

1915 August

The brethren and sisters of Matopo and Mtshabezi Missions met in Conference at the latter place Monday, August 23, 1915. Eld. H.P. Steigerwald, Moderator, H.J. Frey, Secretary.

After scripture reading and prayer the following questions were considered.

Art. I

Reconsideration of Art. I., Minutes of March. The missionaries in conference assembled, feeling an impulse in their own hearts, and realizing also a special need among the native Christians, of instilling into their hearts the necessity of consecrating their children,

Resolved therefore that we adopt the practice of publicly dedicating children to the Lord and to His service; the same to be performed by the missionary in charge at the request of one or more of the parents.

Art. II

(a) Shall we receive members from other societies without rebaptizing them?

Decided that all who have not already been baptized by triune immersion shall be rebaptized.

(b) In regard to allowing those of other societies to commune with us.

Decided to allow those who are in good standing in their own communions and those whose lives we believe to be consistent to fellowship with us at the communion table. The above resolution subject to approval of F.M.B.

Art. III

Whereas, many of the missionaries on the field feel the need of spending some time at the Bible School during their furloughs home,

Resolved that we petition the F.M. Board to make arrangements for such to have free access to the school during at least part of the time of their vacation; provided that any expense incurred thereby shall not be paid out of the F.M. Funds.

Art. IV

Whereas, in Sec. 2, Art. XII, 1915, Gen. Conference has looked with favor upon the request of the S.A. Church Council for an enlarged edition of the yearly missionary report,

And whereas the F.M. Board have asked the S. African Church for suggestions concerning the publishing of the proposed enlarged pamphlet,

Resolved that this council instruct the Missionary Pamphlet Committee to forward to the F.M. Board the following resolutions--

(1) That this Council extends to Gen. Conference and to the F.M. Board their thanks and appreciation for the forward step they have taken in the matter.

(2) That the committee take immediate steps to gather from the several mission stations such material for insertion in the pamphlet

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Art. IV Cont.

as they may be able to contribute, and forward the same to the F.A. Board for their use or rejection, as they may deem proper.

(3) That this Council favors the appearance of the enlarged copy twice during the year 1916, the first copy to appear in January, and thereafter as often as may be deemed expedient.

(4) That though this Council was not specifically asked for material for insertion in the proposed pamphlet, it was inferred that such was desired, and because of the shortness of time from the present to the appearing of the first copy, we have decided to take action as in section II of this article.