

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

Methodists Select Men to Fill Some Soft Berths in Church Work.

SCRAMBLE FOR PREFERRED POSITIONS

Some Charges on the Side Concerning the Affairs of the New York Book Concern—Discussing the Itinerary Problem.

The feature of the Methodist conference yesterday was the election of officers for auxiliary departments of the church. These officers are elected every four years. They are positions of honor and responsibility, in addition to the fact that they command salaries that are not to be sneezed at.

The first officer considered in the election today was the two agents for the New York book concern, a situation having a capital of \$200,000. Dr. Sanford Hunt and Dr. Homer Eaton, who have been the agents during the past quadrennium, were unanimously elected to succeed themselves.

Dr. Earl Cranston was elected as one of the agents of the Cincinnati book concern, and Chaslain McCabe, Dr. D. Peck and Dr. A. B. Leonard were re-elected as the three missionary secretaries. The elections were not completed.

Discussing the Itinerary Problem.

After the preliminary exercises Dr. Moore, of the Central Christian Advocate, wanted to take up the itinerary problem, which is to select their residences with reference to their seniority. The conference would not depart from the regular plan which was the carrying of committee reports.

The committee on itinerary brought in a report recommending the abolishment of the five-year rule, and the carrying of reports to select their residences with reference to their seniority. The conference would not depart from the regular plan which was the carrying of committee reports.

The Matter of Elections.

The committee on temporal economy reported adversely on the question of making a change in the manner of elections. Adopted.

The order of elections was taken up. Dr. Latham presented a report upon the order in which the elections were to be taken up. The resolution provided that nominations should be made in open conference, and all elections should be made in open conference.

Denounced Southern Outrages.

The committee on the state of the church brought in a report that fairly bristled all over with denunciations of the outrages practiced in the South. The committee called upon the government, the state officials, the Methodist church and all good citizens to rise up and denounce the outrages that are heaped upon the colored people, and all white people who dare to work for the elevation of the colored race in the South.

The resolution declared that the colored people were treated shamefully on the railway trains and at hotels and in every way. They were shot down like dogs and the law of the land was trampled under foot by people who despised the colored race.

Dr. Quail, Dr. Payne and others made vehement speeches, calling upon the general Methodist church to stand firmly for the rights of the colored race.

Milly advised the conference to be moderate in the language employed. "We are not perfect ourselves, brethren, except in words," said Dr. Milly.

A bomb that was not exploded. It was the election of officers that was called. It was the election of officers that was called.

Dr. Hunt nominated Dr. Sanford Hunt and Dr. Homer Eaton as the agents for the New York book concern. Three gentlemen have been the agents for the New York book concern for several years. The nominations were seconded by a dozen delegates.

Mr. Field of Philadelphia wanted to ask some questions. The chairman said that he was out of order. He persisted in the demand that he should be heard on a question of privilege.

Mr. Field had been given the floor but he would have exploded a bomb. It was a business affair touching the management of the New York book concern.

Mr. Field had been given in his possession showing that the great book concern at New York with a capital of \$200,000 had only \$100,000 in the treasury during the past four years. Mr. Field wished to ask if that was considered good business administration.

Mr. Field said that he would like to invest the money at 6 per cent in the west, and secure an income from it of \$120,000 per annum. Another strange fact in the history of the book concern, Mr. Field holds, is that while the house did a business of \$800,000 last year, the amount of money on the books and in the treasury was only \$100,000.

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FOR AN AMERICAN REGISTRY

Senator Chandler's Bill to Provide for the Registration of Foreign Built Vessels.

OPPOSITIONS OF AN EFFICIENT NAVY

Vilas and Mills and Vest Raise Their Voices Against the Appropriation Bill in the Senate—A Lively Discussion in the House.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 17.—Chandler introduced a bill to authorize the registration of certain steamships as vessels of the United States. Referred.

The preamble recites that Austin Corbin of New York and others proposed to organize an American steamship company with a capital of \$10,000,000 to construct and purchase a fleet of steamships for the coast trade and to allow such vessels as may be purchased to receive an American registry that the bill was introduced.

The naval appropriation bill was then taken up, the pending question being on the provision for an increase of the navy. The house bill provides for one armored cruiser of about 8,000 tons displacement, to cost, exclusive of armament, not less than \$3,000,000.

Mr. Vilas referred to the present condition of the public treasury and said that the amount of annual appropriations now imposed upon the country might not improperly be described as extravagant.

Mr. Mills said that the bill would provide for three instead of one harbor defense double turret ships of the monitor type, modified in armament so as to confine it simply to the coast trade.

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CLCUBURST AT HARTINGTON

Part of the Town Inundated, Bridges Swept Away and Crops Ruined.

SEVERAL WASHOUTS ON THE RAILROADS

Beatrice Citizens Suffering from the High Water—Great Damage Done by the Heavy Rain—in Other Parts of the State.

HARTINGTON, Neb., May 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A cloud burst in this section of the country last night lasted from half past 7 until 7 o'clock, doing a great deal of damage to fields of grain. According to Observer Watson's rain gauge, over three inches of water fell in less than thirty minutes. Many bridges along the country roads were swept away. The main flow creek, south of town, rose over fifteen feet in less than an hour. Basements and cellars were filled from three to five feet. J. G. Bestee & Co. and Charles E. McCleskey will lose heavily if the water is not stored away in the basement and ruined by water. The lower part of town was flooded to such an extent that houses were floating and the families were compelled to come up town and put up at the hotels. The bus line was put into use, conveying families from the lower part of the town to the city. The railroad track was washed out in three places between this place and Colver, which will delay trains for a day or two.

BEATRICE SEA ARBITRATION. Some of the Terms of the Agreement—Washington News Notes.

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Monday Night's Rain Flooded a Portion of the City. BEATRICE, Neb., May 17.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Another heavy rain fell here last night. The total amount of water falling was two and sixteen-hundredths inches. Much damage resulted in the north and southeast parts of the city. The elevated storm sewer burst and flooded a big section. Outhouses and sidewalks were washed away and cellars and first floors were badly flooded in the inundated districts. A torrent flowed down Court street from Ninth to Seventh, flooding business house cellars and basements. The Beckley house at Seventh and Court street was almost completely submerged. A large slice of the Burlington embankment was washed out at Ninth street and 300 or 400 feet of track shifted several feet on the same line two miles northwest of the city. The Union Pacific had a bad washout two miles southeast of town, near the paper mill, and another near Pickrel.

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