

GENERAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.

Tenth Meeting, April 10, 10:30 A. M.

G. A. Irwin in the chair. After the opening hymn, Elder E. J. Waggoner led in prayer.

Elder D. T. Bourdeau took his seat with the delegates, representing the French-speaking people.

The Chair: You will notice from the BULLETIN that the Conference adjourned pending the consideration of the report of the Financial Committee. We have just come to No. 5. Now. 4 has been adopted. The Committee on the More Equal Distribution of Funds will be before us this morning. But one member of the committee that has something to say upon this No. 5 is compelled to be absent this morning, and would ask, as a favor, that the Conference defer the consideration of this number until some future meeting. Are you willing to grant the request of the member?

The request was granted
(Voice: I move it be granted).

(Voice: I second the motion).

The question was called for, and carried.

G. A. Irwin: So it is deferred unanimously. We must not forget to call it up at the proper time. I would like to ask if there are any other committees to report? This practically finished the work that has been before us in the committee. Are there any other committees prepared to report?

Chair: T. A. Hoopes^{secretary} Brother Chairman, the Committee on Counsel met this morning, and selected the following named persons as a nomination for the committee, to submit them to this house.:

Committee on the Distribution of Laborers: I. H. Evans, N. C. McClure, L. R. Conradi, G. A. Irwin, L. Johnson, I. J. Hankins, W. H. Thurston, W. C. White, H. Schultz, L. A. Hoopes, W. A. Spicer, S. F. Svensson, Dr. David Paulson, and the Presidents and Superintendents of the eight

General Conference Districts; making a committee of twenty-one, ~~I believe.~~

~~Chair:~~ ~~G. A. Irwin.~~ You have heard the report of this large committee. What is your pleasure ^{? with it,} to adopt it as the Committee on the Distribution of Laborers?

A. O. Burrill: I move that we accept it.

F. H. Westphal: I second it.

The question was called for, and carried.

~~Chair:~~ ~~G. A. Irwin:~~ Are there other committees ready to report?

C. C. Lewis: The Committee on Education is prepared to make a partial report.

A. G. Daniells: The Committee on Organization, I ~~believe~~ think, is prepared to report. We are waiting for the Chairman of the Board, Elder White, to come in with the report. Dr. Kellogg is a member of that committee, but has a great deal on his hands to-day, and would like very much to have that report come up first for consideration. Prof. Prescott, who act as Secretary of the committee, has the report.

~~Chair:~~ ~~G. A. Irwin:~~ I presume it ~~would~~ make no difference to you to hold back the report. Then we will listen to the report of the Committee on Organization.

A. G. Daniells: The committee requested me to present the report. The number~~s~~ of recommendations starts as 5 in this report. We have presented four recommendations previously. The Report is as follows.

" 5. That the General Conference Committee be composed of representatives connected with the various lines of work in the different parts of the world.

" 6. That the General Conference as thus constituted take the place of all the present general Boards and Committees, except in the cases of essential legal corporations.

" 7. That the General Conference Committee consist of 25 members, ~~as~~ six

~~Report of Committee~~

- - - ~~Report~~ - - -

The committee on organization present the following further partial report:—

We recommend,

5. That the General Conference committee be composed of representative men connected with the various lines of work in the different parts of the world.

6. That the General Conference Committee as thus constituted should take the place of all the present boards and committees, except in the case of the essential legal corporations.

7. That the General Conference Committee consist of twenty-five members, 6 of whom shall be chosen by the Medical Missionary Association, and 19 by the General Conference. That five of these members be chosen with special reference to their ability to foster and develop the true evangelical spirit in all departments of the work, to build up the ministry of the Word, and to act as teachers of the gospel message in all parts of the world; and that they be relieved from any special business cares, that they may be free to devote themselves to this work.

8. That in choosing this General Conference Committee the presidents of the Union Conferences be elected as members.

9. That the Medical Missionary Board be authorized to fill any vacancy which may occur in the representation from the Medical Missionary Association.

10. That the General Conference Committee be empowered to organize itself, and to appoint all necessary agents and committees for the conduct of its work.

port. What is your

Chair: ~~C. A. Irwin~~

pleasure with

Voice: I

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Chair:

Chair: G. A. Irwin

It has been moved and seconded that this report be adopted. This means, I presume, by considering each item separately. It is now open for remarks. We have only had one reading of it. We prepared some little slips last night, but the report has been changed somewhat, and has been added to since that time. There are only three recommenda-

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Chair: C. A. Irwin: You have heard the reading of the report. What is your pleasure with it?

Voice: I move its adoption.

Voice: I second it.

This question is worth 1 mark for each correct part.

~~Chair~~; G. A. Irwin: It has been moved and seconded that this report be adopted. This means, I presume, by considering each item separately. It is now open for remarks. We have only had one reading of it. We prepared some little slips last night, but the report has been changed somewhat, and has been added to since that time. There are only three recommenda-

tions here (on the slips) but I think these three have not been changed. They embrace the first, second, and third of the recommendations, which are not numbered as they were given in the committee. It might be that these would be a help if distributed.

Voice: I call for the first one:

Chair: G. A. Irwin: The Secretary will read the first recommendation.

Recommendation No. 5 as printed above was then read by *Elder L. A. Heppes.* ^{Secretary.}

C.M.Christiansen: How are these representative men to be chosen?

The Chair: That will appear further on in the report. The Secretary will read the next recommendation.

The Secretary (reading): "6. That the General Conference Committee as thus constituted ^{should} take the place of all the present ~~general~~ boards and committees, except in the case of the essential legal corporations."

A.O.Burrill: I would like to inquire if that really does away with our Foreign Mission Board?

A.G.Daniells: I will say in answer to that, that this ~~man~~ question of disposing of the Foreign Mission Board was not fully discussed, and no formal decision was reached with reference to what should be done regarding the Foreign Mission Board. You will notice the resolution has an exception in it---"except in the case of the essential legal corporations." The Foreign Mission Board is a legal corporation. Whether it is an essential corporation to the advancement of the work, is a question that the Committee on Organization has not discussed. It has talked it over a little, but it has not discussed it, or come to any vote on it, and is not prepared to make a recommendation here this morning. In its work the Committee will discuss the question, will come to some decision, and will report it to you in the future. But what is true of the Foreign Mission Board, is true of all these other legal corporations. Whenever it is thought by you that any legal corporation is not essential to the work, then it will be recommended to be discontinued, and steps will be taken to do away with it. But this recommendation does not do away with the Foreign Mission Board. It does not affect it a particle. That all depends upon the decisions ~~man~~ ~~man~~ come to in the future, and you ~~man~~ will have to say whether the Foreign Mission Board is essential or not.

J.W.Westphal: I do not know as I quite understand the meaning of that resolution. The speaker has just said that it does not affect the Foreign Mission Board a particle; but as it reads there, does it not affect the Foreign Mission Board in all of its relations to the Foreign Mission work, outside of the legal aspect? Is not that the only thing that it possibly leaves?

A.G.Daniells: I do not understand it so. In this recommendation, reference is made primarily to the International Sabbath-school Association, the International Tract Society, and the International Religious Liberty Association; but it does not affect the Foreign Mission Board in any sense, so far as I understand it, and so far as it was discussed by the Committee.

C.W.Flaiz: I would like to ask if there is anything further in this constitution that will define the prerogatives or duties of the General Conference Committee, if so elected? Will it have supervision of the foreign missionary work?

A.G.Daniells: The prerogatives are not defined.

Watson Ziegler: If I couple the thought in this with a statement made in another clause in regard to the General Conference Committee being organized for the furtherance of the gospel in all parts of the world field, it seems to me that it would displace the power of the Foreign Mission Board, except the legal part of it.

A.G.Daniells: ~~influence on the~~ So far as the Committee is concerned, we do not see how it will affect the Foreign Mission Board ~~more~~ more than the Medical Missionary Board. Both are incorporated ~~in~~ associations. No one sees any trouble about the medical association, and it seems to me we are off from the point here, because no reference is made to the Foreign Mission Board. We can all take hold of that question when it comes up. It is for you to decide, when a proposition is made to

minimism do away with the Foreign Mission Board, whether that is the right thing to do or not. That is not the question we have before us in this recommendation.

F.H.Westphal: It seems to me that ~~mm~~ when we have that wording there, --"that the General Conference Committee as thus constituted, take the place of all the present ~~general~~ boards and committees,"---we can not exclude the Foreign Mission Board.

A.T.Jones: It does not say the Foreign Mission Board.

A.G.Daniells: There is an exception clause---"except in the cause of the essential legal corporations." The Foreign Mission Board is a legal corporation, is it not? Is it essential? We are not discussing that at all. Some other day we will discuss that.

The question being called for, the next recommendation was read, as follows:

"That the General Conference Committee consist of twenty-five members, six of whom shall be chosen by the Medical Missionary Association, and nineteen by the General Conference; ^Tthat ~~mm~~ five of these members be chosen with special reference to their ability to foster and develop the true evangelical spirit in all departments of the work, to build up the ministry of the word, and to act as teachers of the gospel message in all parts of the works; and that they be relieved from any special business cares, that they may be free to devote themselves to this work."

The Chair: Are there are remarks on this recommendation?

A.O.Burrill: In regard to the medical missionary work: It seems that they select a certain number of the General Conference Committee, and the rest of the General Conference select the rest of them. It seems as if there is not equality in that. I may not understand it right.

R.A.Underwood: If I have the right idea of what follows, if any meeting of the General Conference Committee is held where important matters will be discussed, if any of the representatives of the Medical Missionary Association are not present, their Board has the power to supply representatives to complete their number. If that would be right, should not the same privilege be granted to other departments of the work?

A.G.Daniells: The point which the last speaker has raised, is considered in recommendation No. 9, and would it not be well to defer discussion until we come to that?

The question that was raised by the first speaker is with reference to the matter of the Medical Missionary Association electing six members of this Committee, and the question was, Is that fair? Is that a proper arrangement to make? You notice that Recommendation No. 8 states this: "That in choosing this ^{General Conference} Committee, the presidents of the Union Conferences be elected as members." Who elects the presidents of the Union Conferences?---The people in the Conferences. So I think the thought is that the medical association shall select six members to be on this Committee, the same as the eight Union Conferences select eight men to be on---that is, they select their presidents, and this Conference recognizes those presidents as members of the General Conference Committee.

G.B.Thompson: Now I want to say that personally, I can not vote on such a tremendous resolution as that, without having five minutes to think about it. If you all can vote, that is all right; I can not. I am willing to confess that it may be because I am obtuse, and all that; but I do not understand these recommendations fully, and one depends on the other; so I would like to have them printed, that I may have them before me to study for at least an hour or two, and then I can vote of them more intelligently. If these go through now, I can not

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vote intelligently, with just simply hearing the recommendations read, and listening to the explanations given us by the chairman of the Committee. I would therefore move that these propositions be printed.

A.G.Daniells: I will explain the situation in which we find ourselves: The days are packed full, and everybody is pressed with work. Yesterday we came to a ~~consensus~~ general understanding on three points, but had not finished our work. We had our report, as far as we had gone, printed on little slips, which we intended to hand out; but in continuing our work last evening and this morning, we enlarged these recommendations some, and this disarranged our report which had been printed; hence we have no printed report to place before you. We are sorry for this. As there was no other special business to come, and so many were waiting for the report of this Committee, and as there is a congested state of things in consequence of delay, we ventured to submit these recommendations to you. There is nothing that we wish to rush through, or hurry through, more than to put the Conference in a position to get along with its work. That is how the Committee stands.

W. M. Prescott: I do not blame the brethren for wanting this thing to be very clear. I think it due to all the brethren that the Committee should say to the delegation that there is nothing hidden in this report. There is nothing aimed at except what is right on the surface. I think that the whole body here should have the benefits of some of the study which the Committee has given to it, and the purpose for which I arose was that each member should have the benefit of any study that any other member has given to the question.

Here is the plan, the general principle, upon which the Committee acted: First, if this Conference were properly organized so that all departments of our work were proportionately represented here, we should not bring in this ~~xxxxxx~~ recommendation ^{report} ~~xxxxxx~~ that the different associations be elected a part of this Committee. And that recommendation is not expected to be a permanent recommendation. When this Conference comes to recognize that the medical missionary work as reported yesterday is an essential organic part of the work of this message, and recognize it by giving that work its due and proper representation in this Conference, this idea will be wiped out. Therefore, this recommendation was made to help this idea. This make up of twentyfive members was reached in this way: There are now eight ~~General Conference Districts Committees~~ ^{General Conference Committees}. It is recommended that the Medical Missionary Association choose six of these members. That would make fourteen. It is recommended that five members of this Committee be chosen with special reference to their ability to foster and develop a true evangelical spirit, and that is the very strength of this work; the true evangelical spirit in all departments of the work; ~~xxxxx~~ to look after the ministry of the work, to act as teachers of the gospel in all parts of the world. That would make nineteen members. It was expected, although it is not here recommended, but the Committee talked it over, that the

educational work have a proper representation by having those made members of the committee who have had experience in our educational work, and that in the same way our publishing work should be represented by those who have had experience in that work. Now it seems to me that with all this representation on the board, that you would have a well-balanced representative board that could carry on the work to advantage.

C. W. Flaiz: We are glad for all these remarks, but I for one want to study this question for myself. I believe that there is nothing hidden in this, nevertheless, I believe that this matter ought to be studied over by every delegate for himself. I therefore second the motion made by Brother Thompson.

A. G. Daniels: Is the motion to defer the consideration of the plan or the action? Do you wish to drop it all here, or would you like to go on and have the matter outlined and then defer action until we could have it printed?

G. B. Thompson: My idea was to defer action and have the explanations.

The chair. It is simply to defer action on the report until it can be printed and be in the hands of the delegates.

F. D. Starr: In case new districts were organized outside the territory already organized in the District Union Conferences, how would such new districts be represented in the General Conference?

The question was called for and the vote was divided.

W. W. Prescott: I hope no one will oppose this. It seems to me it is a reasonable request. I think that motion should be carried unanimously. The delegates ought to be granted the privilege of having that report printed for study.

H. M. J. Richards: We want to co-operate together, and in

order to make this a success, we must have time to consider it that we may stand shoulder to shoulder in it. I am in favor of this resolution.

The question was called for and carried unanimously.

The Chairman of the Committee then made further explanations of the report.

A delegate: In the explanation by Prof. Prescott, he did not deal with representation of the Sabbath-school work, the tract society work or the foreign missionary work, in case the Foreign Mission Board should not go on with its work.

W. W. Prescott: That touches a principle which we ought to recognize, and so it is well that the question is raised. I do not think it is necessary to have an international association of some kind and then have some member of that association be on this Committee in order that that work be represented in the Committee. If we were rightly organized and had been properly educated in the work there would not be a man here who does not represent the Sabbath-school work and the different departments of the work. Every individual would be a General Conference all by himself, and then when we come together we would be a General Conference all in ourselves, and we would not have to hunt around so much for positions. If this Committee is properly made up the Sabbath-school work will have a very large representation.

The International Tract Society work will have a large representation on it, twenty-five men. The religious liberty work will have a large representation on it, twenty-five men. If we had all been properly educated in the work, we could have straight to that line.

G. G. Rupert: There is a question arisen in my mind regarding the different nationalities among us. I fear that in this present arrangement these might not be represented on that Committee. They might

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be, but it seems to me that there might be a chance that they would not be. I believe we would be glad to have each nationality at least represented upon the committee, and I would like to ask if that work has been provided for on the Committee?

W.W.Prescott: It is provided for by the Bible. Neither barbarian, nor Scythian, bond nor free, Jew nor Greek; ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

It was suggested that I ought to say a word further on the other matter, and that was that in this was in the mind of the committee that in the appointment of the agents and committees for the conduct of the work, there should be those appointed in departmental work, as was set before us in the case of the organization of the Australasian Union Conference, who would give special study to those departments of work.

R.C.Porter: I believe that is the right principle.

A.G.Daniells: If these general Associations are dropped, then the General Conference will have a Sabbath-school department. And I suppose they will select the best person they can find in the denomination to look after that line of work, the details that naturally must be looked after to keep the work all astir. So with any other line of work that needs special attention to keep the work going.

G.G.Rupert: There is a point in that question that I raised. We all agree that we are all one in Christ; but it seems to me in the question of languages, that some can not properly connect themselves with these different nationalities like others can of their own tongue. And it seems to me that, relative to the language and their associations, that these nationalities, at least those prominently represented among us, should be represented on the committee.

A.G.Daniells: No. 7 has just been under deliberation. No. 8 reads as follows: "That in choosing this committee, the presidents of the Union Conferences be elected as members." That has already been explained; that the presidents of the Union Conferences shall be members of the General Conference Committee. As long as the districts remain

districts, they will be provided for in the election of the members.

F.D.Starr: I would like to repeat my question as to how new districts may be formed. How will they be represented?

A.G.Daniells: I understand that when a new district is formed its president will be a member of the General Conference Committee. That is what this makes provision for. We have had that to meet in Australasia. When we formed our Union Conference there, provision was made that the presidents of the State Conferences should be members of the Union Conference Committee. At that time we had but three State Conferences. Now we have five; and as the new Conferences have been organized, the provision ~~was~~ that was made, brought these new men, the presidents, right onto the Union Conference Committee. And so that is what this provision makes here.

Voice: Read it again.

A.G.Daniells: [reading] "That in choosing this committee, the presidents of the Union Conferences [whether one, or eight, or nine] be elected as members."

F.D.Starr: Would that enlarge the committee---make it twenty-six, twenty-seven, or more?

A.G.Daniells: We would have to adjust that, of course. Either have the committee enlarged, or else have less other members, less persons on of a general line; but that could be adjusted when you come to another term, another year.

Watson Ziegler: Do we understand by this language that the presidents of the Several Union Conferences, by virtue of their office when elected, are members, or are they to be elected besides that election?

J.W.Westphal: I would like to say a word further in regard to what Elder Rupert has spoken of---the reply that was made to him, and the general hearty Amen. Now I am certain that in our work we will have to recognize conditions and circumstances. I believe the Lord has reproved

our Conference before now with reference to that very thing in reference to the Southern work, and I believe in our work here, we have made some changes in these lines. It is true that we should be, and I trust all are, one in Christ; but while that is true, I believe that we should be careful not to take any step, nor do an thing, that would in any way help to take away that oneness; but every step that we take, every thing we do should tend in the direction of unifying the work more and more. I believe that is what we have done in recommending different institutions to be represented on the board. Now that principle holds true with reference to the other, just as well as this. And it is a fact that while we are all to represent different departments of the work, yet I think you will admit that an American, an Englishman who is laboring among the Germans or the Scandinavians can not represent the Germans or the Scandinavians work and plan with reference to it as they could if they had some one there that understands that language to represent it.

E.J.Waggoner: Would it be proper to call attention to this: I suppose it will come up further when we have the printed slips before us; but I have just been, for my own amusement here, making a partial list of the different languages . We have: English, German, French, Danish, Swedish, Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Italian, Hungarian, Finnish, Turkish, Armenian, Greek, Arabic, Tahitian, Kaffir, Hindustani, Polish, Persian, Bengali, Chinese, Japanese, Hawaiian, etc. And there are quite a number of other languages into which the truth has not yet been translated, or in which we have not Sabbath-keepers. And we shall have to enlarge this committee considerably. We have to have several times twenty-five. Or if you look at the list of publications in the British and Foreign Bible Society, you have three hundred translations of the Bible; so that if every language is to be represented by the Conference Committee, we will have a very large one. Now I think that if we have the committee of such men as it is supposed will be elected,

every language under heaven will be represented. It is not simply that we shall be represented, if I understand the work; but that the work should be carried to every language, every nation, tongue, and people,---those who have no representation whatever, so far as we know, in the work. There are thousands of people whose language is not known by any Seventh-day Adventists yet, so far as I know. And yet the message is to be carried to them. This committee is to represent those people. The Conference Committee is not to represent the Battle Creek church, nor Michigan, nor England, nor Europe, nor any Seventh-day Adventists who are now known as such, but more especially to represent the wide world, who do not know anything about the truth. We can not have the world on the committee; they do not know anything about it. We can not have representations from every land under heaven, because they do not know that they want the truth; but here are people who do know that they need it, and we represent those who do not know anything about the truth, rather than those who know the truth.

And then, so far as some of the leading languages being represented, I think it would be impossible to select a committee of twenty-five---that is, as recommended---to represent the work in all parts of the world, mind you---without having every leading language that is represented in the Seventh-day Adventist denomination represented on that committee. The leading workers in different parts of the world would represent the leading languages in the country in which they labor, for they must necessarily understand the languages of these fields where they are. So the very wording of the recommendation presupposes that the thing that has been suggested should be carried out.

A.G.Daniells: There is a question I should answer, presented by Brother Ziegler: "Will the officers, the presidents, of the Union Conferences be members of the General Conference Committee by virtue of

their office, or by the election of this Conference?"

Now I suppose in fact they will, by this arrangement, be officers by virtue of their -- be members of this committee by virtue of their office. Now this is the reason: we are aiming to make this General Conference Committee broad. We are endeavoring to carry out the instruction that has come to us, that our General Conference Committee should be larger, and more representative, and that it should bring in many minds, more minds, into its working and its operations. Now one of the steps is to arrange that all the districts, all the fields shall be represented; and so these presidents of the Union Conferences who have been elected by the people, and are the representatives of the people, provision is made that they shall be members of the Committee. Now this Conference might not meet for three or four years. During that time, it might be necessary to make several changes in the Union Conferences. If we name an individual in that Union Conference, he may die, or he is removed to another place, or some one else takes the leading position. Then it would be necessary to go through considerable work to get his successor; but if we provide here that in order to have a general representative of the people, the president of the Union Conference shall be a member, then whatever changes they make from time to time will not affect the real constitution of this committee.

The one who succeeds the one who is in office, always comes in,--- has the place of representation on this general Board Do you get the idea?

The next one: "That the Medical Missionary Board be authorized to fill any vacancies which may occur in the representation from the Medical Missionary Association." That is to say, now, we make the same provision for the medical missionary Association to be represented. Now they select these men, and before we have another Conference, they may send all those six men out of the country, a long way off, so that they will not be acceptable, wouldnot be able to act. What shall be done to fill their place,---their vacancy? Why, the Board shall select their successors, so that the representations will remain intact. It is the same provision virtually, that is made to have all the Union Conferences represented all the time. When the president of the Union Conference is called away to another field, then the Board selects a successor, and that man goes onto the General Conference Committee; and it is the same with the Medical Missionary representatives.

J.H.Morrison asked for a rereading of the last recommendation; his request was complied with by A.G.Daniells.

R.C.Porter asked for the previous recommendation to be reread.

A. G. Daniells: "That in choosing this committee, the Presidents of the Union Conferences be elected as members."

Perhaps I will explain the way I understand it will be done. Now suppose when the Nominating Committee brings in its report, so far as our Union Conference working is concerned, it is this: The Committee report as follows: That the members of the Committee shall be the Presidents of State Conferences, and then name the remainder of the Committee; so when this Nominating Committee brings in its report, it will be the Presidents of the Union Conferences, the six members of the Medical Missionary Association, and then name

the remainder. Do you get the idea? And when the vote is taken they are elected.

Voice: Suppose the President of that Conference could not be there; there is no provision made for representation of the Conference if the President could not be there.

A. G. Daniels: Somebody says ~~they~~ do not make any provision for proxies in Committee work.

C. W. Flaize: I do not understand just how this is to work. Suppose that after the Conference adjourns, these various members of the Conference Committee depart to the various parts of the field. For instance, the Union Conference presidents go to their fields, the evangelistic part of it go to their fields, and scatter out over the world; the Medical Missionary Board send their representatives off to various parts of the world; then it becomes necessary that the Committee meet together to confer with reference to matters pertaining to General Conference work, and they are called together, it is not possible for all ~~them~~ of them to come. Perhaps the Australasian Union Conference can not send their delegate or their representative, and these evangelistic laborers who may be scattered in various parts of the world can not come; and then there are portions of the Medical Missionary Board that can not be there; then we understand that the Medical Missionary Board, can select men to fill their vacancies by supplying the full number of six, while the rest of the members of the Committee are not supplied. Is that the idea?

A. G. Daniels: I do not understand that this makes provision for the Medical Missionary Board to appoint six men to come to act upon a committee meeting. That is not the idea. The Medical Missionary Board will only appoint ^a successor to a man who has gone from the field, and can no longer be a member of the General Conference Committee.

C.W.Flaize: It seems to me the way that is framed, it provides for that very thing; that when one of those that represent the Medical work go to foreign lands, they are not expected to ~~remain~~ come back to act in connection with that Committee in its sessions; then they have the privilege of supplying that member to act in their behalf; and then there is no provision made for their returning to act with the Board in its sessions.

W.C.White: I think we can understand this by considering that there is no vacancy on a Committee to be supplied, until the man has resigned his position. When a man goes to a field in the United States, or out of the United States, or takes up a line of work which disqualifies him to be an efficient membersx, he is expected to resign whether he be a Medical Missionary member, or whether he be a general member; and when he resigns and leaves a vacancy on the Committee, that vacancy must be supplied, and when the vacancy is supplied, the new ~~next~~ member occupies just the same position as the old member did. If a Committee meeting is called, he attends, if he is there to act; if he does not attend, there is no provision made for alternates for any class of member s, and they are all on the same footing. .

A.G.Daniells: I would say to Brother Flaize, the constitution provides for filling vacancies in the General Conference, doesn't it? This is not the constitution here, and we are not bringing in everything that perhaps would appear in a constitution if you were trying to frame one; but provision is made for the General Conference Committee to fill vacancies.

C.W.Flaize: I don't wish to go on with this, but I can not see it in any different light as yet. It does look to me as if there is provision made there for filling vacancies where an individual just simply goes to a foreign field, and can not be back to act in the discussions of the Committee; while in the other cases, it is expected they will go to various parts of the world, and that they will not

meet with this Committee; while this other makes provision for the representation of the Medical Missionary Board always being intact. That is the way it appears to me.

Chair G.A.Irwin: Perhaps after it is printed, we will have opportunity to study it.

R.C.Porter: I will say that the recommendation about the Medical Missionary Board was special, and the more explanation was given about it because it had not been previously recognized; and therefore, this was suggested, which otherwise would come only in the constitution; but this explanation was given because this was special. That, I think, makes it clear to my mind, and I thought perhaps might help some others.

H.E.Osborn: The question which Brother Flaize has raised is one in which I was interested, because a previous section seems to recommend that the general Conference Committee shall be made up of representative men from all parts of the world. Then if we have the President of the Australasian Union Conference as a member, and the President of the European Union Conference also a member of the Committee, and others in various parts of the world; it seems to me that the Committee would be widely separated, and like Brother Flaize, I myself, fail to see why any distinction should be made with reference to the Medical Missionary Association, in opposition to the General Conference itself. These men representing these fields will necessarily be in the place over which they preside, and it occurs to me that since they can not possibly attend the meetings of the Committee, it is hardly just that one Association should have the privilege of appointing members when they send individuals to other parts of the world, while these men must necessarily be in other fields; and they still are supposed to be present, because they are members of the Committee by

virtue of their office. It does not seem to me as though there is any reason why the distance should be greater for the medical missionary, than for members of the General Conference itself. I would like to ask if this idea with reference to the election of this Committee is correct. Because it seems to me while we talk about that twenty-five men to represent these various organizations that are supposed or that we expect will be struck out of existence; it seems to me that the Committee is so widely separated that the responsibility will largely rest upon a few who remain at the general headquarters of the denomination; and if this is true, it seems to me it would be a rather serious inconvenience. The Religious Liberty Association has felt seriously handicapped, because our Board was scattered through the United States, and therefore the responsibility for the management of the work fell upon a minority. It has been almost universally so in our work.

Now, if this is to be the same with this General Conference Committee, it seems to me that the difficulty is not obviated wholly. I would like to ask with reference to the location of the members of this committee, if the suggestion is correct.

W. W. Prescott: I heard once of a man from New York who was on a hunting expedition up here in northern Michigan. In the course of his travels he was about twenty-five or thirty miles off into the woods, away from any habitation of any kind, and in there he found a man in a little hut, cultivating a small piece of ground he had cleared. The man was very much ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ surprised to see him there, and he asked this stranger that was hunting, "Where ~~six~~ do you come from?" He said, "Why, I have come from New York." "From New York? Why, I should think you would hate to live so far from anywhere." That man's hut was the center of the world to him. A man that lived in New York was away off from anywhere.

Now, if you will remember, it was said yesterday morning that Battle Creek is not all the world, and America is not all the world. Now, it does not follow that this committee has got to come to Battle Creek in order to meet. There are other places in the world.

Now, suppose we turn it the other way. This committee ought to meet in London occasionally. Now, the conditions are such that the representatives from Australia can come to London traveling ~~as~~ comfortably, as Brother Daniells knows, for fourteen guineas, or seventy dollars. It may be that some of these men that go to different parts of the world will be nearer to the place of meeting than some of these men that are hanging around home; and it may be that we will have to make arrangements for some of these home men to be representatives to these meetings.

Enlarge your ideas. Now think of the world, not of a locality. I know that this objection can be raised, and every one does know that it will be raised, from the very nature of the case; but we must get this idea

that there are a great many places than Battle Creek, and a larger place than America, and when we take that view, it will help us in this work.

W. T. Knox: I would like to raise a question. That ~~does~~ seems to do away with the necessity of changing representatives of the Medical Boar

~~Chair~~ G. A. Irwin: No; Brother Knox says that would do away with the necessity of a change. I think it was made perfectly clear to us that it is not a question of a man being in some place that makes a vacancy. A man is a member of this committee until he is relieved or removed in some way.

A. G. Daniells: It seems to me, dear friends, that that is a point,-- that if a man dies, whether he is on the Union Conference presidency, or a member of the General Conference Committee, or of the Medical Association; if he dies, you want his place filled. Provision is made in the Constitution for that to be done, with the exception of the Medical Missionary Association; and this little provision thrown in here, as Brother Porter said, is because that, as we know, has not been recognized, and no provision made for it. It is doing for that what we have done in the General Conference Committee, that is all. It is simply as a subbeam, and it will take in the world.

R. A. Underwood: It seems to me, with this explanation, if it just simply said in single term, then the Medical Missionary Association should have the same right to supply its vacancies as the General Conference, and there would be no discussion about it at all.

A. G. Daniells: That is the aim.

R. R. Kennedy: It does seem to me that it is necessary to discuss the matter at all, that the General Conference Committee can supply a vacancy, and will. The only point with the Medical Association is this: they understand their business, and of course they can supply the vacancies on this part of the ~~general~~ committee more intelligently than can the general body; that is the difficulty that I can see in the matter. If

If shoemakers are represented on the Board, could not a body of shoemakers tell who could represent the shoemakers best? I do not see any difficulty at all. ~~Emmett~~ Some of us, I am sure, are getting into further difficulty because Brother Daniells has said definitely that this provision is made for the Medical Missionary Board when they send a man out into some distant part of the world, they ~~must~~ have the privilege of selecting some one else to take the place of the man thus sent away. It seems to me if this is right, the man who represents a Conference at the other side of the earth must necessarily retain his office, because virtually he is a member of the Committee.

The Chair: We will have the next recommendation read.

"10. That the General Conference Committee be empowered to organize itself, and to appoint all necessary agents and committees for the conduct of its work."

A.G.Daniells: "To organize itself." This, you all understand, means that this Committee will have power to appoint its officers---its chairman, its secretary, its treasurer, and other necessary secretaries and committees to do this departmental work. This General Conference Committee can select its Sabbath-school secretary, religious liberty secretary, the field secretaries, and whatever subcommittees it may think best to give especial attention to lines of work.

C.L.~~Emmett~~ Emmerson: Brother Daniells has just told us that this General Conference Committee ~~must~~ will have power to organize itself, and to appoint its chairman. I thought that by virtue of his office, the president of the General Conference was chairman of the General Conference Committee.

~~Emmett~~

The Chair: That is the way of getting the president.

C.L.~~Emmett~~ Emmerson: That is just what I wanted to learn---had the Committee power to elect the president of the General Conference?

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The Chair: That is it.

W.W.Prescott: If I may be permitted to, I would like to read one sentence from a Testimony that was given to this Conference four years ago in College View: "It is not wise to choose one man as president of the General Conference."

H.C.Basney: Would it not be taking ~~man~~ power to elect the president of the General Conference, out of the hands of these delegates, if this Committee can elect its own chairman? If this is the way it is to be done, it appears to me as though more power will be concentrated in this Committee than ever before. I can not see any light in it at all.

J.H.Morrison: There is another feature that presents itself to my mind: There are those who might perhaps be willing to vote for a man to be president of a District Union Conference, or to do evangelistic work in the general field; but these same persons might not be willing to vote for this Union Conference president or evangelist to become president of the General Conference.

A Delegate: I move that we adjourn.

S.B.Whitney: I ~~mn~~ rise to a question of privilege.

The Chair: State it.

S.B.Whitney: We have been exhorted with reference to the preciousness of our time; that each of us should be quick to hear, but slow to speak. I appreciate the interest of these brethren in these questions; but brethren, we can save time and labor for ourselves, if we should think a little more before we speak. [Delegates: Amen! Amen!]

A.G.Daniells: Perhaps it would be proper to say in reply, that the point in that is this: Instead of selecting one man whom we call president of the General Conference, and electing him to that office to

stay there for two or four years, as the case may be, holding him there to that line of work, that that be left to the Board of twenty-five men elected as a Committee; when they get together, they appoint a chairman to act for a year. It is supposed, I presume, that there will be a general meeting of this Committee at least once a year; that they elect their chairman to act, and he will be the chairman of the board during that time. They can elect another chairman at the end of the year, if they think best. If a man's health or a man's abilities, or anything pertaining to these things seem to require, they can change their chairman during the period.

A Delegate: I would like to ask why you say "one year"?

~~Has the time when the Committee is to meet, been fixed?~~

A.G.Daniells: It could be one year, or two years. It could be done whenever they have their general meeting.

A Delegate: I would like to have that statement that Professor Prescott read, read again.

W.W.Prescott: The expression I read was part of a Testimony sent to the General Conference of 1897, and read during the College View meeting. It is ~~printed~~ found in printed form in ~~Ministers~~ "Special Testimonies for Ministers and Workers," No. 8. The entire paragraph reads as follows:---

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"As a people we should ~~therein~~ study God's plans for conducting his work. Wherever he has given directions in regard to any point, we should carefully consider how to regard his expressed will. This work should have special attention. It is not wise to choose one man as president of the General Conference. The work of the General Conference has extended, and some things have been made unnecessarily complicated. A want of discernment has been shown. There should be a division of the field, or some other plan should be devised to change the present order of things."--"Special Testimony for Ministers and Workers," No. ~~fm~~ 8, pp. 28, 29.

Watson Ziegler: I think that in choosing these various presidents of the different organizations, in harmony with that instruction, has been carried out. I think that was the purpose in choosing the presidents of the various organizations at ~~Minneapolis~~ that time, and in ~~men~~ choosing presidents of the Union Conferences at the present time. I do not understand that that Testimony has reference to choosing a presiding officer for this General Conference Committee.

The Chair: The slips have been printed, and will be distributed immediately after adjournment.

Voted, to adjourn. Benediction by Elder R.M.Kilgore.

G. A. Iselin
Chairman

L. G. Scopes
Secretary