



The Lambeth Conference

Resolutions Archive from 1867

Lambeth Conference Resolutions Archive

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Resolution 1

That it appears to us expedient, for the purpose of maintaining brotherly intercommunion, that all cases of establishment of new sees, and appointment of new bishops, be notified to all archbishops and metropolitans, and all presiding bishops of the Anglican Communion.

Resolution 2

That, having regard to the conditions under which intercommunion between members of the Church passing from one distant diocese to another may be duly maintained, we hereby declare it desirable:

1. That forms of letters commendatory on behalf of clergymen visiting other dioceses be drawn up and agreed upon.
2. That a forms of letters commendatory for lay members of the Church be in like manner prepared.
3. That His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury be pleased to undertake the preparation of such forms.

Resolution 3

That a committee be appointed to draw up a pastoral address to all members of the Church of Christ in communion with the Anglican branch of the Church Catholic, to be agreed upon by the assembled bishops, and to be published as soon as possible after the last sitting of the Conference.

Resolution 4

That, in the opinion of this Conference, unity in faith and discipline will be best maintained among the several branches of the Anglican Communion by due and canonical subordination of the synods of the several branches to the higher authority of a synod or synods above them.

Resolution 5

That a committee of seven members (with power to add to their number, and to obtain the assistance of men learned in ecclesiastical and canon law) be appointed to inquire into and report upon the subject of the relations and functions of such synods, and that such report be forwarded to His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, with a request that, if possible, it may be communicated to any adjourned meeting of the Conference.

Resolution 6

That, in the judgement of the bishops now assembled, the whole Anglican Communion is deeply injured by the present condition of the Church in Natal; and that a committee be now appointed at this general meeting to report on the best mode by which the Church may be delivered from the continuance of this scandal, and the true faith maintained. That such report be forwarded to His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, with the request that he will be pleased to transmit the same to all the bishops of the Anglican Communion, and to ask for their judgement thereupon.

Resolution 7

That we who are here present do acquiesce in the Resolution of the Convocation of Canterbury, passed on 29 June 1866, relating to the Diocese of Natal, to wit:

If it be decided that a new bishop should be consecrated: As to the proper steps to be taken by the members of the Church in the Province of Natal for obtaining a new bishop, it is the opinion of this House:

- first, that a formal instrument, declaratory of the doctrine and discipline of the Church of South Africa should be prepared, which every bishop, priest and deacon to be appointed to office should be required to subscribe;
- secondly, that a godly and well-learned man should be chosen by the clergy, with the assent of the lay communicants of the Church;
- and thirdly, that he should be presented for consecration, either to the Archbishop of Canterbury - if the aforesaid instrument should declare the doctrine and discipline of Christ as received by the United Church of England and Ireland - or to the bishops of the Church of South Africa, according as hereafter may be judged to be most advisable and convenient.

Resolution 8

That, in order to the binding of the Churches of our colonial empire and the missionary Churches beyond them in the closest union with the Mother-Church, it is necessary that they receive and maintain without alteration the standards of faith and doctrine as now in use in that Church. That, nevertheless, each province should have the right to make such adaptations and additions to the services of the Church as its peculiar circumstances may require. Provided, that no change or addition be made inconsistent with the spirit and principles of the Book of Common Prayer, and that all such changes be liable to revision by any synod of the Anglican Communion in which the said province shall be represented.

Resolution 9

That the committee appointed by Resolution 5, with the addition of the names of the Bishops of London, St. David's, and Oxford, and all the colonial bishops, be instructed to consider the constitution of a voluntary spiritual tribunal, to which questions of doctrine may be carried by appeal from the tribunals for the exercise of discipline in each province of the colonial Church, and that their report be forwarded to His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, who is requested to communicate it to an adjourned meeting of this Conference.

Resolution 10

That the Resolutions submitted to this Conference relative to the discipline to be exercised by metropolitans, the Court of Metropolitans, the scheme for conducting the election of bishops, when not otherwise provided for, the declaration of submission to the regulation of synods, and the question of what legislation should be proposed for the colonial Churches, be referred to the committee specified in the preceding Resolution.

Resolution 11

That a special committee be appointed to consider the Resolutions relative to the notification of proposed missionary bishoprics, and the subordination of missionaries.

Resolution 12

That the question of the bounds of the jurisdiction of different bishops, when any question may have arisen in regard to them, the question as to the obedience of chaplains of the United Church of England and Ireland on the continent, and the Resolution submitted to the Conference relative to their return and admission into home dioceses, be referred to the committee specified in the preceding Resolution.

Resolution 13

That we desire to render our hearty thanks to Almighty God for the blessings vouchsafed to us in and by this Conference; and we desire to express our hope that this our meeting may hereafter be followed by other meetings to be conducted in the same spirit of brotherly love.