About the Records

Note: See https://memorysask.ca/church-union-collection for detailed description.

Summary

Title proper: Church Union collection **Reference code:** FG 09

Title notes: *Previously identified as Church Union Materials series (A.381.IX).*

Creation: ca.1900–1936

Physical description: 77.5 cm of textual records; 4 maps; 1 poster

Series

Title	*Date(s)*	*Extent(s)*	*Previous Ref.# (GS-168)*
Publications	1905-1936	22.6 cm	*A.381.IX.B, D.*
Newspapers and clippings	1908-1928	55.0 cm	*A.381.IX.E*

About Archival Reference Numbers

When requesting access to specific records, please note the title and date listed, as well as all parts of the reference code, including:

- the locator code (e.g. "A.676");
- a roman-numeral series code (e.g. "XVII") and any sub-series codes present;
- individual file and/or item identifiers.

Example: A.676.XVII.D.1 – Edmund H. Oliver, Correspondence, 1911-1916.

Collection list (from GS-168, volume 1)

IX. Church Union Material.

The material in this section appears to have come from different sources as is evidenced by the names of E.H. Oliver, D.S. Dix, Walter C. Murray and other individuals being written on some items. The material might also have been given to the Conference Archives at different times. Ultimately it was brought together under "Church Union Material" by Conference archivists. This subject has been retained in the present arrangement even though many of the publications could well have been filed with the Presbyterian or Methodist Church material in sections I, II, IV or V.

B. Publications.

Most of the material in this section consists of publications of the churches seeking union and of the Joint committees appointed by these churches. There are a few typed and mimeographed items. Before being brought together in this collection by Conference archivists, some of this material had been in the possession of Dr. D.S. Dix, Prof. E.H. Oliver or Dr. Walter C. Murray.

1. Presbyterian Church: Basis of Union, 1905 - 1908. 3 mm

A Brief Sketch of the negotiations for Union of the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational Churches in Canada. 1905. 16 p.

Documents Agreed Upon by the Joint Committee on Church Union Representing the Presbyterian Methodist and Congregational Churches, and Submitted to these Churches as a Possible Basis of Union. 1908. 37 p.

2. Methodist Church: Basis of Union, 1909. 3 mm

Proposed Basis of Union Between the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational Churches. 1909. 40 p.

3. Joint Committee on Church Union: Conferences, 1906 - 1908. 1.5 cm

Proceedings of the Second Conference of the Joint Committee on Church Union representing the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational Churches together with the Reports of the Sub-Committees as Adopted by the Joint Committee, February 1906. 21 p.

Same. Third Conference, February, 1907. 45 p.
Same. Fourth Conference, September, 1907. 45 p.
Same. Fifth Conference, December, 1908. 59 p.

4. Joint Committee on Church Union: Basis of Union, 1915 - 1924. 5 mm

The United Church of Canada Basis of Union As Agreed Upon by the Joint Committee on Church Union Representing the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational Churches Together with a Brief Historical Statement. 1915. 24 p.

Same. 1922. 30 p.

Basis of Union of the United Church of Canada as Prepared by the Joint Committee on Church Union and Approved by the Presbyterian Church in Canada, the General Conference of the Methodist Church, the Congregational Union of Canada. Also A Brief Historical Statement. 1924. 36 p.

5. Joint Committee on Church Union: Minutes, 1921 - 1925. 1.5 cm

Minutes of meetings of the Committee, its executive committee and sub-executive committee. Also includes minutes of the Seventh Conference of the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Committees on Church Union, October 21, 1921.

6. Joint Committee on Church Union: Sub-committee on Polity, 1903 - 1905. 1.3 cm

Handwritten and printed copies of minutes or reports of the sub-committee on polity. Dr. Walter C. Murray was a member of the sub-committee and there is a possibility that he wrote the minutes and reports.

7. Joint Committee on Church Union: Sub-committees, 1905 - 1906. 3 mm

Printed reports of the Sub-committee on Administration, 1906; on the Ministry, n.d.; and on Doctrine. The Interim Report on Doctrine, [c. 1905.] also has reports on polity, the ministry and administration. The file also includes Doctrinal Basis of Union, 1905.

IX. B. 8. Joint Committee on Church Union: Publications. 1.5 cm

Method of Taking the Vote on Church Union under (a) The Provincial Act. (b) The Federal Act. in the Province of Saskatchewan. [1924.] 10 p.
Church Union in Canada: An Estimate of Dr. Morrow's Book. by The Rev. John T. McNeill. [1924]. 15 p.
"Our Congregation" and the United Church of Canada. n.d. 2 p.
The Valley of Decision. 1924. 4 p.
Legislation and the Basis of Union. n.d. 6 p.
The Cry For Another Vote. [1924]. 14 p.
The Presbytery of Montreal through its Church Union Committee places the Issues of the Vote before the Members of the Congregations within its Bounds. n.d. 3 p.
Co-operation and Union in The Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches in Canada. 1923. 21 p.
Organization for Church Union. n.d. 1 p.
The Church and the Spirit. n.d. 4 p.
A Catechism on Church Union in Canada. n.d. 8 p.

A Catechism on Church Union No.III. 1924. 8 p.
Church Union and The Bill: A Popular Digest and Discussion. [1923.] 16 p.
Uniting Three United Churches. 1923. 16 p.
The Things That Matter in Church Union: A Broadcast Statement of the Questions at Issue. by Professor R.E. Welsh. n.d. 7 p.
Outline Sermons and Addresses on Church Union and the United Church of Canada. 1924. 16 p.
A Scottish Presbyterian and Church Union in Canada. by Rev. Professor J.M. Shaw. 1925. 8 p.
Statement of Doctrine of the United Church of Canada. n.d. 4 p.
A Call for a Day of Prayer with Suggested Programme. n.d. 3 p.
Survey of Church Conditions in the Dominion of Canada Made by a Joint Committee of the Methodist, Congregational, and Presbyterian Churches. n.d. 52 p.
The Final Vote. [1924.] 2 p.
A Choice and A Challenge. [1925.] 4 p.
A Vision of Unity. [1925.] 2 p.
The Gospel of Anti-unionism. [1924.] 2 p.
The Fate of Anti-unionism. n.d. 2 p.
Press Bulletin on Church Union. November 1923. 4 p.
The Effect of Independence. [1924.] 2 p.
The Fundamentals. 1924. 1 p.
A Message From Scotland. by Right Rev. D. Cathels. 1924. 2 p.
Analysis of Votes on Church Union and Numerical Strength of the United Church of Canada. 1925. 4 p.

9. Proposed Legislation, 1922 - 1924. 1.6 cm

Proposed Act Incorporating the United Church of Canada with Trusts of Model Deed. September 12, 1922. 17 p.
Reprint of Proposed Act Incorporating the United Church of Canada with Trusts of Model Deed as amended...and Report of Counsel on Proposed Legislation with Letter of Transmission. September 26, 1922. 28 p.
Proposed Provincial Legislation Relating to the United Church of Canada. September 15, 1922. 15 p.

Reprint of Proposed Provincial Legislation Relating to the United Church of Canada as Amended by...the authority of the Joint Committee on Church Union. September 28, 1922. 15 p.

Reprint of Proposed Dominion and Provincial Acts...and Report of Counsel on Proposed Legislation with Letter of Transmission and Amendments Proposed by the General Conference of the Methodist Church. 1922. 46 p.

Proposed Legislation Incorporating the United Church of Canada. n.d. 30 p.

Memorandum Showing Proposed Changes in Draft Legislation Submitted by the Legal Sub-committee after Consultation with Counsel. June 1, 1923. 3 p.

Report of the Sub-committee on Law and Legislation as to Changes in Draft Legislation. Suggested by Reports of the Several Negotiating Churches. September 27, 1923. 16 p.

Proposed Legislation Respecting the United Church of Canada. [1924]. 41 p.

10. House of Commons, 1924. 1 cm

Copies of Bills and Acts of the House of Commons, all being An Act incorporating The United Church of Canada.

B. 11. House of Commons: Debates, 1924. 2 cm

House of Commons Debates, mainly unrevised editions, having reference to the Church Union Bill, for May 26, June 16, June 18, June 24, June 26, June 27, June 30, July 1, July 8, and July 9, 1924.

12. Saskatchewan Legislature, 1924. 1 cm

Copies of Bills and Acts of the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly, all being An Act respecting the Union of certain Churches therein named.

13. Anti-union Publications, 1924 - 1925. 3 mm

Memorandum: This Memorandum is Presented on Behalf of those Members of the Presbyterian Church in Canada who are Opposed to the Bill Number 47 "To Incorporate the United Church of Canada." 1924. 9 p.

A Writ and Statement of Claim issued by Anti-Unionist Leaders against Members of Union Committee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. 1925. 31 p.

14. Cunningham vs. Pidgeon, 1924. 3 mm

Three copies of the Statement of Claim in John D. Cunningham et. al. versus George C. Pidgeon et al., one having annotations possibly by P.L. Hyde, and another one being a mimeographed copy.

15. Ferguson, Rev. John, 1926. 1 mm

A judgement concerning the interpretation of the provisions of the Will of Rev. John Ferguson in which legacies were left to the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

16. Roland United Church vs. Roland Presbyterian Church, 1927 - 1928. 5 mm

Statement of Claim and Statement of Defence in a King's Bench case concerning ownership of lands and buildings originally owned by Roland Presbyterian Church, Roland, Manitoba.

B. 17. United Church of Canada: Basis of Union, 1925. 2 mm

The Basis of Union as prepared by the Joint Committee of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, The Methodist Church, and The Congregational Churches of Canada, and Approved by the Supreme Courts of These Churches. Also a Brief Historical Statement of its Formation. [1926]. 36 p.

18. Presbyterian Church: Church Union. 3 mm

Three typewritten articles "Church Union" which outline the position of the Presbyterian Church on union. Also includes Statement as to the Assembly's Action on Church Union, c. 1923.

19. Previous Legislation, n.d. 4 mm

The main item in this file is an article 'Those "Iniquitous Bills"' which is a comparison

of the legislation which brought into being the Presbyterian Church in Canada, 1874, and the proposed Bills which would create the United Church of Canada in 1925. The file also includes handwritten copies of information about the 1875 union, and typed copies of legislation in Britain and Scotland, and information about union activities in the Maritime Provinces in 1872 and 1874.

20. Voting Returns, 1925 - 1926. 1 mm

Mimeographed material giving the results of the vote on union across Canada and also comments on the vote. The file includes a blank form for reporting the result of the vote in congregations of the Presbyterian Church.

21. Inaugural Service, 1924. 2 mm

Revised draft for the Inaugural Service of the United Church of Canada. (2 copies.)

B. 22. Maps, n.d. 1 mm

Maps of the Presbytery of Halifax, Northern Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan showing points where union is in operation and where both Methodists and Presbyterians have services. These maps are undated but they might have been published about 1924. The map of Saskatchewan is possibly the one referred to in Files VIII. B. 4. and IX. A. 2.

23. Publications, 1915 - 1924. 1 cm

The Reasons For And Against Church Union, And The Reasoners. [A letter to the editor of the North Sidney Herald.] n.d. 1 p.
Church Union. [A letter to the editor of the North Sidney Herald], November 3, 1915, signed T.C. Jack. 1 p.
The Church Union Situation in Canada. by Rev. Geo. C. Pidgeon. 1924. 18 p.
An Address on Church Union. by Rev. W.T. Herridge. 1924. 8 p.
An Address on Church Union. by Rev. J.R.P. Sclater. November 18, 1924. 20 p.
Church Union: A New Year's Message from the General Superintendent. [S.D. Chown, of the Methodist Church.] 1924. 15 p.

"Can a Divided Church Save the World?" by A.J. Brown. n.d. 1 p.
Parliament and the Church, Addressed to Members of Parliament by Professor R.E. Welsh, D.D., of The Presbyterian College, Montreal. [1924.] 4 p.
Union or Co-Operation--Which?: The Proposed Union of Congregationalists, Methodists, and Presbyterians in Canada. by Robt. Campbell. n.d. 48 p.
Church Union Question Box. n.d. 1 p.
State Interference. n.d. 1 p.

24. Bulletin on Church Union, 1924 - 1925. 1 mm

Bulletin on Church Union for January, 1924; February, 1924; September, 1924; and September, 1925. (Oversize.)

B. 25. Poster, 1924. 1 mm

Presbyterians Stand by Union, published by The Union Committee of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. [1924.] (Oversize.)

26. Miscellaneous. 5 mm

"Campaign Hints", n.d. 2 p.
"Outline Pastoral Letter", n.d. 2 p.
"Outline Church Union Address", n.d. 2 p.
[letter soliciting support for Church Union.] n.d. 1 p.
"Church Union: Memorandum from Counsel as to the Legal status of, and legislative requirements as to the Presbyterian Church in Canada." 1922. 11 p. (2 copies.)
[Letter] "To the [Presbytery] Convener, Committee on Church Union." August 2, 1924. 2 p.
"Ask for the old paths... and walk therein." n.d. 1 p.
"Recommendations Adopted by the Joint Union Committee re Status of Ministers." n.d. 1 p.
"The United Church of Canada and Church Union." 1926. 6 p.
A resolution protesting a proposed resolution of the Private Bills Committee of the Ontario Legislature which would allow for the preservation of the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational Churches as separate entities. n.d. 1 p.

D. Miscellaneous Publications, 1908 - 1936. 5.5 cm

Some of these are denominational publications and some are not. All but one contain articles or letters pertaining to church union in Canada and other countries.

The Presbyterian Witness. December 1908. 16 p. (Oversize drawer).
The Presbyterian Witness. December 12, 1908. 8 p. (Oversize drawer).
The Presbyterian Witness. December 20, 1913. 8 p. (Oversize drawer).
The Presbyterian Witness. October 23, 1915. 8 p. (Oversize drawer).
The Presbyterian Witness. September 21, 1922. 24 p.
The Presbyterian Witness. September 28, 1922. 24 p.
The Presbyterian Witness. June 11, 1925. 20 p. (Oversize drawer).
The Presbyterian Church in Scotland, 1560-1929. (Oversize drawer).
Presbyterian General Assembly Daily News. May 28, 1928. 8 p.
Quarterly Register: Alliance of Reformed Churches Holding the Presbyterian System. May 1924. 23 p.
Church of Scotland Magazine and Mission Record. August 1925. 34 p.
The Christian Century. June 25, 1925. 28 p.
The Christian Century. April 26, 1928. 28 p.
The Christian Century. May 3, 1928. 28 p.
The Christian Century. May 10, 1928. 27 p.
The Review of the Churches. October 1925. 151 p.
Christendom. Spring 1936. 159 p.

E. Newspaper Clippings and Newspapers, 1908 - 1928. 55 cm

This material appears to have been sent to Dr. Oliver by a Rev.(?) McDonald as a matter of interest. The letter which was with the material and which indicates this is not dated. All pertains to Union.

1. Clippings of articles and letters from various newspapers, 1923 - 1928.

2. Entire issues of the Toronto Globe (daily), June 1925.

3. Entire or part issues of various Canadian newspapers, 1908 - 1928. (Oversize).