

THE M. E. CONFERENCE.

This statement showed a deficiency of \$50, which had been advanced by the secretary. It was ordered that a collection be taken at the ensuing session to meet this deficiency. He also reported that the roll was called and orders for minutes of this session were given to the secretary.

A motion to extend the time prevailed. Notices were given out and adjournment was had.

During the personal session the Rev. Dr. Tower, Harrington, Klippel, D. D. of Oregon, presided. Dr. Lines of the Columbia river conference, Hansen and Clarke of the German work, and Chapman, Stubbins, Scandinavian M. church—7:30 p. m., preaching by Rev. F. T. Power of Willamette university, followed by ordination of elder M. E. church—11 a. m., no service; 8:30 p. m., preaching by Rev. H. M. Massey of Olympia, Scandinavian M. church—7:30 p. m., preaching by Rev. C. J. Larson, German M. E. church—Services at 2 p. m., by the Scandinavian M. E. First Congregational church—Preaching at 11 a. m. by Rev. J. D. Knox, D. D. of Toronto, Kansas Methodist Protestant church—11 a. m., by Rev. W. H. Drake; 7:30 p. m., preaching by T. F. Butler.

The second question was taken up: "Who are admitted on trial?" Rev. Brown presented John Bretz, who was introduced as a candidate. The recommendation of the fourth quarterly conference in the case of Rev. Bretz was read; committee of examination reported; upon motion he was received. Rev. Mead was recommended by the St. John conference and by his committee. He was admitted.

Rev. W. C. Hockett was recommended by the Winlock conference and by his elder. The committee on conference relations reported that taking age, health and educational information would not recommend his admission. Several of the members spoke on this report. His work during the year has been reported as very successful, his efforts in revival work during the year have been extraordinary on the contrary examination reports were considerably below the average. The question being called for he was upon motion admitted. The regular minute business was again taken up.

The recommendations of E. H. Goodwin for local deacons's orders were elected to orders.

The class for admission into full connection was read. It consisted of three members, J. I. Smith, E. L. Hughes, E. J. Moore.

The address of the bishop to this class was pronounced one of the ablest ever delivered in this conference. He spoke especially on the subject of the minister both in the script and as pastor. He cautioned them against secularizing their work, but gave them to understand that when the pastor by that they should let their family starve rather than engage in some secular employment. They were advised to make themselves a personality in their community. This in fact was the counsel upon which he based his address. The bishop closed this admirable address with the assertion that if they devoted their time to the work of the Lord that they would find they had their hands full.

The committees reported in the case of this class and they were all admitted into full connection.

The conference committee appointed at the last conference to locate a university made its report through F. W. Loy. Said report was referred to the educational committee.

A communication from the post chaplain of the Grand Army, enclosing papers pertaining to the subject of the appointment of army chaplains, was read. This was referred to a committee consisting of Revs. Skidmore, Denison and McDemott.

The committee appointed to investigate the case of Rev. M. E. Denny, reported through their chairman, W. H. Drake. Following is the full text of that report:

"Judge Boyle's experience, I have no doubt, will be similar to that of the man I have alluded to, even assuming that the case is not a very unusual one. To-day nearly a dozen churches are in process of erection, and within the next six months as many more will be represented so short a time, now has more churches, more pastors, a larger membership, pays more for pastoral support, contributes more for benevolent objects than any other denomination, and together they work, not for the present but for the future, and in a higher line where the Holy Spirit will lead them into perfect bliss. She unites with the Baptists in planning for a higher civilization, and every day finds her taking an advance step in this direction. Making, as we think, mistakes sometimes, she still persists in correcting the wrongs, healing the wounds, uniting the disaffected, her strength did not appear at a moment's notice, and great credit of her success. Her administrative policy is peculiarly her own, and Bishop Nimis, in his address to the conference, stated the strength of Methodism. He said that 'after grace her great success might be attributed to the fact that she has strict obedience to law. Her machinery is intricate yet so put together that she moves forward smoothly and with a mighty power.'"

Improving Precious Moments. "Now, my dear brethren, said a Brooklyn school teacher to a class of little masculine boys of promise last Sunday. 'I am going to the city, and I will be back in ten days. I hope, dear little boys, that you will be very good this summer, and each of you engage in some useful and interesting study. One of you, if you could, could only accomplish this in standing by the church for the time being. I believe that he ultimately might save the whole church.'"

The committee are unanimous in their opinion, that even under these circumstances an error is committing on the part of Rev. Denison. We fully believe that it is the duty of every pastor to stand unflinchingly and at all hazards by the law of the church, and our ordination vows.

While it is not the pleasure of your committee to see this subject, in the case—yet it is their pleasure to recommend to this conference, for your consideration the vast importance, for the sake of a strict observance of church law.

JOHN FLINN, Chairman. W. H. DRAKE, Secretary. C. N. HANSEN, Recording Secretary. E. O. OLSEN, Treasurer.

On motion this was adopted unanimously by the conference.

OTHER MATTERS. The relations of J. E. Leach and D. E. Blake were continued as supernumerary; also the relation of I. Dillon, D. D., was changed at his own request from effective to supernumerary.

Chaplain Stubbins of the Seaman's Bethel was introduced and briefly addressed the conference.

A committee of three, consisting of Denison, Anderson and Moore, were appointed to report on this subject.

The secretary read the financial statement in regard to the publication of the minister of the last session.

METHODISM'S GROWTH.

THE PUGET SOUND CONFERENCE AS COMPARED WITH FOUR YEARS AGO. Increase of More Than 100 Per Cent. in Membership, 200 Per Cent. in the Value of Church Property. Remarkable Showing in Every Feature of the Work.

The assembling of the Puget Sound Conference, a branch of a great ecclesiastical body, in Seattle, naturally leads the minds of all who are interested in religious work in this territory, back over the few years, during which Methodism has had its representation.

Four years ago the work had assumed such proportions that it was found necessary to organize the Puget Sound Conference and separate it from the Oregon Conference.

The first session was held in the old M. E. church of this city and was presided over by Bishop C. H. Fowler. At that time there was but one district embracing Western Washington and presided over by Elder LeSound.

Today there are two, and these have assumed such proportions that the organization of a third is seriously contemplated. Four years ago there were 10 pastors in this conference and a membership of 1204. To-day there are 46 charges and a membership of 2730. The coming minutes will show an addition of four or five more charges and a corresponding increase of members.

Four years ago the entire amount paid for pastoral support was \$19,262.75. Today it is \$119,067. The increase in the value of church property is \$58,565. The minutes of the Fifth session will show that within the same territory Methodism holds church property to the value of \$180,000. It is no discredit to the pioneer workers to say that the men of to-day are as consecrated, as willing to do their part in this great work of advancement as were those of old.

Looking at the above figures we might expect a corresponding increase in the contributions of the people and the various benevolent enterprises of the church, but one is not prepared for the increase more shown in this line. Four years ago the entire amount so given was only \$733.20. Yet this was a noble gift for the then nascent church of this territory.

Not to whom honor is due? No doubt the men who from year to year have been contributing to the people's service credit for this increase. But Methodism here has assumed the proportions that are the result of any size in Washington territory. Scarcely a community where a Methodist class is not organized, and where the church is not regularly conducted.

To-day nearly a dozen churches are in process of erection, and within the next six months as many more will be represented so short a time, now has more churches, more pastors, a larger membership, pays more for pastoral support, contributes more for benevolent objects than any other denomination, and together they work, not for the present but for the future, and in a higher line where the Holy Spirit will lead them into perfect bliss. She unites with the Baptists in planning for a higher civilization, and every day finds her taking an advance step in this direction.

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THE GREATEST YET!

AN EXTRAORDINARY BARGAIN. 105 acres in West Seattle. We will sell this property at figures that will make the purchaser \$60,000 within one year from this date.

45 acres on Lake Washington; first-class land that will double in one year and still be cheap. 3 lots on Fourth street at a bargain.

150-acre farm, well improved, only eight miles from town.

A bargain in a piece of property running from Front street through to Second. Here is a rare chance for a man with capital.

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PACIFIC NAVIGATION COMPANY. THE STEAMER Skagit Chief. LEAVES HARRINGTON & SMITH'S wharf for San Juan Islands, touching Seattle, Tacoma, Everett, Bellingham, Friday Harbor and Roche Harbor every Friday and Thursday.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO. The steamships UMATILLA and METEOR will leave the Ocean Dock at Seattle at 9 o'clock a. m. on the 10th inst.

ALASKA EXCURSIONS. The steamships Ancon and Idaho will leave Seattle for Alaska on the 10th inst.

W. B. SPENCER, Agent. Div. Agent E. C. and Puget Sound Route.

THE TRUE TRANSCONTINENTAL ROUTE. THE PACIFIC AND THE ATLANTIC.

ITS PASSENGER EQUIPMENT is the finest in the world, consisting of Pullman sleeping cars, dining cars, parlor cars and bath rooms.

For freight or passage apply at Wells, Puget Sound Line, 1025 Commercial st., Seattle, W. T.

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