The legislative struggle for church union

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Author: Mason, Gershom W., 1878-1968
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Notes: "[By] Gershom W. Mason"

"Foreword by The Very Rev. George C. Pidgeon".

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"High among a Church's assets are her great personalities, And high among the treasures with which God endowed The United Church of Canada at the time of the Union were the personality and the services of Mr. Gershom W. Mason. Then, as a young lawyer, he was chosen with Mr. McGregor Young, to prepare the legislation covering the part which the State had to take in the uniting of the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches. .... But the preparation of the Bill was only the beginning of Dr. Mason's services to his church. All through her early history, and since, he has been the Church's chief adviser in all matters pertaining to the law, and the soundness of his judgment has been matched only by the serenity of his spirit and his devotion to the highest interests of his Church. To have this careful records of the discussion and decisions leading up to the Union by one who had such a vital part in the process is of priceless worth. We have elsewhere verbatim reports of many of the speeches for and against the Union, but Dr. Mason has gone beyond these, and his synopses of their arguments and the setting in which he places them, and his comments on them make them live anew." -- Foreword.

"The writer's connection with the legislative aspects of Church Union began on a day in June, 1922, when in a corridor in the City Hall, in Toronto, Mr. Angus MacMurdy, K.C., asked him if he would undertake the task of preparing the legislation required for the consummation of the union of the three negotiating Churches to form the United Church of Canada." -- p. 1.

Contents: Foreword / George C. Pidgeon -- The Task Undertaken -- The Task Outlined -- The Drafts Presented -- Consideration by the Churches - - The Joint Committee Meets -- Obstacles -- The Bill in Ontario -- The Bill in Ottawa -- The Bill in the Maritimes -- At Ottawa Again -- The Adverse Report -- The Amendment Defeated -- The Bill in the Senate -- The Bill in the Provinces -- Newfoundland and Bermuda -- Retrospect.

Subjects: United Church of Canada - History
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United Church of Canada - Law and legislation

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