

43
Ciskei Missionary Council.

ELEVENTH MEETING

AT

King William's Town

18th November, 1936.

THE LOVEDALE PRESS.

THE CISKEIAN MISSIONARY COUNCIL.

MINUTES AND REPORT.

After prayer by the Reverend J. S. Lister, M.A., the Minutes of the last meeting, as circulated, were approved.

The following representatives were duly accredited by their Constituent bodies, viz. :—

The Methodist Church of South Africa—

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|----|--------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | The Reverend | A. A. Wellington | |
| 2. | „ | „ | A. J. Cook, B.A. <i>a</i> |
| 3. | „ | „ | D. E. Carr |
| 4. | „ | „ | W. C. Teka * |

The Church of the Province of South Africa—

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|----|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1. | The Venerable | Archdeacon Mather, M.A. | |
| 2. | The Reverend | Canon Hanley, M.A. * | |
| 3. | „ | „ | A. E. Jingiso |
| 4. | „ | „ | W. S. Gawe |

The Congregational Union of South Africa—

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|----|--------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | The Reverend | D. Tolmie Fraser | |
| 2. | „ | „ | F. C. Bota <i>a</i> |
| 3. | „ | „ | — — — |
| 4. | „ | „ | — — — |

The Bantu Presbyterian Church—

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|----|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | The Reverend | Mungo Carrick, M.A., B.D. | |
| 2. | „ | „ | H. Mama * |
| 3. | „ | „ | B. A. Gasa <i>a</i> |
| 4. | „ | „ | G. G. Ndzotyana * |

The Dutch Reformed Church—

- | | | | |
|----|--------------|------------|----------|
| 1. | The Reverend | J. Hofmeyr | <i>a</i> |
| 2. | | — — — | |

The Lutheran Church—

- | | | | |
|----|--------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | The Reverend | Frans Nickschtat | <i>a</i> |
| 2. | „ | „ | H. Xatasi <i>a</i> |

The Baptist Union—

1. The Reverend B. Pape, B.A. *a*
2. — — —

The Moravian Church—

1. The Reverend P. Hickel. *a*
2. „ „ L. Ngqakayi, *

The Church Order of Ethopia—

1. Mr. Mile Kika

The African Methodist Episcopal Church—

1. The Reverend Chalmers Nyombolo *a*

The Presbyterian Church of Africa—

1. The Reverend V. R Kwatsha *a*
2. „ „ L. N. Mzimba, D.D. *a*

The Presbyterian Church of South Africa—

1. The Right Reverend J. N. M. Paterson, M.A. *
2. „ Reverend J. S. Lister, M.A.

The Free Church of Scotland—

1. The Reverend A. Dewar *a*

The Church of Scotland—

1. The Reverend Dr. A. W. Wilkie, M.A., D.D.
2. „ „ R. H. W. Shepherd, M.A.

The Associated Heads of Native Institutions—

1. The Right Reverend C. J. Ferguson Davie, D.D.
2. The Reverend E. H. Roseveare, M.A.

The South African Native College—

1. Principal Alexander Kerr, M.A., L.L.D.

The Students' Christian Association—

1. — — —

Cape Education Department—

1. G. H. Welsh, Esqr., B.A. *
2. A. E. Puttick, Esqr., B.A. —(Secundus)

Native Affairs Department—

The Secretary for Native Affairs
A. L. Barrett, Esqr.—(Secundus)

South African Institute of Race Relations—

1. J. D. Rheinallt Jones, Esqr., M.A. *a*
- The Reverend E. W. Grant—(Secundus) *

General Missionary Conference—

1. Mrs. E. W. Grant *
2. Miss Rogers *a*

Cape African Teachers' Association—

1. Mr. W. Ncwana
2. Mr. S. Hashe *a*

*—*Sent an apology*

a—Not present.

The Rev. W. Cordingley was present by special invitation of the Standing Committee and invited to participate in the business of the Council.

The Rev. R. Semple and the Rev. J. Somaza were the duly appointed fraternal delegates from the Transkei Missionary Conference. No word was received from the Rev. R. Semple, but the Rev. J. Somaza sent an apology for absence. The Rev. Michael Bogle was a visitor to the Council and was introduced by Dr. Wilkie.

The Chairman extended a welcome to the Rev. S. Gawe, the Rev. Mungo Carrick, M.A., B.D., Mr. Mile Kika, A. E. Puttick, and Mr. W. Ncwana.

Correspondence was read relating to the visit of Mr. Kenneth G. Grubb, M.A., of the World Dominion Press and the co-operation of the Council with that organisation in South African missionary affairs.

The Rev. R. H. W. Shepherd, fraternal delegate from the Council to the Transkei Missionary Conference, gave a short

report of his visit. Arising out of the report it was unanimously resolved that the following resolution should be forwarded to the Education Department :—

“ The Ciskeian Missionary Council has learned with regret that the *Children's Bible* in Xosa published by the Lovedale Press has not been placed on the Requisites Stores Catalogue owing to its being in the old orthography and would urge that the book be included in the catalogue until present edition is exhausted since it meets a long-felt want.”

Mr. Shepherd was thanked for his report.

Dr. Wilkie informed the Council that he had been invited to act as Chairman of the Bible Translation Committee in succession to the late Dr. Henderson. The work of transliteration of the Xosa Bible into the new orthography has been commenced by Mr. Bennie and certain revision work would be carried out before the Bible was reprinted.

The Secretary, on behalf of the Rev. E. W. Grant, read a paper on Sunday School work in the Ciskei. The paper revealed an appalling neglect of and indifference to Sunday School work. Only ten replies were received out of one hundred questionnaires sent out. Parents relegate the Sunday School work to the sphere of unimportant things. The right type of teacher is difficult to obtain. Elderly people appear jealous of their position and discourage young capable workers. African life in rural areas causes much of the organised religious work of the community to be crowded into the Sabbath leaving no time for Sunday School work. The boys, with but few exceptions, spend the day herding in order to liberate the older people for the activities of Church life. In some cases there is an improvement in urban areas, but even here the position is far from satisfactory. A lengthy discussion took place but the Council was at a disadvantage in that Mr. Grant was not present. The paper represented a summary of the information collected and did not contain any suggested scheme of development. It was, therefore, unanimously resolved that Mr. Grant be requested to continue his investigations and lead the Council in its further

deliberations next year in order to secure an improvement in the conduct of this vital work throughout the Missionary Churches of the Ciskei. Meanwhile "Helps to Teachers" is being issued by the Lovedale Bible School and an effort is being made to train young people for the work. Further, the S.A.N.S.S. Association is also endeavouring to meet the need.

The Venerable Archdeacon Mather delivered a short address on "Heathen Customs as a Hindrance to Missionary Work." He dealt with circumcision, *lobola* and *ukumetsha*, the last being declared to be the greatest hindrance. The discussion that followed was led by the Rev. D. Tolmie Fraser, the African representatives taking part. The subject provided information for those engaged in the work.

The Right Reverend Ferguson Davie, D.D., conducted the devotional period.

The Rev. W. Cordingley read a paper on the report of the "Inter-Departmental Committee on Native Education" affecting Managers and Teachers. A discussion followed in which Dr. Wilkie declared that the fundamental principle in the report for the Council was that Missionary control should continue. He said it was a challenge to us to exercise the responsibility given in the highest interests of the African people. The Chairman intimated that the four Provinces were in collaboration and representation was being made to the Union Government on certain aspects of the report. Mr. Puttick suggested that the Council should use its influence for the maintenance and extension of Native education during the interim with a special reference to finance. Mr. Cordingley was thanked for his paper.

The Secretary read a paper on the "Housing of Native Teachers in Rural Areas." Where the teacher lives in harmony with the people a satisfactory and amicable arrangement can generally be secured. The Council adopted a resolution asking the Department to re-affirm the Minute on the subject of Native Teachers' Houses in the issue of the *Gazette*, January, 1929.

Dr. Wilkie reported on the inauguration and subsequent

activities of the Christian Council of South Africa. Principal Kerr and the Rev. E. W. Grant were elected representatives, (the Rev. D. E. Carr official). Secundi: the Reverends A. E. Jungiso and W. C. Teka. The Venerable Archdeacon Mather represents the Council on the Translations Committee for this language area. Rev. D. E. Carr secundus.

On the recommendation of the Standing Committee Principal Kerr moved that the Constitution be amended to allow of the nomination by the Council of not more than six additional members who shall be appointed because of their interest and service in Missionary work. Carried.

The Rev. A. E. Jingso moved as an unopposed motion that the thanks of the Council be presented to the Chairman for his charge as President to the Methodist Conference on "The Church and the African."

The Council pledged its support in making representations to the Government for the establishment of a sanatorium for tuberculosis Patients in the Ciskei.

A statement of accounts was presented and adopted.

The following officers were elected and agreed to act:—

Chairman :

Rev. A. A. Wellington

Secretary :

Rev. D. E. Carr

Standing Committee :

Principal Kerr

The Right Reverend D. Ferguson Davie

Rev. E. W. Grant

Rev. A. W. Wilkie

Rev. L. Ngqakayi

A vote of thanks was given to the Rev. Canon Hanley for the use of the Twemlow Hall and to the ladies for kindly entertainment and refreshments.

The meeting closed with the Benediction.

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