spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring."—Isaiah xliv. 3.

"Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness and from all your idols will I cleanse you."—Ezekiel xxxvi. 25.

Then shall the Minister say,

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who of thy great mercy hast condescended to enter into covenant relations with

man, wherein Thou hast included children as partakers of its gracious benefits, declaring that of such is thy kingdom; and in thy ancient Church didst appoint divers baptisms, figuring thereby the renewing of the Holy Ghost; and by thy well-beloved Son Jesus Christ gavest commandment to thy holy apostles to go into all the world and disciple all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: We beseech thee, that of thine infinite mercy Thou wilt look upon this child: wash *him* and sanctify *him;* that *he*, being saved by thy grace, may be received into Christ's holy Church, and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, may so overcome the evils of this present world, that finally *he* may attain to everlasting life, and reign with Thee, world without end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

O merciful God, grant that all carnal affections may die in this child, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in him. AMEN.

Grant that *he* may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph against the devil, the world, and the flesh. AMEN.

Grant that the parents of this child may have grace, that they may ever set before *him* the example of a godly life, and by their prayers and holy conversation may be the ministers of God to him for good. AMEN.

Grant that whosoever is dedicated to Thee by our office and ministry may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded through thy mercy. O blessed Lord God, who dost live and govern all things, world without end. AMEN.

Then shall the Minister add:

Dearly beloved, forasmuch as this child is now presented by you for Christian Baptism, you must remember that it is your part and duty to see that he be taught, as soon as he shall be able to learn, the nature and end of this holy Sacrament, and all those truths of the Holy Scriptures, which reveal our duty and God's will concerning us. Bring

him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, so that he may be brought to lead a virtuous and holy life, and, being sheltered from the dangers and temptations of the world, and kept safe from ungodly teaching and example, may be led to trust in Christ his Saviour, and abide through life a faithful member of his holy Church.

Ques. Do you, therefore, solemnly engage to fulfil these duties so far as in you lies, the Lord being your helper?

Ans. We do.

Then the Minister shall take the Child in his arms, and say to the parents or friends of the Child—NAME THIS CHILD, *and then, naming it after them, he shall baptize the Child, saying:*

N., I baptize thee into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

We receive this child into the congregation of Christ's flock, that he may be instructed and trained in the doctrines, privileges, and duties of the Christian religion, and trust that *he* will be Christ's faithful soldier and servant unto his life's end.

The Minister may close with extempore prayer:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. AMEN.

(II.) *The Ministration of Baptism to such as are of riper years.*

The Minister shall say to the Congregation:

Dearly beloved, forasmuch as our Lord Jesus Christ gave commandment to His Church to make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; and, forasmuch as *this person* here present, not having been baptized in his infancy, seeks now in the presence of this congregation to be admitted into Christ's Church, through the ordinance which

He hath appointed for that end; let us, being gathered together in the name of Christ, and in obedience to His command, hear, for our instruction and encouragement, the teaching of His Holy Word concerning this sacrament.

"All authority hath been given unto me," saith our Saviour Christ, "in heaven and on earth. Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I command you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."—Matt. xxviii. 18-20.

"Repent," said the holy Apostle Peter, "and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."—Acts ii. 38.

"Ananias....said...Brother Saul,....why tarriest thou? Arise and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."—Acts xxii. 12-16.

"Know ye not," saith St. Paul, "that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."—Romans vi. 3-4.

And again the same Apostle saith, "Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead."—Col. ii. 12.

Then the Minister shall speak to the person to be baptized on this wise:

Well beloved, *thou hast* been instructed, according to Christ's commandment, in the principles of His doctrine, and by thy coming hither desiring to receive His holy baptism *dost* solemnly profess, before God and this congregation, *thy* belief in the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost, into whose name *thou art* about to be baptized, and dost confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus. *Thou hast* heard the command of God by the mouth of his Apostle, Repent, and

be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ; and the words spoken to Saul of Tarsus, Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord. Thou art also reminded that all such as are baptized into Jesus Christ are joined unto Him in one Spirit. *Thou* must therefore, for thy part, declare thy faith in Christ, and must promise in the presence of this congregation that thou wilt, by the grace of God, renounce the devil and all his works, and wilt steadfastly believe God's holy promises, and obediently keep his commandments.

Then shall the Minister demand of each of the persons to be baptized, severally:

Ques. Dost thou renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the carnal desires of the flesh, so that thou wilt not follow nor be led by them?

Ans. I renounce them all.

Ques. Dost thou believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth? and in Jesus Christ His only begotten Son our Lord? and that He was conceived of the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary? that He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried? that He rose again the third day? that He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, and from thence He shall come again, at the end of the world, to judge the quick and the dead? And dost thou believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Catholic Church; the Communion of Saints; the Remission of Sins; the Resurrection of the Body, and everlasting life after death?

Ans. All this I steadfastly believe.

Ques. Will thou be baptized in this faith?

Ans. This is my desire.

Ques. Wilt thou, then, obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of thy life?

Ans. I will endeavor so to do, God being my helper.

Then shall the Minister ask the name of the person to be baptized, and repeating the same shall baptize him, saying:

N, I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. AMEN.

After which he shall say,

Grant, O merciful Father, that this person whom we now receive into thy Church by baptism may never hereafter be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified, and manfully fight under His banner against sin, the world and the devil; and that he may continue Christ's faithful soldier and servant unto his life's end. AMEN.

After which the Minister shall say:

Almighty and everlasting God, our heavenly Father, we give thee humble thanks for that thou hast vouchsafed to call us to the knowledge of thy grace and faith in thee. Give thy Holy Spirit to *this person*, that he may be made *an heir* of everlasting salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. AMEN.

Grant that all carnal affections may die in *him*, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *him*. AMEN.

Grant that *he* may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph against the devil, the world, and the flesh. AMEN.

Grant that *he*, being dedicated to thee by our office and ministry, may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded, through thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live and govern all things, world without end. AMEN.

Grant, O merciful Father, that this person, whom we now receive into thy Church by baptism, may never hereafter be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified, and manfully fight under his banner against sin, the world, and the devil; and that he may continue Christ's faithful soldier and servant unto his life's end. AMEN.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. AMEN.

Then the Minister, speaking to the newly-baptized, shall say:

Dear *Brother, thou hast* now been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus: I exhort *thee* to bear in mind that it is *thy* part and duty to walk answerably to thy high and holy calling, as becometh the child of light, blameless and harmless, without rebuke in the midst of an ungodly world; remembering always that baptism representeth unto us our profession; which is to follow the example of our Saviour Christ, and to be made like unto him, that as he died and rose again for us, so should we that are baptized die to sin and rise again unto righteousness; continually mortifying all our evil and corrupt affections, and daily proceeding in all virtue and godliness of living.

The Minister may conclude the Service with exhortation and extemporary prayer.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with you all. *Amen.*

SECTION II.—RECEPTION OF MEMBERS.

Form of Receiving Persons into the Church after Probation.

Upon the day appointed, all that are to be received shall be called forward, and the Minister, addressing the Congregation, shall say:

Dearly beloved brethren, the Scriptures teach us that the Church is the household of God, the body of which Christ is the Head, and that it is the design of the Gospel, to bring together, in one, all who are in Christ. The fellowship of the Church is the communion which its members enjoy one with another. The ends of this fellowship are the maintenance of sound doctrine, and of the ordinance of

Christian worship, and the exercise of that power of godly admonition and discipline which Christ has committed to His Church for the promotion of holiness.

It is the duty of all men to unite in this fellowship, for it is only those that be "planted in the house of the Lord, that shall flourish in the courts of our God." Their more particular *duties* are to promote peace and unity; to bear one another's burdens; to prevent each other's stumbling; to seek the intimacy of friendly society among themselves; to continue steadfast in the faith and worship of the Gospel; and to pray and sympathize with each other. Among their *privileges* are peculiar incitements to holiness from the hearing of God's Word, and sharing in Christ's ordinances; the being placed under the watchful care of pastors, and the enjoyment of the blessings which are only promised to those who are of the household of faith. Into this holy fellowship the persons before you who have already received the sacrament for three months on trial, come seeking admission. We now propose, in the fear of God, to question them as to their faith and purposes, that you may know that they are proper persons to be admitted into the Church.

Then the Minister may address the applicants in the following or similar language:

Dearly beloved, you come hither seeking the great privilege of union with the Church our Saviour has purchased with his own blood. We rejoice in the grace of God vouchsafed unto you in that he has called you to be his followers, and thus far you have run well. You have heard how blessed are the privileges, and how solemn are the duties of membership in Christ's Church; and before you are fully admitted thereto, it is proper that you do here publicly renew your vows, confess your faith, and declare your purposes, by answering the following questions:—

Ques. Do you here, in the presence of God and of this congregation, renew the solemn consecration of yourself to God, and take upon you the sacred obligations involved and set forth in the holy ordinance of Baptism, and do you pur-

pose that in heart and life, in death and for ever, you will be a true servant of God and of Christ?

Ans. I do—such is my purpose, by God's help.

Ques. Do you believe in our Lord Jesus Christ, as the only, and all-sufficient, propitiation for the sins of mankind, and do you look to Him for the remission of sin and eternal life?

Ans. Such is my faith and hope.

Ques. Do you believe in the inspiration and divine authority of the Holy Scriptures, and accept the same as a sufficient rule of faith and practice?

Ans. I do.

Ques. Will you cheerfully be governed by the rules of the Methodist Church, hold sacred the ordinances of God, and endeavour as much as in you lies, to promote the welfare of your brethren, and the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom?

Ans. I will.

Ques. Will you contribute of your earthly substance, according to your ability, to the support of the Gospel and the various benevolent enterprises of the Church?

Ans. I will.

Then the Minister, addressing the Church, shall say:

Brethren, you have heard the responses given to our inquiries. Have any of you any reason to allege why these persons should not be received into full membership in the Church?

No objection being alleged, the Minister shall say to the Candidates:

We welcome you to the Communion of the Church of God; and, in testimony of our Christian affection and the cordiality with which we receive you, I hereby extend to you the right hand of fellowship; and may God grant that you may be a faithful and useful member of the Church militant, until you are called to the fellowship of the Church triumphant, which is "without fault before the throne of God."

Then shall the Minister offer extempore prayer.

SECTION III.—THE LORD'S SUPPER.

Order for Administration of the Lord's Supper.

While the collection for the poor is being taken up, the Minister shall say one or more of these sentences:

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."—Matt. v. 16.

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal."—Matt. vi. 19, 20.

"Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, even so do to them; for this is the law and the prophets."—Matt. vii. 12.

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."—Matt. vii. 21.

"Zaccheus stood forth and said unto the Lord, Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have done any wrong to any man I restore him fourfold."—Luke xix. 8.

"He that soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he that soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Let every man do according as he is disposed in his heart; not grudgingly, or of necessity, for God loveth a cheerful giver."—2 Cor. ix. 6, 7.

"As we have therefore opportunity let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."—Gal. vi. 10.

"Godliness with contentment is great gain; for we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain that we can carry nothing out."—1 Tim. vi. 6, 7.

"Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living

God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life."—1 Tim. vi. 17-19.

"For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister."—Heb. vi. 10.

"But to do good, and to communicate, forget not; for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."—Heb. xiii. 16.

"But whoso hath this world's goods, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?"—1 John iii. 17.

"He that hath pity upon the poor, lendeth to the Lord; and that which he hath given will he pay him again."—Prov. xix. 17.

"Blessed is he that considereth the poor; the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble."—Psalm xli. 1.

While these sentences are being read, some fit person, appointed for that purpose, shall receive the alms for the poor; and then bring them to the Minister, who shall place them upon the table.

After which the Minister shall say:

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways; draw near with faith and take this holy sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

Then shall this general confession be made by the Minister in the name of all those that are minded to receive the Holy Communion, both he and all the people devoutly kneeling and saying:

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins, which we from time to time most griev-

ously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy Divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please Thee in newness of life, to the honour and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Then shall the Minister say:

O Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy great mercy hast promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto thee; have mercy upon us; pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

The Collect.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee and worthily magnify thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Then shall the Minister say:

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee and saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. AMEN.

We do not presume to come to this Thy table, O merciful God, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather

up the crumbs under Thy table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink His blood, that our sinful souls and bodies may be made clean by His death, and washed through His most precious blood, that we may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us. AMEN.

Then the Minister shall offer the Prayer of Consecration as followeth:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by His oblation of Himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; and did institute and in His holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that His precious death, until His coming again: hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee, and grant that we, receiving these Thy creatures of bread and wine, according to Thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of His death and passion, may be partakers of His most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that He was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. Likewise after supper He took the cup; and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; this do ye, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me. AMEN.

Then shall the Minister or Ministers first receive the Communion in both kinds: and proceed to deliver the same to the people also, in order, into their uncovered hands. And when he delivereth the bread he shall say:.

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for *thee*, preserve *thy soul* and *body* unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for *thee*, and feed on him in *thy heart* by faith, with thanksgiving.

And the Minister that delivereth the cup shall say:

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for *thee*, preserve *thy soul* and *body* unto everlasting life. Drink of this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for *thee*, and be thankful.

If the consecrated bread or wine be all spent before all have communed, the Minister may consecrate more by repeating the Prayer of Consecration.

When all have communed, the Minister shall return to the Lord's Table, and place upon it what remaineth of the consecrated elements, covering the same with a fair linen cloth.

Then may the Minister say the Lord's Prayer: the people repeating after him every petition.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. AMEN.

After which may be said as followeth:

O Lord, our heavenly Father, we thy humble servants desire thy Fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of His passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching Thee that all we who are partakers of this holy communion may be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction. And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through

Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN.

Then may be said:

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son; Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. AMEN.

Then the Minister, if he see it expedient, may offer an extempore prayer; and afterwards shall let the people depart with this blessing:

May the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost be amongst you, and remain with you always. AMEN.

N.B.—If the Minister be straitened for time, he may omit any part of the Service, except the Prayer of Consecration.

REPORT No. VII.

COURT OF APPEAL.

1. The Court of Appeal shall consist of the General Superintendents and twelve other persons—six ministers and six laymen—to be elected by ballot from twelve ministers and twelve laymen, to be nominated by the General Superintendents.

2. The Court shall hear and determine appeals—

(*a*) From decisions of the Presiding Officers of the Annual Conferences on questions of law arising therein.

(*b*) From decisions of General Superintendents on questions of law arising in the Committees and Boards over which they preside.

3. The Court shall elect its own Secretary by ballot.

4. A majority of those present shall be necessary to render a decision, but such majority shall not be less than five.

5. No member of the Court of Appeal who is personally interested in an appeal, shall sit on the case. On appellant or respondent objecting on this ground, the remaining members of the Court shall determine whether he is thus disqualified.

6. Any person or Church court appealing to the Court of Appeal shall have the right to appear before the Court in person, or by representative, to prosecute such appeal; the same right shall be accorded to the respondent, but in every case such representative shall be an accredited member of the Methodist Church.

7. In all cases of appeal notice shall be given by the party appealing to the President of the General Conference who shall, after notice of appeal, assemble the Court as soon as possible.

8. In all cases unprovided for, the Court shall have power to frame rules of order for itself.

9. The Court shall keep a full and correct record of its proceedings during the current quadrennium, and shall report its proceedings to the next General Conference.

10. Any questions of law arising in the Annual Conference during its sessions shall be determined by the General Superintendent or President presiding, but any member of the Conference may appeal from such decision to the Court of Appeal. The President of an Annual Conference shall also have authority to decide questions of law arising

in the Conference Committees over which he presides, but any member of such Committee shall have right to appeal to the Court of Appeal.

11. Any question of law arising in any of the Committees or Boards over which he presides, shall be decided by the General Superintendent presiding; but any member of such Committee or Board, or any minister or member whose interests are affected by such decision, shall have the right to appeal to the Court of Appeal.

F. CHISHOLM, *Sec. Committee.*

REPORT NO. VIII.

Your Committee beg to report as follows:

We recommend the adoption of the Ritual of the Methodist Church of Canada on the following Sections, with eliminations and additions noted:

SECTION IV.—MATRIMONY.

Except the adoption of the words "*obey*" and "*serve*," as found in the pledge given by the woman; and also the word "*obey*," wherein the Minister repeats said pledge.

("*I, N, take thee*," *etc.*)

SECTION V.—ON "BURIAL OF THE DEAD."

SECTION VI.—OF RITUAL ON ORDINATION.

SECTION VII.—ON RENEWING THE COVENANT.

Except in Section 3, from "As a poor captive exile," in lines 2 and 3, to "If you stay where you are, you perish;" and also from "This is closing with Christ as your Priest," on page 202 (Discipline, 1879) to Section 4, on page 206.

SECTION VIII.—ON LAYING A CORNER STONE.

SECTION IX.—ON DEDICATION OF A CHURCH.

Recommendation.

1. Your Committee refer the preparation of deed of Church property to the Committee on Legislation.

2. On the motion of Mr. Kent, which was referred to your Committee, we recommend to add to the duties of Superintendents of Circuits:—To encourage, in all proper cases, field-meetings and open air meetings on his charge, and also camp-meetings, as a Circuit or union of Circuits may in their Quarterly Meetings determine.

Respectfully submitted.

F. CHISHOLM, *Secretary.*

APPENDIX No. III.

THE BASIS OF UNION

BETWEEN

THE METHODIST CHURCH OF CANADA, THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CANADA, THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH IN CANADA, AND THE BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF CANADA, AS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, IN SEPTEMBER, 1883.

I. Doctrines, General Rules, Ordinances, etc.

The Doctrinal Basis of the United Church shall be the Standards of Doctrine and Articles of Religion contained in the Book of Discipline of the Methodist Church of Canada, edition of 1879, from p. 13 to p. 21. That portion of the Book of Discipline of the said Methodist Church of Canada, edition of 1879, from p. 21 to p. 33, referring to General Rules, Ordinances Reception of Members, and Means of Grace, is also adopted as part of the Basis.

II. Church Government.

(1) *The General Conference.*

1. There shall be a Quadrennial General Conference, composed of an equal number of Ministerial and Lay Delegates, elected as hereinafter provided, with power to make rules and regulations for the entire Church. (See "Annual Conferences," par. 9).

2. No change shall be made in the Basis of Union, affecting constitutional questions, or the rights and privileges of Ministry or Laity, except by a three-fourths majority of the General Conference, and, if required by either order of Ministry or Laity, a two-thirds majority of each order, voting separately.

3. There shall be one or more Itinerant General Superintendents elected by the General Conference, to hold office for the term of eight years. But if it be decided at the meeting of the General Conference after Union to elect two General Superintendents, one of them shall be elected for four years only, so that there may be a recurring election or re-election every four years.

4. A General Superintendent shall preside over all Sessions of the General Conference, and over all Standing Committees of the same.

(2) *Annual Conferences.*

1. The territory occupied by the Church shall be divided into Conferences as the General Conference may from time to time direct.

2. Each Annual Conference shall be composed of all Ministers in full connexion within its bounds, and an equal number of Laymen, elected as elsewhere provided. (See "District Meetings," par. 6).

3. Laymen elected shall 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. In case any Minister's character shall be arrested, it shall be competent for the ministerial members to meet in Special Session to examine into the case and pronounce judgment, reporting their action to the Mixed Conference,—such report to be for information and record, and not for discussion.

4. Each Annual Conference shall have authority to elect a President from among its ministerial members.

5. 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.

6. The President of the Annual Conference shall be *ex-officio* Superintendent of the District in which he may be stationed during the year of his presidency.

7. The Annual Conference shall elect by ballot, without debate, a Secretary or Secretaries as the case may require.

8. The Annual Conference shall elect by ballot, without debate, a Superintendent for each District from among the ordained Ministers within the bounds of such District.

9. Each Annual Conference, at its Session next preceding the Session of each General Conference, shall divide into Ministerial and Lay Electoral Conferences, for the purpose of electing Delegates to the General Conference, each body electing its own Representatives. The Delegates shall be elected from within the bounds of said Conference, and the vote shall be by ballot.

10 Each Annual Conference shall have a Stationing Committee, composed of the President of the Conference (who shall preside in the Committee), the Superintendents of Districts, and one Minister elected by each District Meeting, such election to be by the joint votes of Ministers and Laymen.

11. Each Annual Conference shall have authority to elect into full connexion and ordain any Probationer within its bounds who has travelled four years and fulfilled all disciplinary requirements. Also, to elect and ordain Probationers of less than four years' standing, when the necessities of the work require it.

12. All preachers who have received ordination in any of the uniting bodies, and are in good standing at the time of the Union, shall retain all rights and privileges conferred by such ordination.

(3) *District Meetings.*

1. The territory occupied by each Annual Conference shall be divided into Districts.

2. Each Annual District Meeting shall consist of all the Ministers and Probationers for the ministry within its bounds, and one Lay Delegate for each Minister or Probationer in the active work, from each Circuit, Mission, or Station throughout the District; said Delegates to be elected by the Quarterly Meetings as hereinafter provided.

3. Each District shall be under the Supervision of a presiding officer, to be called the District Superintendent, who shall be elected by the Annual Conference, as elsewhere provided. He

shall preside in the District Meetings, oversee the temporal and spiritual interests of the Church in his District ; and, with the Ministers and Probationers under his charge, shall administer and enforce the Discipline of the Church, being responsible therefor to the Annual Conference.

4. The District Superintendent shall fix the time and place of the *first* District Meeting, after which he shall fix the time, and the District Meeting shall fix the place. In the absence of the District Superintendent, the District Meeting shall elect from among its ministerial members, by ballot, without debate, a Chairman *pro tem.*

5. The examination of ministerial character shall be the business of the first day of the District Meeting, and shall be confined to the ministerial members alone.

6. The Lay Members of the District Meeting shall meet separately sometime during the Session, and elect by ballot, without debate, Lay Representatives to the Annual Conference, 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.

(4) *Quarterly Meetings.*

1. There shall be a Quarterly Official Meeting on each Circuit, Mission or Station, consisting of the Ministers and Probationers for the Ministry, the Local Preachers, the Exhorters, the Circuit Stewards, the Leaders of Classes, the Superintendents of Sabbath Schools (being members of the Church), one Representative from each Board of Trustees (he being a member of the Church) ; and also of additional Representatives who may have been appointed by the Societies of the Circuit. The apportionment, scale, and mode of election, shall be arranged by the fourth Quarterly Meeting of the year ; but such additional Representatives shall not exceed the number of the Stewards on the Circuit.

2. The Superintendent of the Circuit shall be the Chairman of the Quarterly Meeting, except when the Superintendent of the District shall be present, in which case the latter may preside.

3. The Quarterly Meeting shall hear complaints, and receive and try appeals ; recommend Candidates for the Ministry ; manage and control Circuit finances ; and discharge such other duties as the General Conference may from time to time determine.

4. The Quarterly Meeting shall, at the fourth regular meeting of the year, elect by ballot, without debate, the Lay Delegates to attend the ensuing Annual District Meeting, in the proportion of one Delegate for each Minister or Probationer in the active work on the Circuit.

NOTE.—Regulations concerning the Licensing of Local Preachers and Exhorters are referred to the first General Conference.

III. CHURCH PROPERTY.

1. Upon the ratification of the Union, such legislation shall be obtained from Legislatures having competent jurisdiction, as shall vest in the United Church all property now held by, or in trust for, the respective Churches entering into the Union.

2. As it is probable that in some instances Church and Parsonage property now in use will not be required, after the Union, for Church or Circuit purposes, it is recommended that a Committee, consisting of the District Superintendent, two Ministers and two Laymen, be appointed at the District Meeting on each District where any such property may be situated, who shall act conjointly with the Trustees on each Circuit in determining what property shall be retained for use, and what shall be sold.

3. 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.

NOTE.—The regulations contained in Clause 3 and its subsections, in so far as they apply to property held by the Bible Christian Church, shall be subject to the regulations adopted in regard to Church funds respecting the debt of the Missionary Fund of said Church.

IV. CHURCH FUNDS.

(I.) *The Superannuation Fund.*—There shall be in the United Church, a Superannuated Ministers' Fund for the Western Conferences, and a Supernumerary Ministers' Fund for the three

Conferences in the Maritime Provinces, which funds shall, for the present, be under the management of separate Boards, as has been the practice in the Methodist Church of Canada. As no change is deemed necessary in regard to the Supernumerary Fund of the Eastern Conferences, the recommendations which follow, save the final one, are to be understood as referring solely to the Superannuation Fund of the Western Conferences.

2. The Methodist Church of Canada having an invested capital for the three Western Conferences of over $91,000, it is agreed that the other Churches uniting shall supply such an amount of capital to said Superannuation Fund as shall place their Ministers on an equality with the Ministers of the said three Western Conferences.

3. No change shall be made in regard to the claims of any Minister holding a permanent Superannuated relation at the present time (*i.e.* 1882); and they shall receive on the basis of their present claims as far as the annual income will allow.

4. Income arising from Annual Collections and Subscriptions in all Congregations of the United Church, Annual Subscriptions by Ministers of the same, and any amount appropriated from time to time out of the funds of the Missionary Society, shall be used in meeting payments to all claimants on the fund, without distinction.

5. Income arising from the invested capital now held by the Methodist Church of Canada for this fund, and the amount annually received from the profits of the Toronto Book Room (until such time as the Publishing Interests of the other uniting Churches shall be amalgamated, and their assets equalized, with those of said Book Room), shall be used exclusively for the benefit of the claimants on the Superannuation Fund now connected with the Methodist Church of Canada, and the claims of Ministers now in the active work of that Church who may become Superannuated after the Union.

6. The rule adopted above, in clause 5, shall apply, in the case of the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist, and Bible Christian Churches, in regard to any Book Room or other assets available for their respective Superannuation Funds, until the amalgamation referred to in said clause is accomplished.

7. So soon as the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist, or Bible Christian Churches shall furnish an amount of capital equal, in proportion, to that now held by the Methodist Church of Canada, the Superannuated Ministers of such uniting Churches, nd those who may become Superannuates after Union, shall

have a claim on the proceeds of the whole invested capital in common with those who are now Ministers of the Methodist Church of Canada.

8. If the income of any year shall not be sufficient to meet the claims in full, then all claimants shall share in the deficiency in proportion to the amount of their claim.

9. If any one of the three uniting Churches aforesaid shall fail to provide its full proportion of invested capital, Ministers of these Churches who are now, or may hereafter become, Superannuates, shall draw in proportion to the amount of capital actually provided.

10. In case of failure by any of the Churches above mentioned to provide invested capital, it shall be competent for any Minister of such Churches to provide his individual share of such capital, and thereafter to draw from the proceeds of the investments in the same manner as Superannuates of the present Methodist Church of Canada. This latter provision shall apply to any Minister now on the Superannuated lists of the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist, or Bible Christian Churches.

11. The principles embodied in the foregoing regulations shall be applied in adjusting the relations to the Supernumerary Ministers' Fund of the three Eastern Conferences, of any Ministers of the Bible Christian Church who may be included by the Union in any of the said Conferences.

[NOTE.—A Committee has been appointed, with power to employ an actuary if necessary, to make a careful estimate of the value of existing investments belonging to the Superannuation Funds, and report at the first General Conference.]

(II.) *The Missionary Fund.*—1. On the consummation of the Union there shall be one Missionary Fund for the whole Church.

2. The Missionary Society of the Methodist Church of Canada having no debt, and the income and expenditure being equal, no recommendation is necessary.

3. The Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church has a debt of $10,000, incurred in the purchase of property and the erection of churches in Manitoba, the property being held by the Society as security for the debt. This debt is to be liquidated out of the assets of the Society before the consummation of the Union.

4. The Missionary Society of the Bible Christian Church has a debt of $21,080, less about $3,000 on which annuities are paid at 6 per cent. per annum, which annuities will probably cease in

a few years. As this debt was incurred in the purchase and erection of Mission Churches and Parsonages, it is considered a legitimate claim against such property. It is therefore agreed that the next Annual Conference of the Bible Christian Church shall make arrangements to distribute the Missionary debt among the several properties, to erect or purchase which said debt has been incurred. And in case any property belonging to the Bible Christian Church be sold, the proceeds, after paying other debts of the Trust shall be applied to the reduction of the said Missionary debt.

5. The above-mentioned debts being provided for as aforesaid, the Churches included in the Union are to unite on equal terms.

(III.) *The Contingent Fund.*—As the Invested Capital of the Contingent Fund of the Methodist Church in Canada belongs to the three Western Conferences of that Church, it is agreed that it be left to the said Conferences to propose a plan for dealing with said investments, and report the same to the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada at the Special Session to be held before the Union is consummated. As the other Conferences and Churches have no such Invested Capital, all further action on the subject is referred to the first General Conference of the United Church.

(IV.) *The Children's Fund.*—As there are no Investments in connection with this fund in any of the Uniting Churches, it is agreed that the whole question be relegated to the first General Conference of the United Church to determine on what basis, if any, a Children's Fund shall be maintained.

V. Book and Publishing Interests.

1. The Halifax Book Room and weekly paper shall be continued as at present, on account of their geographical position.

2. The Toronto Book Room, with its various publications, will also be maintained; and no serious difficulty is apprehended in the way of consolidating the other publishing interests in the West at an early date after the Union is effected.

3. As the assets of the Book and Publishing House of the Methodist Church of Canada for the three Western Conferences, are larger in proportion to the number of Ministers in those Conferences than the similar assets of any of the other contracting parties, it is agreed that each Minister of the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist, and Bible Christian Churches, entering into

the Union, shall pay into the general Publishing Fund such a sum as will make his interest equal to the *per capita* interest of the Ministers of the three Western Conferences aforesaid.

4. In equalizing the *per capita* interest as above, payments may be made in cash, or by notes, payable in one or two years from the date of Union; such notes to bear interest at six per cent. per annum.

VI. Educational Interests.

1. The Methodist Church of Canada and the Methodist Episcopal Church have a number of Educational Institutions in successful operation. The Primitive Methodist and Bible Christian Churches have no such institutions in this country.

2. The Educational Institutions in the Maritime Conferences present no difficulty in the way of Union, and no change is recommended in their present relations.

3. In regard to the Western Conferences, it is believed that those institutions which possess University powers can be consolidated, to the honor of their graduates, and the advantage of their educational work.

4. It is recommended that the United Church adhere to the traditional policy of Methodism in regard to education, believing that the best interests of the Church and of education imperatively demand that our Colleges and Universities should be under the fostering care of the Church.

VII. Miscellaneous Recommendations.

1. *Composition of the First General Conference.*—The General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada having authorized the calling of a Special Session in 1883 to give effect to the Union provided a satisfactory basis is secured, it is recommended,

(*a*) That in case the Basis of Union is approved by the requisite majorities in the Quarterly Meetings and Annual Conferences of the Churches proposing to unite, it shall be competent for the Annual Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist, and Bible Christian Churches, to elect delegates to the First General Conference of the United Church, in the proportion of one out of ten Ministers in full connexion, with an equal number of Laymen, elected in Annual Conference or District Meeting as the case may be; and these, together with the Delegates composing the present General Conference of the Methodist

Church of Canada, meeting in joint session after the latter body shall have closed the Special Session above alluded to, shall compose the First General Conference of the said United Church, with power to perform such Acts as may be necessary to the final ratification of the Union, and all other Acts which come within the province of a General Conference.

(*b*) The Annual Conferences and District Meetings of the Methodist Church of Canada shall have authority to fill vacancies that may have occurred in their delegations, either lay or clerical, by the usual mode of election.

2. *Expenses of General Conference.*—If the Basis of Union be approved, it is recommended that the various Annual Conferences make provision for taking up a collection in every congregation for the expenses of the First General Conference.

3. *Transfer of Ministers.*—The Joint Committee recommends to the First General Conference the matter of making provision for the transfer of Ministers from one Conference to another, so as to give all reasonable facilities for meeting the wants of the work.

4. *Time of First General Conference.*—In the event of the Basis of Union being approved, it is recommended that the First General Conference of the United Church be held in the Methodist Episcopal Tabernacle, in the City of Belleville, on the first Wednesday in September, 1883, commencing at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

5. *Name.*—The adoption of a name for the United Church is referred to the First General Conference; but the Committee recommend that it be called "The Methodist Church."

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ADDENDA.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TRANSFERS.

An addition to this Report, as printed in Appendix No. II, moved by Mr. Brethour, will be found on p. 83.

COMMITTEE ON ANNUAL CONFERENCE BOUNDARIES.

The following Report of the Committee on Annual Conference Boundaries, which was adopted by the Conference, was overlooked in the preparation of the Journals:

That whereas there are Bible Christian Churches in Ohio and Wisconsin, U.S., 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.

A. LANGFORD, *Chairman.*
J. F. GERMAN, *Secretary.*

ERRATA.—On page 60 and 62, read "Annual Conferences and Ministerial Standing," and on page 170, read "*one* year," instead of "two years."

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