

METHODIST CONFERENCE

Fourth Day of the Sessions in Fredericksburg.

REPORTS ARE RECEIVED

The Report of Treasurer of Foreign Mission Board Gives Collections Received From the Different Districts—Preaching for To-day.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) FREDERICKSBURG, VA., March 28.—The fourth day's session of the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, opened this morning with a full attendance at 9:30 o'clock.

Bishop A. Coke Smith in the chair. The religious services were conducted by Dr. Seth Ward, of Nashville, Tenn.

Letcher Stephen Shires, a local preacher, was elected to deacons' orders. Dr. George B. Winton, editor of the Nashville Advocate, was introduced to the conference and made a stirring speech in behalf of his publication.

Dr. Campbell, of the Virginia Bible Society, was introduced, and made an earnest appeal in behalf of his work, urging the wide circulation of the gospel.

Bishop J. C. Granbery, of Ashland, was introduced, and made a brief address to the conference.

The following, having passed approved examinations, their characters were passed and they were elected to elders' orders: F. A. Tyler, Henry C. Feby, Boyd B. Switzer, Harvey Q. Burr, George H. Seal and Howard A. Murrell.

It was resolved to observe the first Friday in May as a day of fasting, to be given up to praying that more laborers be sent out in the vineyard, and ministers to preach a sermon upon the subject on the following Sunday.

CHARACTERS PASSED. The following reported their charges and their characters were passed: W. A. Best, J. L. Andrew, J. P. Boggs, W. J. Whitwell, T. J. Lambert, D. G. White, William E. Miller, I. G. Michael, J. H. Davidson, William E. Woolf, O. C. Beall, William H. Saunders, William L. Smith, E. V. Roper, R. L. Jeffries, J. B. Henry and William Henry.

The following, having passed approved examinations, reported their charges and their characters passed, and they were advanced to the next class for the year: Ernest L. Woolf, Joseph H. Balthis and Burney D. Harrison.

The character of Lloyd Cinciad was passed and he was referred to the Committee on Conference Relations for the supplementary relations.

Rev. H. M. Du Bose, of Nashville, general secretary of the Epworth League, was introduced, and addressed the conference at length. It was the most prosperous one during his administration. There had been 200 new leagues organized, thousands of members added, over \$75,000 raised in money, principally for home and foreign missions, and that over 40,000 young people are now reading the Epworth League Course.

Howard A. Murrell was readmitted into full connection. FOREIGN MISSIONS. The report of the treasurer of the Mission Board shows the following collections: For foreign missions—Baltimore District, \$1,810; East Baltimore, \$1,254; Washington, \$2,636; Winchester, \$1,254; Rockingham, \$1,190; Roanoke, \$1,347; Lewisburg, \$683; Moorefield, \$234. For domestic missions—Baltimore, \$1,347; East Baltimore, \$1,055; Washington, \$1,480; Winchester, \$1,625; Rockingham, \$888; Roanoke, \$1,065; Lewisburg, \$271; Moorefield, \$294.

A largely attended meeting was held at the Presbyterian Church to-night in behalf of the superannuated members of the church. Interesting addresses were made by Bishop A. Coke Smith and Dr. Watkins, of Nashville.

Bishop A. Coke Smith will preach at the Methodist Church to-morrow at 11 o'clock, after which the ordination of the deacons will take place. At the night services Bishop J. C. Granbery will preach, to be followed by the ordination of elders. The appointments at the other churches are as follows: St. Paul's, Mr. Dr. Seth Ward, 6:30; St. Paul's, Mr. Dr. S. K. Cox, of Cumberland, Md., Presbyterian, 11 A. M.; Rev. J. M. Greene, of Alderson, W. Va.; 7:30 P. M.; Dr. Collins Denney, of the Vanderbilt University, at Nashville, Christian Church, 11 A. M.; Rev. C. H. Buchanan; 7:30 P. M.; Rev. J. W. Carter, of Staunton, Palomouth, 11 A. M.; Rev. George Yost, of Keyser, W. Va.; 7:30 P. M.; Rev. J. P. Vallan, People's Mission, at 3:30 P. M.; Rev. W. D. Keene, of Blacksburg, Ashland, Rev. J. A. Kern, of Nashville.

IN CLIFTON FORGE Y. M. C. A. Secretaries Hold a Conference There on Wednesday. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) CLIFTON FORGE, VA., March 28.—L. O. Williams, International Secretary and L. A. Coulter, State Secretary of the Y. M. C. A., with a number of other secretaries, held a conference here in the hall of the local association on Wednesday. The meeting was an interesting one and many questions concerning the work were discussed. It is evening the association will supply to the visitors in the banquet hall.

The Montgomery Presbytery will meet at the Presbyterian Church here on April 28th next, and a large attendance is expected. The residence of Mrs. East, in West Clifton, is undergoing many improvements, and will present a handsome appearance when completed.

Will Hayth, who was injured at the Chesapeake and Ohio shops several days ago, is now improving, and has gone to his home at Shenandoah.

Phil Letterman, of Charlottesville, for \$2,625, four business lots on Ridgeway Street. The ladies of the Baptist Church have secured the well known elocutionist, Miss Kate Fuller, of Richmond, to assist them in an entertainment at the Opera House on April 13th.

Rev. Charles S. Stanton, pastor of the M. E. Church, South, is attending Baltimore conference in Fredericksburg this week. An earnest appeal is being made here for the two towns, Clifton Forge and West Clifton, to annex. It is to be hoped that the efforts put forth will prove successful.

A Noisy Drunk. Officer Wiltshire arrested Henry Jones, colored, last night for drunkenness. He was pronounced at the Second Station one of the noisiest drunks of the season.

New York Visitors. Mr. and Mrs. Frank De Bragg, of New York, are visiting the Misses Ryan on North Fifth Street.

THE RAISER OF REVENUE

Bill Pondering in House Makes Radical Changes.

TAXING OF CORPORATIONS

Seven Different Ways to Raise Revenue From Them—Liquor Licenses and Tax on Club Members Are Doubled.

The tax measure passed by the House of Delegates, amended by the Senate and sent back to the House, and then referred to the Committee on Finance, is being very closely inspected.

This bill makes some radical changes in the general policy as to taxation. Not only is the method of securing liquor licenses changed and the tax upon saloon keepers and social clubs doubled, but the act contains features affecting other interests that are commented upon.

An official who will have much to do with the carrying out of the provision of the bill said yesterday: "I am frank to state that the revenue act is not clear to me in some particulars. It imposes taxes in seven different ways upon corporations. In placing taxes upon people we ought first to aim to be just and fair. I am afraid that in this matter we have laid the way wide open for some people to escape taxation. If a person believes he is being made to bear more than his just burden he will not feel called upon to go out of the way to contribute his share. It will be easy enough for him to get out of paying taxes upon intangible property."

GENERAL POLICY. The revenue bill does not change the general policy that has prevailed for some years as to taxes upon real and personal property, nor would it seriously affect the ordinary farm owner or farm hand. It is somewhat intricate in its provisions as to corporations, and while there are seven different methods provided for the taxing of corporations, some people have doubts that as much revenue will be derived as under the present law.

Boarding house keepers are exempted from taxation; the taxes upon labor agents are doubled and the whole policy as to the method of granting liquor licenses is changed and the tax upon liquor merchants and social clubs is doubled.

ITS PRESENT STATUS. The bill is now before the House Finance Committee. It embraces 168 printed pages; that is to say, in its original form. The House amendments are thirty-four pages and the Senate amendments are eighteen pages. Just what the effect of all of these would be no one can tell, but they are all being very critically examined by the Legislature next winter, members of the Legislature, both Senators and Delegates.

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A HUSBAND IS MISSING

John L. Gooch Is Believed to Have Killed Himself.

A VERY NOVEL DEFENSE

Judge Waddill Reserved His Opinion on Point That Court of Admiralty Had No Jurisdiction Over Case of Man Killed on Land.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) NORFOLK, VA., March 28.—Louis C. Gooch, of Lexington, Ky., has written to his daughter-in-law here, stating that he believes his son has committed suicide. His son, John L. Gooch, disappeared from home here two weeks ago, leaving a pretty young wife, who had run away from home to marry him last summer. She was Miss Lillian Braithwaite. Mr. Gooch, the elder, writes to the chief of police, requesting him to send information in regard to his son, and says that he is a spendthrift, having left Kentucky with \$3,000 and a wife, Miss Rutherford, of Lexington, who came here with him and returned to Kentucky for more money. When she could not get it she deserted young Gooch. The father says he wishes to know all, good or bad, about his son, and says, for the young wife's comfort, that he believes the young husband must have committed suicide. The father is a magistrate judge in the city of Lexington. "The young wife has no tidings of her husband, and can form no excuse for his determination to abandon her. Attorneys for the tug Helen set up a novel defense in the United States District Court here this morning. Mrs. Lizzie E. Maybry sued the tug for \$5,000, alleging that the tug had knocked her husband and a bridge tender, of the Norfolk and Western Railway, and thereby caused him to drown in the southern branch of the Elizabeth River. They urge that the Adair court has no jurisdiction, because the man was employed by the Norfolk and Western Railway on land, and the court has no cognizance of cases

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