

GENERAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.

Eleventh Meeting, April 11, 10:30, A.M.

Elder A. G. Daniells in the chair. Elder O. A. Olsen led in prayer.

The Chair: The printed leaflets were printed and circulated yesterday containing the further report of the Committee on Organization, and our meeting closed when this recommendations had been read and somewhat explained. What is the will of the delegates regarding the work of the morning? The motion before the house is ^{is} for the adoption of this report.

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The reading of the next recommendation was called for.

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

An opportunity was given for remarks.

The Chair: The Secretary will read Recommendation 6.

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

W. W. Prescott: One word was left out of the printed slip which was in the original draft. The phrase, "take the place of all the present 'general' boards and committees" was in the original draft.

W. C. White: I would say in behalf of the Committee that it should be included in the Recommendation.

The Chair: You can have it stand as it was ready yesterday.

E. E. Miles: There is also a word inserted on the printed slip- the word "should." ~~XX~~

The Chair: You move that the word "should be stricken out?"

E. E. Miles: I move that the word "should" be stricken out.

The Chair. The Committee assent to this, so the word "should" may be stricken out.

The reading of the next recommendation was called for.

The Secretary: I read from the original draft:

Recommendation 7. That the General Conference Committee consist of twenty-five members, six of whom are to be chosen by the Medical Missionary Association, and nineteen 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."

A. L. Miller: I would like to ask how nineteen members can be chosen by the General Conference when Section 8 provides that the Union presidents of conferences be elected.

W. W. Prescott: There is a point that has been raised to me in private, that is perhaps in the minds of quite a number of the delegates. I would like to call attention to the difference between making a man an ex officio member of a board and electing him in the board. I understand that when the Nominating committee brings in its report, it will nominate nineteen members, but eight of those nominations will be by office and not by name. Then the question will come up before this body, if these persons had been chosen, is this body ready to accept the persons they have chosen in these offices? If they wish to give further counsel in regard to those that fill these places, that will open up the question. If we move straight out without any further promises, we throw the entire thing upon the floor of this Conference.

R. F. Andrews: I would like to know why these six are to be chosen by the Medical Missionary Association. I would favor the dropping out of that line and inserting in its stead, "That the General Conference consist of twenty-five members, all of whom shall be selected by the General Conference. I will state that the reason for making this request is simply from that fact that was stated to us yesterday, that all these different organizations and when the question was raised why a member should not be brought from these different organizations, it was said that we all ~~skadxin~~ were interested in these different lines of work. Now, just as is it not true that we will have twenty-five men interested in the ~~Medical~~ missionary work, and if this is so, why put these six in the Committee, and instead of getting out of the rut keep in the rut?"

W. W. Prescott: ~~I wish to draw attention again to the very point that is involved in this recommendation: If this Conference were properly constituted so that the various lines of work were proportionately represented in this body, this recommendation would not be made, as it would be unnecessary. And the general Conference ought to be constituted so that it would not be necessary. But it is not. Now, until it is properly constituted, this is a temporary provision to bridge over what is considered to be a wrong. When that wrong is righted, we shall be very glad to throw away the bridge. Does that make the matter clear to Brother Andrews?~~

R. F. Andrews: ~~It does not seem to me that that would relieve the difficulty. It seems to me if the General Conference is to be made right, it ought to be gotten right now, that we ought to take hold of the medical missionary work as we do the other part of the work.~~

W. W. Prescott: ~~As Brother Andrews suggested, this work ought to be properly constituted now. By the report of the Medical Missionary Association, they employ two thousand workers, while the General conference employ but fifteen hundred workers.~~

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~~Those two thousand workers have not any proportionate representation in this Conference. Therefore, in order to have a proper representation, we have two bodies, the General Conference and the Medical Missionary Association, in order to get one Conference. We ought to have only one Conference, but we have not. Now this recommendation is simply a temporary provision, and I hope we can dispense with it entirely at the next General Conference.~~

A.O.Wilson: I would like to know why we should wait until the next General Conference? Why not dispense with it now? We have already dispensed with a whole lot of associations and organizations.

W.C.White: I think the position is obvious. We have had presented before us for years the duty of our entering unselfishly into this line of work, and we have been slow to do it. Now the question is, Can we not, by some resolution, do away with all the record of indifference, with all our prejudices, with all our lack of information regarding this line of work, which we ought to have gained through several years of cooperation. I do not think the resolution will do it. I do not think you believe a resolution would do it. And I think you all will agree with me in the opinion that the only thing which will do it is that mentioned in one of the Testimonies regarding this conflict of interests, which said that the conflict, and the controversy would never end until our brethren in the field united in the work, and as the workers in the field united to carry forward these two lines of work together, then there would be hope for the controversy at headquarters being settled. Now, brethren, let these two years mark that union in the field which will make it possible for a perfect union at headquarters. Meanwhile let us give the medical men the opportunity which this provides for, to enter into our councils, and to help us to understand that line of work which we are backward upon.

R.F.Andrews: I wish just to say a word further, lest some might get the idea that I do not stand rightly related to this work. I want to tell you, my brethren, that in my heart I feel the closest sympathy with the medical missionary work. I love it, and I believe God is in it. It has been a blessing to me and to my family, and I feel as though I would be ^{an} unthankful man were I not to express it. So the reason I have asked this question is not because I am hostile to the Medical Missionary Association or that work; but it seems to me we were not living up to the principles that we have acknowledged were right, and that were stated before us here yesterday. And that is the reason why I have asked the question I have. And if this is only a temporary matter, and to bridge over a difficulty, there is nobody in this world would want to do it any more than I would. ~~I am perfectly willing; and if it is understood that this constitution---~~

The Chair:~~It does not go into the constitution.~~ It is simply a recommendation for this Conference. That is all.

R.F.Andrews: All right.

H.W.Cottrell: There is another thought embraced in this recommendation that is not clear to my mind, and which I wish to speak of at this time before we pass it. It is the one ~~just~~ following the one ~~just~~ commented on. That five of these members (speaking of the twenty-five to constitute the general committee) be chosen with special reference to their ability to foster and develop the true evangelical spirit in all departments of the work, etc., in all parts of the world. Now I fail to see why this special reference to five out of the twenty-five, that this spirit is necessary in five. Why not in the other twenty? Now this is not clear to my mind. I think twenty-five members should be selected for the General Conference Committee, each one being possessed of that spirit. ~~And if the thought is to get twenty that is not possessed of that spirit,~~

I would like to move to amend this recommendation by getting twenty more possessed of the same spirit. But, inasmuch as I do not understand the real thought of the framers of this recommendation, I leave it, with this suggestion, that I would like to know why.

Watson Ziegler: I have been listening to all these remarks on this line. I think the remarks that have been made are quite pertinent. Now I want to ~~main~~ call attention to a principle, not to any particular organization. If, for instance, we do not rightly recognize the medical missionary work, and we have to have them represented on the board in this manner that they may be rightly recognized, that same principle, don't you see, must go out to the Religious Liberty Association. The Religious Liberty Association, which stands for the principles of liberty for all men through the gospel, I believe to-day is neglected more than one time among us as a people, and if we do not have them represented as we seem here to recommend, and all these twenty-five are to rightly represent that, it must be by agitation from those who stand firmly for the principles of liberty. And just so on the line of the Medical Missionary Board. I believe that the resolution will not add to any of us any qualification; but I do believe ~~in~~ a thorough consecration and a study of these principles that make us what we should be, ~~will eliminate these differences~~, and that alone will do it.

F.M. Wilcox: ~~I would like to raise this question:~~ If the medical missionary work is not upon a different basis than other lines of work? It is scientific in its character. You take the delegates here in this Conference, the ministers, and they are all acquainted with the general lines of work represented. We are all more or less acquainted with the canvassing work. I have canvassed, and probably the majority of the delegates here have. We are all more or less acquainted with the religious liberty work. When we go out into the field, we have to represent those principles. But when it comes to the medical missionary work, that

is on a different basis, a basis with which we are not acquainted. It represents principles that we are not so fully acquainted with,--principles on which we have stood in opposition---I myself included---~~here in the past~~; and so it seems to me that the medical missionary work is upon a different basis than other lines of work.

Now I can readily see when it comes to the choice of the six men to represent the medical missionary work, that the Medical Missionary Association, who are ~~more~~ acquainted with all their men, with their knowledge of their men, with their knowledhe of how their own medical men stand related to the principles, could much more easily select men for that place on the Conference Committee than could this Conference, who are not acquainted with the men, and who, to a large extent, are not acquainted with the principles. Now we probably know that even some Seventh-day Adventist physicians in the past have not been affiliated with the health principles. They have not given these principles their support. And that is true of some of them to-day. And so it seems to me that that association that has been chosen or elected for the purpose of conserving these principles, is better fitted in the present emergency to make the selection of these six members.

S.H.Lane: In the selection of so large a committee, representing so many varied interests, it is somewhat difficult to arrange everything as perhaps we would like to have it arranged. ~~Now,~~ ^I in regard to those who shall look after the spiritual welfare, especially. I am sure we would all be glad to see it arranged or worked a little differently. But it is a fact that there are men of long experience among us, men whose godliness no one for a moment would think of challenging. These men are interested in that line, and when we come to talk about business affairs, they are not so much interested. And we can not for a moment think they should be left off the committee; neither should all

business men be put on the committee; because it is very dangerous to simply deal with business and business alone, disconnected from religion.

Indeed, I believe we all should be deeply religious before we are financially, and I trust the time will come when none of these things will have to be put in; all will be spiritual, all will be business, and all our business will be spiritual in every sense of the term. I believe there is such a thing as doing business from a spiritual standpoint, and no business will succeed unless it is done from that standpoint; yet, at the same time, there are men who have given their lives entirely to the upbuilding of the spiritual interests, and who have thought but little of other interests.

W.T.Knox: In the explanation of Section 1 as it was introduced incidentally, it was stated that the Committee on Nominations would bring before the General Conference the names, or rather, the offices of the presidents of the Union Conferences, and that this body would have the privilege of expressing themselves upon these eight, the same as upon all the other members who compose the committee. Now I ask the question, Will that same rule, or privilege regarding the six members who will be chosen by the Medical Missionary Association?

W.W.Prescott: The question as I understand it, is as to whether or not this body would have the same privilege of passing upon the six men chosen by the Medical Missionary Association, as it will have upon the eight Presidents of the Union Conferences.

If we could keep just this one thing in mind---it has helped me to see the matter clearly, and perhaps would help the others---and that is just this one thing: That if this Conference was properly constituted, it would pass upon all of them. The Presidents of the Union Conferences are chosen by delegates that are ~~are~~ in here. They constitute this Conference. The Medical Missionary Association is not properly in here. That is what makes the difference. Now if the Medical Missionary Association was in this body in the same sense that the Union Conferences are in this body, all this could be thrown out.

When we come into the Medical Missionary Association, every president of a Conference here, and every member of the General Conference Committee is in that; and he ought to be present at every meeting, but isn't, which shows the truth of what I have stated. It is for that reason that this provision is suggested.

R.A.Underwood: If the members of the General Conference Committee and all the presidents of Conferences are members of the Medical Missionary Association, and are present here when these twenty-five members of the General Conference Committee are elected, I want to ask if the Medical Missionary Association does not have a fair representation in the Conference.

W.W.Prescott: If every President of a Conference, and every member of the General Conference Committee, was standing in right relation to the Medical Missionary work, it would be all right; but when we have a meeting here of the Medical Missionary Association, and there ought to be forty-seven of those men here, and only thirteen are here, something is wrong. Now I speak of that with all frankness and all kindness; but these are the facts, and that is what leads to this situation. When all the ministry are as much filled with the genuine medical missionary ~~xpirix~~ idea and work, and are as really in harmony with it, and are as much doing that work as the medical missionary men are filled with the evangelical spirit, and are doing that work---that is the thing that will bring us together, and that is the only thing that will bring us together.

G.F.Watson: I want to say that because I was not here yesterday afternoon, that is no sign that I am not in harmony with the medical missionary work; because I am in harmony with it. A great many of us were kept away yesterday afternoon on committee work, and could not be here. I am in favor of and in harmony with the medical missionary work, and have shown myself as such, and no one has a right to say that I am not because I was not here yesterday afternoon.

W.W.Prescott: I am not making a charge that way, and here is the point. It is time for the session of the General Conference. Why are these brethren off on committees? Why do ~~not~~ they appoint committee meetings at the time of the session of the General Conference? because they know their place is here. Why appoint committee meetings at the time of the meeting of the Medical Missionary and Benevolent Association. That is something else; that is where it touches. I ~~do~~ Don't think I am charging or blaming anybody; I am simply trying to bring out the fact that we, almost unconsciously, do some of these things because we have not got the proper view. I am not charging any persons, or any individual, but here is a situation that shows itself in this way. This morning these brethren expected this matter of organization was to come before this body, and every man is in his seat. If there had been any committee meetings appointed, he would not be there. He knows his place is here. Now his place is just as much here when the Medical Missionary work with two thousand workers is to be brought before us, and elections, perhaps would come up, as it is now; it is just the same. Now we do it, almost unconsciously, and if our souls were just as much filled with it, or burdened with that line of work, and we felt that was the message just as much as anything else, you might appoint any number of committee meetings, and they would not be off on them; they would be here.

~~E.G.White:~~

E.G.White: I have had light all the way along in regard to the work,---the cause, and last night some of these things were brought more especially before me in regard to the medical missionary work. When we first had health reform introduced to us, it was about thirty or thirty-five years ago---I can not bear in mind just how long ago it was----

J.H.Kellogg: In 1863---38 years ago.

E.G.White: Well then the light presented to me was in these

scriptures:

"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified. And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations."

Well, now in this light that was given so long ago, it was presented to me that our own people ~~xxxx~~ who claim to believe the present truth---that this was the very work that they should do. How were they to do it? Just as Christ has said in Matthew: "And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease." Then he goes on to name the twelve apostles. He says unto them again: "These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Then he tells them about healing: "Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give."

Now the light that was given to me so long ago was that intemperance should prevail, and would prevail to a wonderful extent; and that every one of the people of God would have to ~~keep x~~ occupy a high position with reference to the reformation of their habits and

practices. I was eating meat; I was eating it three times a day, and was fainting away two or three times; and there was a general plan presented before me that God would give to ~~us~~ his commandment keeping people a reformed diet; that their disease, and suffering, and all this would be greatly remedied by a reformation in their diet, and that this work would progress. Then after years, again, the light came in that we should have a sanitarium, we should have a health institute, and it should be established right among us as a people. And **Why?** That this was the very means that God would use to bring our people to a correct understanding in health reform; and the great light that came to me then was that this was to be the great means that we should have to find access to the people.

We want every one who has his attention aroused, to have the mind of Christ, the sympathy that Christ had. We want every soul in the church to realize that Jesus Christ was a worker, and that he went from place to place working for the sick and relieving them. If we were in that connection with God that his disciples were in the healing of the sick, we should be where we could be in a position to heal many that are suffering. We would not do the healing, but we would ask God to heal.

Now I will not hold you any longer. I want to see the Lord bless his people, and help them to come to a right understanding.

The Chair: Are there any further remarks or questions?

The question was called.

The Chair: It is now time to close. Do you wish to pass this? Is that what you mean by the question?

R.F.Andrews: We wish to pass this point, and take the next number up if we do not adjourn.

The Chair: The Secretary will read the next number unless you wish to adjourn.

Before adjournment the Chair stated that in the early morning meeting the delegates formulated a plan whereby a nominating committee would be appointed. That was for each District and the representatives of the foreign fields to each name one man to represent their respective fields. The several districts were requested to hand the names in to the Secretary. The names of the members of the Nominating Committee are as follows:--

District 1, G.B.Thompson; 2, N.W.Allee; 3, Wm. Covert; 4, J.H. Morrison; 5, J.M.Rees; 6, G.W.Reaser; 7, W.D.Salisbury; 8, E.J.Waggoner; foreign mission field, W.A.Spicer.

S.H.Lane: I move that we adjourn until 3 o'clock this afternoon.

A.J.Breed: I second the motion.

The benediction was pronounced by Elder S.N.Haskell.

GENERAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Thirteenth Meeting, Thursday, April 11, 3 p.m.

Elder A.G. Daniells. in the chair. Prayer by Elder M.C. Wilcox.

The Chair: This morning we had finished the consideration of recommendation No. 7. What is your pleasure?

G.B. Thompson: There was a question asked on recommendation 7 that I would like to hear answered, in reference to why there were five members appointed on evangelistic work. Why that is not a part of the work of all the twenty-five? There may be something in the mind of the committee why this is put in, and I would like to hear what it is.

W.C. White: For many years we have endeavored to choose men to be members of the General Conference Committee who should do apostolic work, the work represented by the elder; and then after choosing them for this work, we have placed upon them the business, and kept them doing the deacon's work. I understand the principle involved in suggesting that these men give themselves especially to this work is the same principle that is recognized in the local church in selecting some men to be elders and others to be deacons. You may think the proportion is not sufficient. It is better for us, in our efforts at reform, to take a step and then next year take another step, than to make a big jump this year, and then move backward. It seems to me that the cause appears very evident, that the cause of present truth will be greatly strengthened by setting apart five of the elder and more experienced teachers who have gained an experience in all branches of the work, who will be valuable counselors on the committee, who will help the younger men to keep their work all in an evangelistic spirit and on evangelistic line, to have these men set apart especially as teachers, with the understanding that they

are to be relieved from the every day grind of the business, the finances, the planning, and many lines of business which must, under our present system, come before the committee.

The Chair: Are there any further remarks?

The question was called for.

The Chair: The question is called for. The Secretary will read recommendation No. 8.

The Secretary: [reading] "That, in choosing this General Conference Committee, the presidents of the Union Conferences be elected as members."

The question was called for.

The Chair: The question is called for. We will pass to No. 9.

The Secretary: [reading] "That the Medical Missionary Board be authorized to fill any ~~vacancies~~ vacancy which may occur in the representation from the Medical Missionary Association."

The question was called for.

The Chair: The question is called for.

The Secretary: [Reading] "No. 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."

G.P. Bellman: I would like to ask, Does that take the election of the President of the General Conference out of the hands of the Conference, and lodge it with the committee; and if so, Why?

W.C. White: It seems to be the mind of this Conference that responsibility shall not be centralized and fixed upon a few individuals for a long period. Times change; the necessities of the cause call for men to change the character of their work and their place of operation. It seems to be for the advantage of the work to allow this committee, which will be a thoroughly representative committee, to choose its chairman, its secretaries, its treasurers, its committees, and agents; then

if the necessities of the cause demand that any of these officers shall change their work, they are in a position to resign, their comrades on the committee fill their places, and the work will go forward. It is quite possible that a sentiment will be created, or a sentiment that already exists will manifest itself that no one should be chairman of this committee for a period of more than twelve months at a time.

C.N.Sanders: I would like to ask a question in regard to resolution 6 and 10. Now we were talking yesterday in regard to the Foreign Mission Board. It says in resolution 6 that the General Conference Committee as thus constituted take the place of all the present general boards and committees except in the case of the essential legal corporations. In section 10 it says that the General Conference Committee be empowered to organize itself, and to appoint all necessary agents and committees for the conduct of its work. This was the question that I desire information upon. This being passed, then it rests with this committee of twenty-five to state whether the Foreign Mission Board is essential or not? Does it not?

The Chair: I think not.

W.C.White: It is understood that all existing agencies created by this Conference, and are not definitely removed by these resolutions, will continue to be regarded; as, the General Conference Association, the Foreign Mission Board, the Medical Missionary Association; unless, for some good reason, presented by this assembly, and adopted by this assembly, changes are to be made. If there are changes to be made, they will be brought forward in a definite clear form for your consideration.

The Chair: If I may be allowed to make a remark on this. It seems to me before passing it that every mind ought to be *Satisfied* gratified and clear about it. There seems to be a good deal of apprehension as to what is going to be done. Now as far as the committee was

has been at work is concerned, as I have stated before, the matter has only been referred to, just briefly mentioned in committee. The committee expects to give the question thorough consideration. The President of the Foreign Mission Board is a member of the Committee on Reorganization, and he will undoubtedly be asked to make a statement, and full information will be called for by the committee; and after giving it through consideration and study, they will report to the delegates their decision; that is, providing they think best to have the Foreign Mission Board merged into the General Conference Committee. All the facts that they have will be laid before the delegates here, and it will be for you to say whether the Foreign Mission Board shall cease to exist as a separate board, and whether this general board shall be the Foreign Mission Board.

er, whether, we shall drop that idea of foreign mission, and have a mission board pertaining to all parts of the field. It seems to me that matter ought to be plain; we have tried to state it here, and every one of us ought to be set at rest, if you will remember that it lies with you, it rests with the delegates to say whether that step shall be taken.

J.W. Westphal: Elder White, in speaking, said the Committee would appoint Secretary, Treasurer, etc. It is not usually the case for a committee like that to have a treasurer. I want to know what was meant by that, that the Committee appoint the Treasurer. Does it mean that the Committee appoint the General Conference Treasurer, or whether it was some other private affair belonging only to the Committee.

W. C. White: The question was whether the treasurer referred to was to be the Treasurer of the General Conference. I will illustrate this rather than to explain it. We have several associations connected with our work. These associations have officers, and those officers are, in most cases, selected by the Board. The membership chooses a Board of management, and the Board organizes itself. You have found that to work well with reference to these associations. There is no perplexity over the question of responsibility of the Treasurer elected by the Board of Trustees of an Association. He is the Treasurer of the Association; although chosen by the Board of Directors; and this treasurer would stand in a similar position.

E. E. Miles: There is one question that I would like to raise in regard to the recommendation. This is a recommendation of the General Conference Committee to itself. How far are the recommendations binding?

W.C. White: This recommendation comes from your Committee on Organization. It is a recommendation from the Committee to the Conference. If the Conference adopts it, it stands like any other

~~recommendation~~ resolution adopted; it is our guide until the next session. If the Conference adopts these recommendations regarding organization, and proceeds at once to forward other lines of business, so that we have an early election, the officers begin their work to organize according to these resolutions and work out the plan; and then before we close, we will be able to formulate, from this plan, and from our experience, to formulate the matter into a constitution or rules of government for you to act upon before the Conference closes.

E.F. Miles: The point is between recommendations Nos 7 and No. 8. No 7 provides that any of the members be elected by the General Conference; but No. 8, that the Presidents of the Union Conferences, be elected as members. One speaker has said that recommendation No. 8 was to do away with the idea of serving because of virtue of office. This is the idea of serving ex officio, and yet, if these recommendations are binding, I hardly see how we can get around abiding by recommendation No. 8, and if recommendation No. 8 is carried out, it is virtually binding No. 7; or if the two are carried out, it makes it really, in fact, by virtue of office. If that is so, I would like to see some qualifying expression like "so far as consistent" inserted, and then we could read that "In choosing this General Conference Committee, the Presidents of Union Conferences, so far as consistent, be elected as members." That would give some discretion in the matter; but as it stands now, we would either have to set aside the recommendation, or they would go in anyhow by virtue of office.

This matter of serving ex officio is a system that might be somewhat dangerous, and sometimes it amounts to this, that other members are virtually disfranchised. It seems to me that it would be better if No. 8 were stricken out, and leave it to the good sense of the Conference to put these Presidents on because they think that they

ought to serve, rather than to have it incorporated into our recommendations or into our constitution, that it must be so as a matter of law.

C. W. Flaiz: I ~~think~~ ~~xxxx~~ note that there is no recommendation for filling vacancies occurring on the general Conference Committee aside from section 9, and I would like to insert this: "That the general Conference Committee be empowered to fill all vacancies occurring on the Committee."

O.A.Olsen: That provision is already in the ~~constitution~~ constitution, and has been acted upon.

C.W.Flaiz: It appears to me that if we are abandoning the constitution we have been going under, we will have to have something else to take its place.

G.A.Irwin: I do not understand this is abandoning the whole Constitution. If this is adopted, the Committee on Organization will bring in a recommendation to change the constitution in harmony with what we have adopted, and as the brother stated, the Constitution itself, at the present time, provides ~~xxxx~~ for filling vacancies that may occur on the Committee; so it would not be necessary to change that part of the constitution to conform to this.

W.W.Prescott: There is evidently something in the matter that was raised by Brother Miles with reference to this matter of ex officio members, and it is a principle to which I feel opposed, ~~and have expressed myself so, and after the matter has been so fully explained before this body, what the real purpose and working plan is I do not think there would be any objection to striking out that section if the delegates prefer to do so, and leave it with the Nominating Committee to bring in their recommendations. I do not see that it would do any harm, and if there is any feeling in the mind of the delegation that it would rather be left free without that being adopted as a sort of iron-clad rule, I would say, drop it out. It is not essential.~~

R.A.Underwood: This forenoon the question was explained to us that these recommendations were only temporary. They were designed by the Committee to continue for one term only, and it was said they did not in any way affect the constitution. If I am to vote for these recommendations as they stand, it seems to me that I could not vote for them with the understanding that as soon as we adopt it, and it become a part of the constitution, and become a matter of law. I can vote for it as a temporary means to rectify some evil; but I would like to see it tried awhile before we make it constitutional.

W.C.White: As the last speaker is in trouble because of what I said, I would like to call the attention of all the delegates to the fact that it was resolution No. 7 which was under consideration when the remarks were made that this was because of special conditions, and it was hoped that at the next Conference, these conditions would not exist. I will also repeat what I said a few moments ago, which I hope will be clear and simple to be understood, and that is that this in no sense, is constitutional. This is working plans, and when these working plans are adopted for our members to use before this Conference closes, it will be necessary to revise our old constitution so that it shall not conflict in every step, with the working plans.

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but to go outside of that and recognize that some of these brethren were doing general gospel work in preparing laborers, especially the church school teachers, and looking after them in the field---that point has not been ~~long~~ recognized, and it has even been thought that it was wrong to care for that class in this way. I believe you will all agree that that does ~~not~~ put a heavy burden upon a school which should not belong there, but which more properly belongs on the regular tithe fund.

C. Mc Reynolds: I would like to have an explanation of the words, "those who labor in word and doctrine." Are we to understand that that includes all those who engage in Bible teaching in our schools? There are some of our academies in which every teacher, with the possible exception of the one in charge of the business department, is spending a portion of his time teaching the Bible. One is no more a Bible teacher than another, directly. How would ~~this recommendation~~ this recommendation be carried out in such a case?

~~From~~ P. T. Magan: There was no disposition upon the part of the Committee to legislate in an arbitrary manner upon this matter, or to bring in the thought through this resolution that every teacher in a school should be supported from the tithe, even though every teacher might be doing some Bible work in connection with other work. The idea was to bring before this Conference this whole question, that it might be thought over and considered here, because it has been quite a burden in some places, the way ~~in~~ it has rested.

C. Mc Reynolds: That answers the question partially, but does not remove the entire difficulty. When our people read in the BULLETIN that all the teachers who "labor in word and doctrine" should be supported by the tithe, will they understand it to mean all those who teach Bible, when in some schools there is no regular Bible teacher?

travelling expenses, have been paid out of the regular school funds.

Now as I understand it in most places there has been a willingness to

pay a Bible teacher in the school. That is, to pay the one who actually

● taught in the Bible schools;

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The Chair.-- Please state the exact wording suggested.

E. E. Miles.-- That after the words "Union Conferences," be inserted the words, "as far as consistent." Perhaps a better wording might be suggested.

H. C. Wilcox.-- I would like to ask this question: Are not these presidents of union conferences chosen with direct reference to this?

Watson Kiegler.-- That was what I had in mind in my question of yesterday.

The Chair.-- It seems to me that the recommendation is now in such a shape as to please everybody. The secretary will please read the recommendation.

The Secretary.--(Reading.) "8. That in choosing this General Conference Committee, the presidents of the Union Conferences be elected as members."

L. S. Wheeler.-- Then who chooses these members, the General Conference Committee or the people?

W. C. White.-- ~~Where this plan has been in operation successfully it has been about as follows: A recommendation is brought in reading,--"We nominate as members of the Union Conference Committee, the members of our five conferences,"--naming them, as the present incumbents, but the understanding is that whatever president is in office will be the member. Then the delegates vote on the whole thing. That settles it so there is no question.~~

R. A. Underwood.--In case of the Union Conference holding alternate conferences, either biennially, or with the General Conference the term of the President of the Union Conference would expire.

Then after another man would be elected, who would act on his case?

W. C. White.--There wouldn't anyone act on his case. The delegates have voted that the person who stands as present, ~~of say the New South Wales Conference, is a member of the committee, and~~

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Therefore that part of these working plans which would necessarily change the constitution, that part which has not been placed before you as a temporary matter would naturally be taken into consideration in the revision of the constitution. Now if any of the members wishes to specify any other of these articles as objectionable to go into the constitution there will be abundance of opportunity to do that when the revisions are presented.

Eld. Lane.--- The point of electing Presidents of Union Conferences because of their office was under consideration in the committee. I expressed myself as quite favorable, as I have of every action of similar nature that has come up in the past. I ~~thought~~ ^{think} it is not right to elect a man to one office because he held another. I believe when a man is elected to an office it is because he has some merit which would help the office. ~~The man should help the office instead of the office helping the man. If the office helps the man it is because he is not worthy to fill the office, and is beneath the office.~~ I am very much in favor of the amendment, i.e., placing after the words Union Conference, "As far as consistent." ~~The probabilities are that nine out of every ten, y s, ninety-nine out of every hundred presidents of union conferences will be men of merit, men of experience, who ought to be members of the General Conference Committee, but should such a thing occur, it might be possible that a man of judgment might be a president of a union conference, and still not be the best man for the General Conference Committee. So when we come to frame the constitution to it, if we ever do, it will be better to have all the safeguards in.~~

W. C. White.---I have consulted with the members of the committee and there is no objection to incorporating the words proposed without taking up more of the valuable time of the conference in discussion.

The committee does not object

~~president is, he takes his seat with the other members of the committee, and takes a share in their burden.~~

The Chair.-- The question is called for. All in favor of his recommendation raise the right hand. It is carried.

G. A. Irwin.--I would like to call up Recommendation 5, with reference to the committee on finances, which was referred at the request of one member for further consideration. *(Page 170 Bulletin)* ✓

The Secretary.--~~The recommendation is found on page 170.~~

(Reading.) "We recommend that all who especially labor in word and doctrine in our colleges and academies in training workers for the field be supported from the tithe. "

W. W. Prescott.-- Would it not be a matter of interest to know how far this is already being done? I think the plan has already been carried out, at least to some extent.

J. W. Watt.-- Would they be supported by the district tithe or the donation of tithe from the various states as is now done?

The Chair.-- "We will ask Prof. Magan to explain with reference to the recommendation.

P. T. Magan.-- The intent of the recommendation was this: In some of our conferences and in some of our schools this plan has been carried out. In other places it has not been carried out. But the point has arisen, here: There are some states in different districts who take no part in this movement or work whatsoever, and the whole burden is left on the other states. Besides that there are a number of our schools now which are doing quite an amount of general work. For instance, ~~xx~~ in some of our schools people have, for example, spent the most of their time in looking after the church school work in their districts. Yet the salaries of these people, and even their

A.O. Burrill: If a call comes from a church in Michigan for a church school, and some one under the direction of the Battle Creek College would visit that place to see whether a church school should be started or not, and would decide that there should, who would pay the traveling expenses of this special agent of the College---the Michigan Conference, of the Battle Creek College?

P.T. Magan: I presume it would be better to discuss that question when the educational work is before us. As an immediate answer to the Brother's question, I would say that here in Michigan we have an arrangement with the Conference covering that point which I think is satisfactory to all parties concerned. They have an educational board in the State which takes care of that matter to a large extent.

G.A. Irwin: Would not the ~~word "especially"~~ word "especially" in this recommendation answer Brother Mc Reynold's ~~question?~~ question? It reads: "Those who especially labor in word and doctrine." Would not this word indicate the ones who were to be paid? While all may labor somewhat in teaching the Bible, yet in every school there is some one man who especially labors in this line of work.

C. Mc Reynolds: That is where the difficulty comes in. In some of our schools no one especially labors in word and doctrine more than another one. I wish to be understood that I am not opposing this recommendation; for the intent is all right.

W.C. White: I believe this is another case where "the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life." I would a great deal rather discuss the spirit of this resolution than the technicality, because I believe our people have that degree of good judgment and love for one another that will enable them to take a resolution of this kind and apply it according to their circumstances and according to principles of justice.

If we consider the spirit of this resolution, we shall find that it is consistent, and the spirit of this resolution goes beyond our schools. It enters our sanitariums, our printing houses. The Review and Herald established here calls workers from all parts of the field, and brings in a large tithe into this church. That fact is recognized, and a large part of the tithe of this church goes directly to the General Conference. That being the case, the General Conference should see that the Review and Herald and the Sanitarium and any other institution calling workers here who help to swell the tithe, are supplied with chaplains to do the work of the church. The same principle applies to Oakland, College View, Boulder, and our different large centers.

We have been told that our institutions are established in the providence of God as centers, from which the principles of the government of heaven are to be taught and demonstrated. If this is so, how much more solicitude and care and labor should be devoted to the spiritual training of the employees in our institutions, than any other part of the field. Should not this labor be given by the organization receiving the tithe? This same question came up in Cooranbong, N.S.W., Australia, and it was decided to give three-fourths of the tithe of that ~~church~~ church to the ~~Union Conference~~ Australasian Union Conference, and one-fourth to the New South Wales Conference. The Union Conference supports the Bible teacher in the school, and supplies pastoral work for that church, ^{made up of Sabbath-keepers} gathered from all parts of Australasia and some foreign countries. The total amount of tithe received by the New South Wales Conference has not decreased since this division of the Cooranbong church has been made; for the brethren through that Conference have responded nobly. If we get hold of the principle, and work it out successfully, it is easy for us to do what is required in these institutions.

W.J. Stone: Do we understand that these teachers are to be paid from the Union Conference treasuries, or that the different State Conferences are to contribute to this tithe.

P.T. Magan: I do not know. I should think it would depend upon the nature of the school, and that the District Conferences, with their local Conferences, could safely arrange that. It may be that schools that are purely Conference and local in their nature, would be provided for by the State Conference. It might be that the State Conferences in their District Conferences would rule otherwise in regard to schools whose work extended all over the District. But that is simply my own opinion in the matter.

The Chair: Are you prepared to vote on this recommendation?

The question was called for, and the recommendation carried.

The Chair: What is the next business? Is the Committee on Education ready to report?

The Committee on Education submitted the following report which was considered for a short time, but action was deferred until it might be placed before the delegates in printed form.

Report

A. O. Wilson: I would like to say a little in this recommendation. We have been exhorted a great deal about taking our children from the public schools and how they ought to be taught under Christian influences, but there has been no provision in the past for the children of all of us to be taken from the public schools. Now, when we say our children, it means all of them, but there are no provisions yet for those who cannot see to study the text-books already provided. Can we not arrange in some way so that those who cannot see and who are obliged at present to attend the State schools for the blind, those of our own equal, I mean, that they can get ~~xxx educationxxxxxxx~~ a Christian education. It means just as much for them to be taught in the fables and evil practises to-day as it does our children who can see.

W. C. White: I would like to say that we have several sub-committees with a large amount of business on hand that ~~xxx~~ have not more than been able to begin ~~xxx~~ work. I think it would be of great value that these Committees have the balance of the afternoon, and I therefore move that we adjourn.

The motion prevailed.

The Chair announced the Committee on Nominations.

Elder G. A. Irwin pronounced the benediction.

A. G. Daniells, Chairman.

L. A. Hoopes, Secretary.