

THE METHODIST CONFERENCE OF N. B. AND P. E. I. IN SESSION AT FREDERICTON.

Synopsis of the Proceedings—A Review of the Principal Business Transacted—Total Membership of the Churches Nearly 11,500—The next Conference will meet in St. Stephen the 4th Wednesday in June—An Interesting Session and a Large Attendance.

(Fredericton Correspondence of the SENTINEL.)

Fredericton, June 24, 1890.

As indicated in a previous issue of the SENTINEL, the N. B. and P. E. I. Methodist Conference met in this city last Wednesday morning. Between 9 and 10 o'clock the hour was occupied by the customary prayer meeting after which the conference was formally opened for business. Dr. Carman presided, Rev. Mr. Cowperthwaite also occupying a seat on the platform. In answer to roll call by the secretary, Rev. Mr. Marshall, 64 ministers and 16 laymen signified their presence.

The standing committee had met the previous day and agreed upon the draft of station sheet, the Fredericton district of which is as follows:

11.—FREDERICTON DISTRICT.

- 18 Fredericton—Job Shenton; George B. Payson, supernumerary.
- 19 Kingsclear—W. P. Reed, under superintendency of Bro. Shenton.
- 20 Marysville—L. S. Johnson.
- 21 Gibson—John S. Phinney.
- 22 Nashwaak—T. L. Williams.
- 23 Stanley—S. Bailly, under superintendency of Bro. Williams.
- 24 Boiestown—William Wase.
- 25 Keswick—George F. Dawson, B. A.
- 26 Sheffield—Isaac Howie.
- 27 Gagetown—W. B. Thomas.
- 28 Woodstock—William Dobson.
- 29 Canterbury—M. R. Knight.
- 30 Jacksonville—Chas. Comben.
- 31 Hartland—H. Warman, under superintendency of Bro. Comben.
- 32 Richmond—Hibbert R. Barker, M. A.
- 33 Florenceville—Samuel Howard, B. A.
- 34 Andover } —Wm. E. Johnson, B. A.
- 35 Arthurette }
- 36 Upper Kent—L. J. Wasson.

The report of the transfer committee was made and the following changes reported: Rev. H. P. Cowperthwaite to the Newfoundland conference to take effect on June 24th, 1890, and Mr. Ernest S. Barker to the Manitoba conference to take effect June 5th, 1890.

Election of officers then took place, Rev. Howard Sprague being elected president of the conference, and Rev. Thomas Marshall, secretary.

Dr. Sprague in taking the chair made a short address expressing thanks for the honor conferred upon him.

It was resolved that the hours of the conference be from 9 to 12 a. m., and from 2 to 5 p. m.

Rev. S. L. Williams was appointed reporter for the Wesleyan.

Upon motion of Rev. Mr. Shenton, the order of business was then suspended in order to allow Miss Francis Willard and her secretary Miss Gordon, to address the conference, which they did in an appropriate and pleasing manner, Miss Willard being warm in her praise of the Methodist Church and its ministers for their good work.

The report of the committee appointed by the conference of N. S., N. B., P. E. I. and Newfoundland, which met at Sackville, Sept. 24th and 25th 1889, was submitted. The chief object of the committee was to deal with the supernumerary fund of which they recommended several changes in the constitution governing this fund. On motion the report was received.

Dr. Carman made a lengthy address and occupied the remainder of the session, dealing generally with the history of the Methodist Church in Canada. During the past year he reported that in all the departments of work the church had been unusually blessed. Speaking of prohibition he said he did not favor a separate party as no one knew where such a party would lead to. They should get good, honest men in parliament, who were strongly imbued with the principles of prohibition, and let the parties look after themselves. His remarks were enthusiastically received.

Rev. C. H. Paisley was appointed chairman of the nominating committee.

At the afternoon session the question of ministerial character was discussed.

W. F. Taylor, who had left the conference, was made a probationer.

A communication was read from Rev. Benj. Chappell, requesting a certificate of withdrawal from the conference, and also one from Rev. E. D. Moore, asking a transfer to the Indian missions. Both requests were granted.

Rev. H. S. Hartley made an address in behalf of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, following which was the subject of probationers.

F. A. Wightman and G. C. P. Palmer were admitted as probationers of the four year course; F. Frizzle and W. A. Taylor of the three year course; S. Howard, A. C. Dennis and N. McLaughlin of the two years course; W. C. Matthews, H. Warman, H. Gregg, S. A. Bailey, H. Harrison and A. D. McLeod of the one year course. H. Gilbert and L. J. Wasson were received on trial.

In the evening the conference missionary meeting was held in the church. Dr. Carman presided and addressed the meeting, creating a most favorable impression. Speeches were also delivered by Mrs. Cliff of the Women's Missionary Society, Rev. Dr. Wilson and others. The collection in aid of the W. M. Society, was large.

Thursday morning session of the conference was devoted chiefly to book room affairs.

Rev. S. F. Heustis, manager of the book room at Halifax, submitted a report of the organization for the year. The total business of the book room for the year was \$24,812.64 of which \$7,769.95 was for cash. Purchase of the year amounted to \$21,257.46. Stock on hand estimated at \$9,553.05. Net profit for the year was \$400. The business of the Wesleyan for the year was \$4,662.51, a decrease on the previous year of \$772.27. The circulation of the paper is about 3,300.

Mr. Heustis made a short speech in which he set forth the advantages of the institution, stating that the work of the past four years

had been encouraging but he hoped in the future to report a still greater increase.

Rev. Mr. Paisley moved a resolution expressive of the gratification with which the conference had listened to the report.

A discussion of an hour's duration took place regarding the case of a minister, F. M. Moore who had retired in 1868 through ill health and who had applied to the P. E. I. district last year to be reinstated on the Supernumerary list.

It was moved the matter be referred to a special committee.

The first work of the afternoon session was a discussion relative to the report of the nominating committee, which was finally adopted.

The president appointed a committee, with Dr. Stewart as convenor, on the General Conference funds.

The general superintendent, Dr. Carman, made a short address stating that he much regretted that circumstances compelled him to bid farewell to the conference. He expressed his thanks for the hearty reception given him and hoped that he would meet many of the brethren at the general conference.

President Sprague expressed his appreciation of the valuable services of Dr. Carman.

Rev. Mr. Paisley reported having concluded arrangements of a property matter at Bloomfield, for the conference.

It was moved and carried that Mr. Horton having left the Bocabec mission without authority be removed from the conference roll.

J. B. Gough was continued on trial as having travelled two years and George M. Young as having travelled one year. They are both from the Fredericton district.

Permission was given by conference to the chairman of the districts to employ during the year H. B. Gillespie, E. B. Gough, N. P. Reed and L. P. Wasson.

The following were recommended to attend the college: George M. Young, Henry Warman, J. S. G. egg, H. Harrison and A. D. McLeod.

Supernumeraries were named as follows: S. W. Sprague, Wm. Tweedie, James A. Duke, J. J. Colter, H. Daniel, J. R. Narraway, H. Pope D. D., E. Evans, George B. Payson, C. S. Wells, John Prince, A. E. LePage, W. B. Thomas, J. B. Jost, F. Smallwood, C. W. Dutcher, George Harrison and Joseph Pasco.

A resolution was moved and carried congratulating Rev. T. W. Smith on the completion of his history on "Methodism in Eastern British America."

Rev. Mr. Pascoe moved a resolution expressing appreciation of the eminent abilities and zealous work of Rev. Henry Daniel who during 1890 completes his 60th year of ministerial work—Carried unanimously.

The Eticational meeting was held in the evening. Rev. Dr. Stewart presided and able addresses were delivered by Rev. William Dobson, Rev. John Reed and Dr. Inch.

Friday morning the conference opened with the usual devotional exercises.

A communication giving Sunday School statistics was read from Rev. Dr. W. H. Withrow.

The work of the year has been most satisfactory. There are now 2922 Sunday Schools under the management of the general conference, including 27,238 teachers and 218,321 scholars. The sum of \$27,851 was raised for missions and \$114,527 for Sunday Schools. There has been a great increase in the circulation of Sunday School papers and Methodist magazines of which there are eight publications, aggregating \$316,450. The income of the Sunday School aid fund amounted to 10,337. The report was received.

A communication was read from D. H. Brettrom, secretary of the committee of general conference, enclosing copy of resolution on prohibition passed by the Presbyterian general assembly, and inviting the action of the conference thereon. Referred to temperance committee.

A communication from the Dominion Prohibitory Alliance, was read, requesting that a resolution favoring total prohibition of the liquor traffic be passed and a committee of four be appointed to meet with the Alliance on August 14th at Montreal. This was also referred to the temperance committee.

A report was submitted by Rev. James Crisp showing the total membership of the churches to be 11,369 and the value of church property \$914,980. Total amount raised for circuit purposes was \$4,906; total for ministerial purposes \$52,293. Some discussion was had as the returns were only approximately correct, but the report was finally adopted.

Rev. W. J. Kirby, secretary Sunday School committee, presented a report. There are in the conference 339 preaching appointments, 208 schools, 12,330 scholars and 1,584 teachers and officers. The report was received.

Rev. C. H. Paisley submitted the report of the supernumerary committee showing condition of the fund during the year.

At the afternoon session the deeds of the property at Bloomfield, Kings Co., were ordered to be placed in the hands of the proper parties.

The report of the Union Church Relief Fund was presented by Rev. Mr. Paisley, showing the receipts to be \$181.85 for the year.

The report of the General Conference Fund was submitted by Rev. Job Shenton, the receipts of which were \$275.56.

Rev. C. H. Paisley was appointed treasurer of the church relief fund and Rev. J. Shenton, treasurer of the general conference fund.

A vote of thanks was passed to Rev. H. P. Cowperthwaite for the efficient manner in which he had performed the duties of president during the year just passed.

The consideration of the supernumerary matter was then proceeded with.

The amount raised by the Fredericton district for ministerial support in the conference this year was \$10,940.21. Total for districts, \$52,293.53.

In the evening a public Sabbath School meeting was held. Rev. Henry Daniel presided and several interesting addresses were delivered.

Saturday morning the conference opened with usual formalities.

Rev. Mr. Campbell, chairman Temperance committee, submitted a report.

The special committee appointed in the case of Rev. F. W. Moore, presented their report stating that after a careful consideration they had resolved whatever claims Bro. Moore may have had had elapsed. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Dewart, editor of the *Christian Guardian*, of Toronto, was introduced and made a lengthy address.

The committee on general conference funds presented a report, recommending that a collection be made on the several circuits not later than the 27th July to provide for the balance of \$776.00 on the apportionment by general conference fund to the N. B. and P. E. I. conference. In the list compiled by the committee the following amounts for Fredericton district were recommended to be raised by the respective places by collection and subscription: Fredericton, \$35.00; Kingsclear, \$2.50; Marysville, \$35.00; Gibson, \$4.00; Nashwaak, \$5.00; Stanley, \$2.50; Boiestown, \$3.00; Keswick, \$3.00; Sheffield, \$5.00; Gagetown, \$3.00; Woodstock, \$12.50; Canterbury, \$2.50; Jacksonville, \$7.30; Hartland, \$2.50; Richmond, \$5.00; Florenceville, \$5.00; Andover, \$2.00; Upper Kent, \$2.50; Mirimachi, Chatham, \$12.30; Newcastle, \$7.30; and Derby, \$4.00.

It was resolved that the term "domestic missions" in the constitution of the sustentation fund be understood to include all circuits raising less than \$750.

It was authorized that Rev. E. Evans, the interim treasurer, have the right to receive and disburse monies out of the supernumerary fund.

The examination of Rev. G. O. P. Palmer and F. A. Wightman, by Dr. Stewart of Mount Allison, was next conducted. The former, who had already been ordained for special purposes, is to be received into full communion with the conference. Both passed satisfactory examinations, and it was ordered that F. A. Wightman also be received into full connection and ordained.

The first part of the afternoon session was devoted to the consideration of the report of the committees of the N. B., P. E. I. and N. S. conferences.

The nominating committee was instructed to appoint four representatives to attend the Dominion Alliance.

It was decided that the Conference meet next year on the fourth Wednesday in June.

In the evening a meeting was held for the promotion of Holiness. Rev. John S. Allen presided, quite a number of ministers participating in the services.

Sunday morning services began by a prayer meeting at 7 o'clock; the usual love feast taking place at 9.30, led by Rev. H. Daniel.

A large congregation listened to an excellent ordination sermon by Rev. H. P. Cowperthwaite, at the 11 o'clock service. This was followed by the ordination of Rev. F. A. Wightman by the president of the conference, Rev. Dr. Sprague, assisted by seven ministers.

In the afternoon a Sabbath school service was held and able addresses were made by Rev. J. O. Berrie, Rev. G. W. Fisher and others. The pulpit in the evening was occupied by the Rev. Dr. Dewart of Toronto, editor of the *Christian Guardian*, and the sacramental service at the close was conducted by Rev. Dr. Stewart. Nearly all the pulpits of the city, as well as most of the Methodist churches throughout the county, were filled by members of the conference, the congregations in every case being unusually large.

Monday the business of the conference was resumed.

Rev. Mr. Phinney, from the Fredericton district, presented a number of memorials and reports.

It was resolved the next conference be held in St. Stephen in 1891.

A congratulatory telegram was read from the Nova Scotia Conference.

Rev. Dr. Inch, of the educational committee, submitted a report and also gave a short address showing the workings of Mount Allison Academy. The Ladies College is the oldest in the Dominion. During the 28 years the college has been running they have had an endowment of over \$100,000.

Rev. Dr. Burwash, Dr. Stewart and Dr. Smith also addressed the conference on the subject.

A resolution was passed unanimously expressing the appreciation of the conference in having so distinguished a visitor as the editor of the *Christian Guardian*.

At the afternoon session the report of the Sunday school committee was read and adopted.

The Conference then elected delegates to attend the general conference at Montreal, the following clerical gentlemen being chosen: Messrs. Sprague, Stewart, Paisley, Evans, Marshall, Wilson, Clarke, Dobson and Deinstadt; reserve delegates, Messrs. Harrison and Chapman. Eleven lay delegates were elected, including the two reserved.

A public meeting was held in the evening in connection with the sustentation fund.—Rev. Mr. Paisley presided, and several interesting addresses were delivered by members of the conference.

(To be concluded next week.)

At the inquest in St. John to inquire into the cause of the death of Hugh Cameron, who was killed by a locomotive at Portland street crossing on the 17th inst, the jury returned the following verdict:—

We, the jury empanelled to enquire into the cause of the death of Hugh Cameron, find according to the evidence adduced, that the deceased met his death by being run over by a tender attached to locomotive No. 53, James R. Bartlett, engineer, on the New Brunswick railroad, at Portland street crossing on Tuesday, 17th June, 1890. We also find the St. John Bridge and Railway Extension company directly responsible for the death of the deceased, Hugh Cameron, by not having preventives against accidents occurring at the above named crossing in the manner of gates or danger signals, believing as we do that if the gates or signals were placed there the accident would not have occurred. We also censure the engineer for running without his fireman.

For Dyspepsia, Loss of Appetite, General Debility, Nervousness, use Garden's Quinine and Iron Tonic. 50c. per bottle.