

## JUNCTION OF CHURCHES AIM

Union of Presbyterian and Reformed Bodies Discussed by Assembly

### FIVE BODIES AFFECTED

Consolidation of Boards and Agencies is Also Before Convention

WINONA LAKE, Ind., May 19.—A constitution calling for the union of the Presbyterian and Reformed churches in the United States into an organization known as "The Presbyterian Reformed Churches in America" was submitted in connection with the report of the special committee on church co-operation and union, at the session of the Presbyterian general assembly here today.

The proposed constitution provides for the union of churches to function through an assembly which shall be known as "The United Assembly of the Presbyterian Reformed Churches in America." This assembly will present in one body all the constituent churches and will "constitute a

bond of union, peace and correspondence among all the congregations and pulpitories of the constituent churches. It will be a deliberative and executive agency of the united body, but shall exercise only the powers delegated to it" in the proposed constitution.

**Five Churches Affected.**  
The five churches holding the Presbyterian system affected in this union include the following: The Presbyterian church in the United States of America (northern), the Presbyterian church in the United States (southern), the Reformed Church in America, the Reformed Church in the United States and the United Presbyterian church.

The special committee also reported on the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, the World Conference on Faith and Order, the World Conference on Faith and Life and the Council of Organic Union of Evangelical churches.

**No Recommendation Made.**  
Referring to the question of evangelical union, the committee offers no recommendation, pending the action of the presbyteries to which an overture on organic union was sent by the last general assembly.

The report, however, points out that the proposed organic union of the churches of Christ was intended to replace the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America. It declares that there is no identity of constitution, constituency, or purpose between the two. It declares that the constitution of one was drawn on the express understanding of organic union; while the constitution of the other is based on such a union. It declares further that the Federal Council of Churches is an advisory body only, while the Council of Organic Union is an authorizing body.

**Semi-Yearly Meeting Planned.**  
The united assembly would meet at least twice a year and would be composed of eight representatives from each church, for each 1000 communicants or fraction thereof, up to 300,000 then four representatives for each 1000 additional communicants or major fraction thereof.

The united assembly will have the power of supervision and direction, within limits set by the constitution.

Continuation of the special committee on reorganization and consolidation of the boards and agencies of the Presbyterian church in order that further study might be made of consolidation plans and a comprehensive program for reorganization to be prepared, will be recommended in a report to be given during the session of the Presbyterian general assembly.

**Way Seems Easy.**  
The committee which has been at work for the last year refers to consolidation which have already been effected between certain Presbyterian boards and declares "that from this experience in trying out, piecemeal, the legal aspects of consolidation measures, it would appear that, so far as the law is concerned, there is no insurmountable difficulty in the way. The vital question is one of expediency and utility."

A special committee is headed by Dr. John Timothy Stone, Chicago. It consists of four other Presbyterian ministers and five elders as follows:

Rex Alexander MacColl, Philadelphia, Rev. William H. Black, Marshall, Mo., Rev. Robert J. MacAlpine, Buffalo, N. Y., Rev. Walter H. Houston, Columbus, O., J. M. I. Flanery, Fred M. Bartlett, Andrew Timberman, J. I. Buchanan and Montgomery Webster (resigned.)

**Frank Expression Urged.**  
The committee report states that a full and frank discussion of the whole question of consolidation should be encouraged and that the entire church should have opportunity to discuss this question. It suggests a Presbyterian referendum, if such action should be considered wise by the Presbyterian general assembly.

The committee presents two ways in which reorganization of Presbyterian boards and agencies might be considered and asks that general assembly decide which of these two ways shall be filled out, giving at the same time authority for drawing up these suggested changes and reports at the next general assembly.

**Would Reduce Boards.**  
These suggested plans for re-

organization calls for "a comprehensive plan for the reorganization of the entire work of the church. The committee will report that it has considered several such plans laid before it which provide for a substantial reduction of the present number of boards and agencies of the Presbyterian church, ranging in scope and suggestion from a minimum of two to a maximum of eight boards or departments. This would be worked out "with a regrouping which would tend to eliminate overlapping, and to an effective coordination which would illustrate cooperation."

The second way in which the reorganization might be effected, this committee suggests, is to have a plan worked out "for the consolidation of certain existing boards, on the lines already initiated by previous assemblies, as in the case of the college board and the board of education now the central board of education."

**Program Tentative.**  
"Because of the immense amount of work involved the committee reports itself not prepared at the present time to recommend a final program but expresses the belief that 'the continued multiplication of agencies is unfortunate and that their reduction and simplification would be appreciated greatly by the church at large.'"

In concluding the special committee expresses its judgment "that the questions involved in the matter of consolidation are so serious and far reaching that personal desire must be subordinated in any effective consideration of them."

The committee recalls that the subject of the consolidation has been before the Presbyterian church for many years. In 1905 a special committee was appointed which made a long study for and

against consolidation, but in its report declared that consolidation was impossible to recommend because the union of two boards would result in a loss of collections.

**Legality Was Questioned.**  
In 1909 this committee reported that the legal obstacles to consolidation were without question insurmountable, but recommended the establishment of an executive commission of general assembly. The commission was instructed to consider and formulate a plan for the consolidation and rearrangement of such boards as they may deem advisable, as soon as the legal difficulties were out of the way.

In 1910 the general assembly on recommendation of the executive commission, which declared there were no insurmountable obstacles to consolidation, resolved that the Presbyterian boards of home missions, church erection and freedmen, if the way be clear, should be either consolidated, merged or so rearranged that their general direction and supervision be brought under one general control.

**Half Million Dollar Improvement at Warrenton**

Improvements in the water system at Warrenton to cost \$500,000 are contemplated, according to an application filed yesterday with the state engineering department. The appropriation of 20 second feet from Lewis and Clark river is asked. The company furnishes water to Warrenton, Seaside, Hammond, Fort Stevens and some other places.

Read The Classified Ads.

## HUG OFFER IS ALLURING BAIT

Annual Salary of \$4,000 and Five Year Contract Said to Be Tender

### VACANCY HERE PROBABLE

Salem School Board Fixes June 21 as Date for Board Election

It is a flattering bait that Oregon state university is understood to dangle before Superintendent George Hug of the Salem school—a contract for at least five years as graduate athletic manager, and a salary of \$4000—and the chance to boost his alma mater just as high and as hard as his ability and his ambitions can go.

Superintendent Hug had been re-elected to fill the office of head of the Salem schools before this offer came to him. The board announces unofficially that it has no other man in contemplation, as it had been thoroughly satisfied with Mr. Hug's work and was glad to renew his contract.

At the same time, the city

school district can not bid against the whole state of Oregon, and when the state begins to slip in its red chips of cash and never-ending contracts, the local district is obliged to throw up its hands and bowler "enough."

The board is to meet next Tuesday night, though it has nothing before it at this time for action in the superintendency matter. What may come up by that time is not known, though it is unofficially understood that the board expects to have a vacancy to fill.

Superintendent Hug is to go to Eugene Saturday for a final investigation of what is back of the offer. It is a most flattering offer, from the school that he has helped to make famous, and one that carries with it so strong a sense of obligation, apart from all other considerations, that few could turn it down off-hand.

### Election Date Fixed

Two members of the present school board are to retire this year, their successors to be elected on June 20. H. O. White, president of the board, and H. H. Olinger are the retiring members. Mr. White, who has served for eight years, says that this is a final good-bye—some one else can wear the stripes for the next eight years, and see how it goes to have to wear ship guns and kicking pads and a brick-bat mask all the year round, and work nights and board one's self for the public good. He is recognized as an almost invaluable member of the board, whose services have done much to make and keep the Salem schools what they are today.

### Two Candidates Mentioned

Dr. Olinger has been so strongly urged by friends to retain his place, that he has consented to allow them to present his name for

re-election. L. J. Simeral's name will be presented, and Attorney Roy Shields has been urged to accept a nomination. It is understood, however, that Shields does not intend to enter the field in competition with his friend Simeral, so there may be only the two candidates.

We are progressing. There is not as much gingerbread about the construction of houses as there

used to be thirty years ago, and is an improvement.

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**BIRD and KEMA**  
A Crossing Conversation  
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All the fancy dress patterns  
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**BLACK SATEEN**  
Extra quality  
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**ALL WOOL STORM SERGE**  
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For Spring and Summer Wear  
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**SILK UMBRELLAS**  
Special  
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Full Sized Cotton Blankets **\$1.89**  
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**B.V.D. UNION SUITS**  
Suit  
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**BIB OVERALLS**  
All Sizes  
Pair  
**49c**

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Suit  
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Blue Chambray  
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For men, in Black and Cordovan  
Pair  
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