

DIOCESAN DIVISION IS DECREED

Convention Approves Project Under Certain Conditions.

ADDITIONAL \$59,000 MUST BE PLEDGED

Vote in Favor Was Two to One—The Line of Division Making a North and South Diocese Is Agreed Upon.

After years of agitation, the project to divide the Central Pennsylvania diocese was yesterday carried in diocesan convention by an overwhelming vote.

Resolved, That the convention adopt the first line of division, as reported by the committee on lines and division, except that Northumberland county be included in the Northern diocese, and that the southern part of Luzerne county be put in the Southern diocese.

Three hours' debate preceded the vote. Many eloquent speeches were heard pro and con.

Other matters. A number of other important matters were considered, during two busy sessions lasting from 9.30 a. m. to 5 p. m.

Among the delegates to arrive yesterday were Rev. Alfred M. Abel, of Jonestown; Rev. George R. Bishop, of Great Bend; Rev. R. L. Chittenden, of Paradise; Rev. George C. Foley, D. D., of Williamsport; Rev. Frank Marshall, of Freedom; A. L. Leopold, of Tamaqua; Samuel Moss, of New Milford; William H. Warner, of Montrose; Philander H. Lanes, of Great Bend; George Meyer, of Hazleton; Charles S. Benedict, of Christ church, Scranton; Asa Blakelock, of Mauch Chunk; A. J. Graham, of Phillipsburg; Paul E. Wirt, John R. Townsend, George S. Robbins, of Bloomsburg; B. F. Meyers, of Harrisburg; E. C. Harraden, W. B. Myers, of Honesdale; Scranton; J. B. Dimmick, Church of the Good Shepherd, Scranton; A. R. Brundage, S. K. Miner, F. C. Johnson, of Wilkes-Barre; H. O. Rogers, Frederick C. Zerby, of Hazleton.

The business session was opened at 9.30 o'clock by Bishop Talbot. Roll call and reading of minutes followed and then the printed report of the finance committee was distributed. It was as follows:

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE. For detailed statement of receipts and expenditures the committee refer to the report of the treasurer of the diocese.

The deficit of \$884.32 would be wiped out if the

amount of \$1,161.68 had been adjusted. The committee believe that an inspection of the schedule of unpaid assessments will satisfy any one that nearly the whole of this amount is due to the difference. The proposed amendment to the constitution, depriving parishes in arrears of representation in convention, will, it is hoped, assist the laity to better debts.

Had it not been for the expenses incident to the finance trial, the convention would have been free from debt. We were able to meet these expenses by applying to this purpose the excess arising from computing interest on the endowment fund at 5 per cent; this amount must be repaid and invested to the credit of the fund.

St. John's church, East Mauch Chunk, petitioned the committee to be relieved from assessment for the diocesan fund, for the reason that the \$10,000 endowment fund held by St. Mark's church, Mauch Chunk, was raised before the creation of St. John's parish, and as originally intended was for the maintenance of that fund.

The committee fix the percentage of assessment as follows: First Group, parishes expending under \$250,000, 1 per cent.

Second Group, parishes expending between \$250,000 and \$500,000, 1 1/2 per cent.

Third Group, parishes expending over \$500,000 and \$1,000,000, 2 per cent.

Fourth Group, parishes expending over \$1,000,000, 2 1/2 per cent.

It is estimated that this will yield \$8,121.87. The committee also recommend that the amount raised be used for the purpose of paying the interest on the endowment fund, and for the purpose of paying the interest on the endowment fund.

Rev. W. R. Butler, of Mauch Chunk, secretary of the board of missions, read the report for that body. It was written in an extremely interesting manner and was promotive of alternate laughter and applause.

WARNER'S WARNER'S "SAFE CURE" FOR LAME BACKS. "SAFE CURE" FOR WEAK KIDNEYS. "SAFE CURE" FOR KIDNEY DISEASES. "SAFE CURE" FOR ALBUMINURIA. "SAFE CURE" FOR BRIGHT'S DISEASE. "SAFE CURE" FOR TORPID LIVERS. "SAFE CURE" FOR BILIOUSNESS. "SAFE CURE" FOR BILIOUS HEADACHES. "SAFE CURE" FOR BILIOUS FLATULENCY. "SAFE CURE" FOR LIVER ENERVATION. "SAFE CURE" HAS CURED THOUSANDS. "SAFE CURE" WILL CURE YOU. "SAFE CURE" SOLD EVERYWHERE. "SAFE CURE" ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTE.

Rev. Mr. Eckel, in support of his resolution, argued that it was simply a measure of temporary relief. Rev. F. C. Cowper, of Ashland, coincided with Rev. Mr. Woodie that the matter will adjust itself independently.

Rev. P. P. Harrington, of West Pittston, offered an amendment that mite chests for the purpose of such extension be placed in the churches during the four Sundays of advent and the two Sundays preceding.

John L. Lawrence, of Chambersburg, approved the idea of having the proposed change and moved to lay the resolution on the table. His motion was carried by an overwhelming majority, only about half a dozen "noes" being heard.

Then the special order of business, the question of dividing the diocese was called up by Secretary Clement. The special committee on division had prepared an elaborate printed report and this was in the hands of the delegates.

Line No. 1 is what is called the east and west line. It passes along the southern boundary of Center and North counties, bisects Northumberland, and then proceeds along the southern boundaries of Montour, Columbia, Luzerne and Monroe counties.

Line No. 2 is a north and south line extending along the western boundary of Bradford, Sullivan, Luzerne, Schuylkill and Berks.

Line No. 3 extends northeast and southwest, beginning with the common boundary of Fulton and Franklin and ending with the junction of Pike and Monroe, on the Delaware.

Line 4 extended transversely to the foregoing, and included in one section the counties of Bradford, Susquehanna, Wayne, Pike, Sullivan, Wyoming, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Carbon, Monroe, Lehigh and Northampton.

Resolution. Some other line might, later, be substituted. He simply wanted to have the question settled in this provisional way.

Rev. Alfred M. Abel, of Jonestown; Archdeacon James P. Buxton, of Drifton, and Rev. William Reese Scott, Ph. D., of Hazleton, wanted Secretary Clement to vary Line No. 1 further by placing the three lower Luzerne parishes in the South diocese, and when Mr. Clement declined to accept this amendment, Rev. Dr. Scott offered as an amendment a resolution to adopt Line No. 2.

Rev. Mr. Woodie suggested that the amendments be not insisted upon and that Secretary Clement's resolution be permitted to pass. "If the men who favor division can be spurred to increase the Episcopal endowment to \$100,000, the question should be postponed. The diocese is scarcely a unit and hardly can be such. There is the hard coal region and soft coal region and down in the southwestern portion is a country that Bishop Talbot, about originally, has been sent to instead of to Idaho. I can't understand why the board overlooked such large game and sent him out among the cowboys to hunt coyotes (laughter). For the time being Line No. 1 is all right."

THE LUZERNE PARISHES. Archdeacon Buxton again offered a vigorous opposition to having the lower Luzerne parishes thrown across the mountain. In the prospective North diocese and it had the effect of inducing Mr. Scott to accept Rev. Mr. Abel's amendment, including these parishes in the South diocese. In consideration of this, Rev. Mr. Scott withdrew his amendment favoring Line No. 4 and the question before the house once more was Secretary Clement's original resolution. Mr. Clement explained that the line can be changed by a majority vote any time before taking the matter into the general convention, but should be understood, he added, that the pledges would be solicited with the stipulation that the division was to be according to Line No. 1, and that if any change in the line was made, the pledges would have to be re-solicited.

There is a lengthy and strong speech from one of the leading opponents of division, Rev. George C. Foley, D. D., rector of Trinity church, Williamsport. The attitude of Bishop Talbot on the division question was, he believed, prompted, in the main by courtesy. The bishop, he said, accepted the election to the office of diocesan with the understanding that a decision was impending. In the letter of invitation, it was announced to him that the division was contemplated, though this clause Rev. Dr. Foley believed was inserted without the knowledge of the members of the committee, other than the one who wrote it. He himself did not see it or he would have objected to its insertion. Being a man of extreme courtesy and probity he feels it his duty to make these frequent remarks to the house. He said to me over and over again that he is not overworked. He can make his usual visits to his own diocese and also take on duty for other bishops.

There is no necessity for more episcopal work. There never was so much Episcopal work done in this diocese as is being done now, (cheers). I am unalterably opposed to division. I prefer a co-adjutor. There is no necessity for a division now. The report of this committee does not commit us to division. If we ever have the necessity of a division, we will have the report at hand. It is by no means a present question.

REASON HE OPPOSED. "I believe in the increase of the Episcopal endowment but not for division purposes. I will endeavor to prevent any money being subscribed in my parish for the division. One half the diocese will be called upon to bear the whole diocese is hardly able to meet now."

"The bishop tells you it is a practical question of finance for those who want the division. I sent circulars throughout the whole diocese to ascertain how much could be secured. I believe in the solution of this question. The responses indicate less than \$500."

Rev. Dr. Foley concluded by offering as a substitute to Secretary Clement's resolution, a resolution that the consideration of the question of division be postponed until the next convention. He thought the delegates may have more opportunity to study the committee's report.

This brought a vigorous retort from Major Everett Warren, of St. Luke's, who has all along been prominent in the question of division. He expressed his indignation at the suggestion that the delegates may have more opportunity to study the committee's report.

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copal church, and contended this was not logical, when the reports of every department of the church show a steady and healthy growth.

It would only be fair play to the supporters of the project to give them the question of how the \$100,000 was to be apportioned between the two proposed dioceses.
MANNER OF DIVISION. Secretary Clement settled the mooted point by explaining that under the committee's directions, if Line No. 1 was adopted the \$40,000 now in the Episcopal fund would be divided in such proportions that the north diocese would be called upon to raise \$35,000 and the south diocese \$14,000.
After Rufus J. Foster, of St. Luke's, had argued at length that an explicit division would facilitate the collection of the endowment money, Rodney A. Mercier, of Towanda, brought the discussion to a close with a speech favoring the dividing line afterwards. He then called for the previous question.
Rev. Dr. Foley's motion to postpone indefinitely was defeated by an overwhelming majority. Mr. Mercier's proposition to substitute Line No. 2 for Line No. 1 in Mr. Clement's resolution was lost by a vote of 55 to 73. By a vote that did not even occasion a call for a division the propositions to substitute Line 4 and Line 5 were in turn defeated, and then the convention by a vote of 112 to 56 passed the original resolution, dividing the diocese according to Line No. 1, conditional upon the Episcopal endowment fund being increased from \$41,000 to \$100,000. The announcement of the pro-division victory was greeted with loud and continued cheers.
The election of the standing committee was then taken up and resulted in the selection of the following: Clergy—Rev. Marcus A. Tolman, of Mauch Chunk; Rev. William P. Orrick, D. D., of Hazleton; Rev. Henry L. Jones, D. D., of Wilkes-Barre; Rev. Charles Morrison, of Scranton; Rev. Charles J. Wood, of York.
Lay—Guy E. Farquhar, of Pottsville; Hugh M. North, LL. B., of Columbia; A. B. Sherrill, of Scranton; A. N. Cleaver, of South Bethlehem, and Dr. H. B. Meredith, of Danville.
ONLY NEW MEMBER. Rev. Mr. Wood is the only new member of the committee, his election being to fill a vacancy. It required six ballots to make a choice. Rev. W. P. Foley, Archdeacon Buxton and Rev. Alexander McMillan, of Carlisle, were the others nominated. All withdrew except Rev. Mr. Wood and Rev. Mr. Shero. The final ballot was:
Clergy, Lay, Wood, 25 11 Sherrill, 21 11
By the canons of the diocese it is required that a majority shall be given both by the laity and clergy. The nine re-elected members of the committee were chosen on the first ballot. The tellers were Rev. E. T. Eastment, of Lansboro, and Rev. Rollin A. Sawyer, of Carbondale, for the clergy, and W. R. Butler, of Mauch Chunk, and R. P. Linderman, of South Bethlehem, for the laity.
Rev. Leroy F. Baker, of Harrisburg, (Continued on Page 8.)

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