

Los Angeles General Conference an Event In Methodism



THE Methodist Episcopal church, which is the largest Protestant body in America, having a membership of over 3,000,000, holds its general conference every four years. These meetings are of all the more importance because they are the source of the supreme government of the church, passing on all rules, having supervision of the publishing houses, periodicals and institutions of learning, electing bishops, arranging the term of service of local preachers, looking after the vast missionary activities of the denomination and in other ways acting as the legislative body of the organization.

The present general conference, opening in Los Angeles on May 4, because of the many and important questions scheduled to come before it, is certain to remain in session from three to four weeks. The body is composed of about 750 delegates, half lay members and half clerical. It was not until 1871 that any laymen were admitted to the general conferences, and even then the percentage of lay to clerical delegates was small, but in the general conference at Chicago four years ago an amendment was adopted making the lay representation equal to that of the ministers.

In one important particular the conference in Los Angeles marks a new departure in the Methodist church. This lies in the admission of women delegates. In 1888 Frances E. Willard and four other distinguished women were elected as lay members of the general conference which met that year, but it was decided that it was necessary to amend the rules of the denomination before they could be admitted. This was accordingly done, but the new amendment did not go into effect until the present quadrennium, so that the present conference is the first in which the fair sex is given a voice. There have been from fifteen to twenty women elected delegates, and their advent is hailed with a chivalrous enthusiasm, coupled with a keen interest as to the practical effect of the new departure.

A tendency that has been observed in the election of members of the conference at Los Angeles is the in-

jection of new blood. Among laymen to be considered the highest honor in the church, and a generous sentiment exists that the distinction should be passed around. This results in the election of practically a new set of members to each conference. At the present time there is a disposition also manifest to put younger men to the front not only among lay delegates, but even in the ranks of the ministers themselves, and the effect of this movement cannot fail to be manifest in the personnel of the body now coming together.

One of the most important duties of a general conference is the election of bishops. The episcopate, as the body of bishops is called, is the executive council of the church. A bishop, once elected, is ordinarily continued till death, unless sooner placed on the superannuated list at his own request. The number of bishops may be increased at any general conference, however, and there is a considerable sentiment manifest in the direction of making such an increase at this time. At any rate, there are vacancies to fill, as Bishops Hurst, Foster and Nindé have died since the last general conference, and Bishop S. M. Merrill, who is nearly seventy-nine, has asked to be placed on the superannuated list. As six of the others are in the seventies it is felt that an injection of younger blood is needed, and it is probable that at least six new men will be named. The bishops themselves will report as to their opinion of the needs of the body for an increase of members, after which the committee on episcopacy will consider the question and report to the conference, which will then act.

At present there are seventeen bishops on the active list in the Methodist Episcopal church, as follows: H. W. Warren, S. M. Merrill, E. G. Andrews, C. D. Foss, J. M. Walden, W. F. Mallalieu, J. W. Hamilton, C. H. Fowler, J. H. Vincent, J. N. Fitzgerald, I. W. Joyce, D. A. Goodsell, J. C. Hartzell, J. M. Thoburn, C. C. McCabe, Earl Cranston and D. H. Moore.

As the position of bishop is the highest honor in the Methodist church there is, of course, great activity among the friends of various prominent men in the church in urging the claims of those men for the episcopacy. The requirements for the position are very high, for a bishop must not only be an executive officer, but a great preacher,

a scholar, a judge of human nature and a man of unquestioned integrity. Among those mentioned as candidates for bishop, one of the requirements for which, by the way, is that the man be an ordained minister, are J. M. Buckley, editor of the Christian Advocate of New York; J. F. Barry, editor of the Epworth Herald of Chicago; Levi Gilbert, editor of the Western Christian Advocate of Cincinnati; President Bashford of the Ohio Wesleyan university; Chancellor Day of the Syracuse university; President Little of the Gar-

rett Biblical institute; President Board of the University of Southern California; President Goucher of the Woman's college of Baltimore; W. L. Haven, a secretary of the American Bible society; W. F. McDowell, secretary of the board of education of New York; J. F. Barry, editor of the Epworth Herald of Chicago; Levi Gilbert, editor of the Western Christian Advocate of Cincinnati; President Bashford of the Ohio Wesleyan university; Chancellor Day of the Syracuse university; President Little of the Gar-

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Reading from left to right—Top row: C. C. McCabe, Earl Cranston, D. H. Moore, Middle row: J. W. Hamilton, C. H. Fowler, J. H. Vincent, J. N. Fitzgerald, I. W. Joyce, D. A. Goodsell, J. C. Hartzell, J. M. Thoburn. Bottom row: H. W. Warren, S. M. Merrill, E. G. Andrews, C. D. Foss, J. M. Walden, W. F. Mallalieu.

THE BISHOPS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

FROM THE WORLD AT LARGE.

A leading citizen of Toledo is exhibiting a most peculiar condition of things. He is an old man of ninety and was born in Amsterdam, but went to America when he was a child and through disease soon forgot his native tongue. Since he has been in this country he has forgotten every word of English which he habitually spoke, and speaks nothing but Dutch, which he

now remembers as perfectly as when he first left Holland.

The Kurak-Zarkoff railroad of Russia advertises a special car for the newly married, designed and furnished with the latest comforts. The decorations are in the latest Parisian style, and polite female attendants look after the comfort of the happy couple. None but couples on a honeymoon are allowed

to use this magnificent car. The partitions are removable, and the car can be used as a series of small compartments or as a couple of roomy saloons. All Rome has discovered that Pope Pius has an abundant sense of humor. The other day the Vatican architect, Constantine Schneider, had occasion to see the holy father in order to submit some plans. As he was retiring Pius X. smilingly said, "Mr. Schneider, do you know that we are related?" The

architect was astonished, but Pius X. added, "Well, Schneider in German signifies just what Sarto means in Italian, a tailor; therefore we must come from the same family."

In the study of the lives of seventy-three persons more than ninety years old living in the city of Dresden, Saxony, it has been discovered that all sleep in closed rooms at night and abstain from bathing, and all sleep eight or nine hours daily. They vary in some of

their habits, but these three—plenty of sleep and avoidance of drafts at night and of bathing—are common to all. The conclusion of the government investigation points to these as essential elements of the secret of old age.

Some curious experiments have been made at one of the royal philanthropic institutions in Copenhagen. For some years back the seventy boys and girls in the place have been carefully weighed every day in groups of fifteen and

under. Thereby it is proved that the children gain weight mostly in autumn and in the early part of December. From that time till the end of April there is scarcely any increase in weight. More remarkable still, there is a diminution till the end of summer.

One of the side shows at the Ligea exhibition is to be the scientific production of storms to order. The scene will resemble an encampment of Eskimos, with seals, polar bears and ice-

bergs. By the aid of liquid air the temperature of the hall can be lowered from 15 to 20 degrees below freezing point, and special apparatus will manufacture snow and wind to give the idea reality.

The average cost for carrying a passenger on the street railways of the United States is 2.5 cents.

Some of the redwood trees in California are 356 feet high and 156 feet in circumference.

SALT LAKERS IN GOTHAM.

Special Correspondence.
New York, April 24.—Willis and Clarence McCormick were seen one day last week at the Waldorf. As large a city as New York is, it seems quite remarkable the way one will suddenly run across some old acquaintance he never dreamed was in this part of the country. This has been the case with a number of the colony of late. The McCormick boys have been in New York for 10 days attending to some business matters, and will leave in a day or so for Zion.

Senator Thomas Kearns was in the city for a few days last week and was registered at the Waldorf. His visit here was to consult with Col. R. C. Kerens of St. Louis, who has been in town for some time on matters pertaining to the San Pedro railroad. The senator returned to the capital Sunday.

Mr. Humboldt Gates was at the "Morning" services last Sunday with his friend, Orestes Benn. Mr. Gates is one of the few men who happened to strike it rich in the Klondike, and as a consequence he was a frequent attendant of "Corlinton" during its San Francisco engagement, and displayed much interest in the play. He arrived in the metropolis from the west three weeks ago, and is stopping at the Majestic.

Mrs. T. M. Ure, who is a frequent visitor to Salt Lake and whose husband is well known there through his connection with the Union Pacific railroad, has been visiting friends here for some time and left Thursday for her home in Omaha.

Miss Lottie Levy is shaking hands with her many friends here this week, as the "Peggy From Paris" company, of which she is a member, is playing at the Grand.

When mention was made two weeks ago of Miss Mabel Clark's good fortune in being placed under the management of Henry W. Savage, the name of the production she was given a part in, was unintentionally omitted. In a press dispatch appearing in Friday's papers was an account of the piece, "Woodland," produced the night before at Providence, R. I., and pronounced a big hit by the critics. The opera is by Pixley and Luders, the composers of "King Dodo," "Prince of Felsen," and others, and the music is to be even prettier than that of their former efforts. Miss Clark is fortunate to be connected with this organization.

Mr. Bronson Howard, the dean of American playwrights, and president of the American Dramatic club, is not only a universally respected gentleman, but is besides a prince of good fellows. After club meeting last Saturday night he gave a supper at Brown's to a select party made up of Fred Sidney of London, author of "Brixton Burglary," Herbert Klein, author of "Red Feather," Orestes Benn, author of "Corlinton," Henry Tyrrell, dramatic editor of the Sunday World, and C. T. Dazler, author of "In Old Kentucky."

Miss Emma Lucy Gates spent Thursday evening in Jersey, where she went to fulfill a professional engagement she had with the University club of that city. The occasion was ladies' day at the club, and Miss Gates' charming voice so charmed them that she was forced to respond with two encores.

Wright Lorimer's appearance at the Knickerbocker theater in the "Shepherd King" has proven to be a success after all, despite one or two critics' efforts to make it otherwise. This is in a large measure due to the business qualities of Lake boy, Mr. Frank M. Eli, bridge manager of the company. He was first advance man and was given instructions to bill the metropolis in a way that would tell the New Yorkers

in a fitting manner that Mr. Lorimer and his immense production were coming. Mr. Eldredge must have certainly been equal to his task, as nearly everyone has heard of the "Shepherd King," and there are few ash-barrels and fences that do not bear some signs of the company's visit to town. Furthermore, he was promoted to business manager upon the illness of Mr. Williamson, who formerly held the post.

Mrs. George W. Thatcher entertained informally last evening for Misses Emma Lucy Gates and Bertha Crawford and Messrs. Irving Snow and Cecil Gates, all of whom take their departure for Utah May 2. Those present besides Misses Phyllis Thatcher and Gladys Spencer.

A most delightful affair was the reception given in the students' building of the Columbia university last Thursday evening. It was under the auspices of the Columbia Dames, an organization composed of ladies whose husbands are members of the school. Mrs. J. Reuben Clark is one of the directors of the club, and on this occasion she was on the reception committee. The entertainment was a success in every way, and a real social treat was one of the features in store for the guests, to say nothing of the delightful refreshments served. Many former Utahns were present, among whom were Mrs. J. Reuben Clark, Mrs. Lemie Savage Ritter, Mr. Clyde Squires, Mrs. Stebbins, who was formerly connected with the Salt Lake high school, and Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Smith. Mr. Smith was the first principal of the Fremont school in the Fourteenth ward, and was later identified with the high school. He left Salt Lake in 1898, and has since that time interested himself in the Commercial high school of this city. He likes everyone who has ever lived in Salt Lake, thinks it the prettiest spot in the country.

Hon. Angus M. Cannon came up from Washington yesterday, where he had been attending the Smoot investigation. He spoke at the Sunday services this afternoon and delighted the large audience with his interesting remarks, which dealt principally with the early history of the Church and the sufferings the pioneers endured.

Mr. W. H. Wattis arrived in New York Wednesday from the Isthmus of Panama where he had been in company with the commission sent there by the government. He was very enthusiastic over his trip and the possibilities of the project upon which the government is figuring. Mr. Wattis left the following day and may visit in West Virginia before returning to Ogden.

Elder James Kennard of Farmington, Utah, who has labored for the past 14 months in South West Virginia, arrived in New York on the 21st inst., and will remain until next Friday conference. He has been assigned for the present to Brooklyn.

Mrs. Joseph Howells, wife of Congressman Howells, arrived in the city last Wednesday and has spent a very pleasant visit with her son, Joseph, who is studying at Columbia university. She left for Washington on this afternoon's train; she will be met there by Mr. Howells.

Mrs. Alice Merrill Horne and Miss Doan Merrill arrived in Gotham Friday and will remain until next Friday when they leave for Boston to sail May 5, on the Cretic for Europe. Mrs. Horne is going to Berlin to represent Mrs. Smith, president of all the Relief societies at home at the international Congress of Women, which convenes there in June. She spoke at today's meeting on Relief society work and will, on Tuesday evening, hold a conference with the society here to hear reports and read some letters in her possession. While in Boston she will attend the annual convention of the Daughters of the American Revolution, of which she is a delegate.

Miss Christensen is on her way to Paris where she intends to study art

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THIS WEEK we are going to make it possible for everybody to own one of our High Grade Go-carts or Carriages, for less than the cost of ordinary inferior kinds. At regular prices they mark the best values shown in Salt Lake this season. Then think what a straight reduction of 25 per cent means.

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J.H. KNECHTER ROYAL W. DAYNES

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1903, of the condition of the

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The name and location of the company, New York Life Insurance Company, New York, N. Y.

Name of President, John A. McCall. Name of Secretaries, Charles C. Whitney, John C. McCall.

The amount of its capital stock is \$10,000,000. Mutual

The amount of its assets is \$102,602,047.57

The amount of its income (including \$45,106,046.52 reserve fund) during the preceding calendar year is \$8,209,351.41

The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year is \$2,883,450.45

The amount of losses and endowments paid during the preceding calendar year is \$1,105,023.06

The amount paid to annuitants is \$1,886,086.07

The amount of risks written during the year is \$28,053,200.00

The amount of risks in force at the end of the year is \$1,745,112,399.00

State of Utah Office of the Secretary of State, at

I, James T. Hammond, Secretary of State of the State of Utah, do hereby certify that the above named insurance company has filed in my office a detailed statement of its condition from which the foregoing statements have been prepared, and that the said company has in all other respects complied with the laws of the State relating to such companies.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great seal of the State of Utah this 8th day of February, A. D. 1904.

(Seal) J. T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

City Office, Third Floor Commercial Block, Building, sixth floor Commercial Block.