#### METHODISTS ARE AROUSED

Great Interest Manifested in Selection General Conference Delegates.

WILL BE CHOSEN AT ANNUAL MEETING

Election is Considered High Honor in Ecclesiastical Circles-Omaha Will Probably Get One Ministerial and One Lay Delegate.

In ecclesiastical circles few honors can be conferred upon any churchman greater than selection as a delegate to the quadrennial session of the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church. This is especially true of the denomination for which this general conference is the representative lawmaking body, although it is cenceded by all the adherents of Protestant churches to be a most worthy and distinguished recognition. Because of the fact that two ministerial and two lay delegates to the general conference, which meets next May, are to be selected at the eighteenth annual session of the North Nebraska conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, which convenes in Omaha, beginning September 27 and ending October 2, particular interest centers upon that meeting, and it is not disparaging the sanctity of the occasion time no small amount of political engineering and wirepulling among the several candidates and their supporting friends. Omaha people are somewhat familiar with

the importance of a Methodist general conference, for the reason that its session was held in this city in 1892, for which great honor the city was not in the least lacking in appreciation. At that time, as in all general conferences, the brightest and most influential men-both ministers and laymen-associated with the church were gathered together in a month's session, carefully considering and debating legislation of important moment to the general church body. In 1896 the general conference met at Cleveland, O., and the next meeting, in 1900, will be held in Chicago, which was selected from among a score or more of the leading cities which were active candidates for the great meeting. Thousands of delegates will come together and the coming session will be marked with a number of significant questions which will arise for consideration.

Among those will be the investigation of under the general direction of the conferbishops to be appointed and the influence and importance of such an election can best be appreciated when it is understood that the average Methodist looks upon the bishopry as hardly secondary to the presidency of the nation, Every quadrennium new bishops must needs be selected to fill the positions made vacant by the retirement or death of former incumbents, and it is needless to say that only those members of the Methodist clergy who have attained positions of special importance ever dare dream of themselves in relation to the

Laity Wants Equal Representation. concerning the equal representation of lay and ministerial delegates in the general and ministerial delegates in the general preachers from its district are fined up for conference. Heretofore, the delegates representing the laity have been far outnumbered by those who wear the cloth of the clergy. A provision of the church rules permits no more than two lay delegates, with the exception of permits no more than two lay delegates, from any conference, while the clerical room is district are fined up for the number of good men available in the flower of good men available in th representation is on the basis of the membership of the various conferences. For in stance, the Rock River conference, in which Chicago is located, has seven or eight minis- as interesting as a senatorial or congresup and discussed and has since been submitted to a vote of the church body. It been prominently mentioned in connection has been decided by a very large majority with the lay elections. They are Charles in favor of equal lay and clerical repre- Goss and Ralph W. Breckenridge, both well sentation, so that one of the first things for the Chicago council to take up will be this the affairs of the First Methodist church, the reason that the conferences entitled by an active worker in the Hanscom Park membership to more than two lay delegates will elect additional provisional delegates, able reason for believing that R. B. and in case the general conference decides in favor of the equal representation as indicated to be the preference of Methodism by the votes of its members, these provisional delegates will be seated. So far as the North Nebraska conference is concerned this matter will not be of concern as the present time, as the number of members favorite combination seems to be Goss and in the conference only entitled it to two ministerial delegates, and the law of the church provides for that number of lay are members of the Omaha district, while delegates. One of the strongest arguments presented in favor of equal representation ably come forward with a full quota of canthat the ministerial delegates, by reason of their majority vote in the general conference, have defeated many measures which to the laity have been considered essential The ministers, it can well be understood, are somewhat warped in their judgment of certain things which appeal to the lasty in a more unprejudiced light.

Desires to Change Discipline. For instance, there is the clause in the Methodist discipline which forbids any member of that church to engage in dancing, card-playing and other amusements considered by many broad-minded ministers and laymen to be entirely harmless if rightly enjoyed. It is an undisputed fact that a member of the Methodist church, in order to follow to the letter the rules of its discipline, is forbidden all amusements, except those which are considered by many of its feading members to be absolutely childish in character. This matter of amusements will be brought up before the next general conference and it is confidently believed that in case the provisional delegates are seated, thus giving an equal representation of the ministry and laity, the clause of the Methodist discipline relating to amusements will be entirely wiped out. Many of the leading ministers of the church were warm advocates of its abolishment at the Cleveland conference, and the clergymen from the metropolitan churches are almost without exception in favor of taking it off from the discipline. They argue that these amusements as now tabooed will not appeal to the Methodist man or woman, boy or girl, in the form which makes them harmful in the general acceptation; they say that in the cities and in many of the smaller towns the leading members of the church indulge in dancing, card-playing and theater-going, and this being the case they assert that the church must conform itself to its members, especially since the belief regarding these things has greatly changed since the days when John Wesley and his associates framed the laws of Methodism. On the other hand, the believers in the present plank in the church platform assert that what was good for John Wesley is good enough for them, and they discountenance any efforts to change the discipline

To Do Away With Time Limitation. Then, too, the next general conference will probably take under advisement the plan of doing away with one of the laws of the church which provides that no minister can continuously serve any one congregation longer than five years, nor a presiding elder have charge of a district longer than six years. This time limit will probably be abolished, and, while the present plan of holding annual conferences covering certain territories will be continued, minister will be assigned to a certain charge from year to year with the privilege

of remaining there a lifetime, if the people So that the situation is somewhat complex, of remaining there a lifetime, it the people and when the 125 lay delegates en-want him. In discussing this proposition a and when the 125 lay delegates en-proposition Methodist said yesterday: "The titled to a voice in the selection case of Dr. John McQuoid Illustrates most forcibly that this time limit is an unjust one. Had he lived I believe his people would never have consented for him to leave them, but under the present laws of the years. At the end of that time Dr. McQuoid would have been dearer to them than ever, remove him. Similar cases arise every year among the laity that this time clause be eliminated."

Among the Candidates, The all-absorbing question with Nebraska Methodists at this time is, who shall carry away the coveted honors entailed in the election to the general conference? There are four conferences in the state and in one brainlest and most popular bishops in the of them it has already been settled. The Northwest Nebraska conference last week elected Rev. Allen R. Julian of Chadron, for tober 1, and in the evening the anniversary many years a presiding elder in that part of the state and a member of the last general conference at Cleveland, as the clerical bishop to India. Among the prominent offi-delegate, and George H. Hornby, a wealthy class of the church who will be present and and influential merchant at Valentine, as the representative of the laity. The North Nebraska conference comes next on the list, since it is the second conference in the state to hold its annual session. This conference extends south to the Platte river, north to the Dakota line, and is bounded on the west by Grand Island and O'Neill, with the Missouri river as the eastern boundary, There are four districts in the conferenceto say that there is and has been for some Grand Island, Rev. D. K. Tyndall, D. D., getts, D. D., presiding elder; Neligh, Rev. William Gorst, D. D., presiding elder, and Omaha, Rev. J. B. Maxfield, D. D., presiding elder. In these four districts there are about 125 charges, each of which will be represented at the conference to be held in Omaha this month by its minister and a layman, who will be entitled to a voice in the electoral college, which convenes for the purpose of electing the lay delegates.

Besides the honor of being a delegate to the lawmaking body of the Methodist church there are certain emoluments which also make it desirable. The delegates are provided with transportation and sleepingcar privileges and entertainment for the entire month's session of the conference at the leading hotel in the city where the conference convenes. The expense is provided for by the church. In regard to the probable ministerial delegates who will be selected a local clergyman made an apt response to a reportorial inquiry when he said: "Oh, every minister in the conference is a candidate, either avowedly or else entertaining the quiet hope that the conference will fail to agree on anyone else and have to take the mammoth publishing houses which are him as a dark horse." And this is about conducted in several of the important cities true. Among the clergymen prominently in the lead is Rev. Dr. J. W. Shenk, editor ence. There will also be a number of of the Omaha Christian Advocate. In the conferences where church papers are published which have attained the influence of the Omaha organ, it is a rule established by precedent to select the editor because of his supposedly superior and generally conceded knowledge of church affairs. Dr. Shenk has heretofore served in the general conference and the experience gained by such service makes him especially well fitted for one of the ministerial delegates, and it is quite likely that he will be chosen. A presiding elder is generally looked upon as standing an especially good chance for this position. If he is politic, as most presiding elders are, he has his eye on an election to the general conference from quad-Another momentous question will be that rennium to quadrennium, and generally engineers the political situation so that the preachers from his district are lined up for Shenk, Hodgetts, Tyndall and Gorst.

Goss and Schneider in Favor. Among the laymen the situation is almost krown attorneys and equally prominent in estion. This will be made necessary for and John Dale, the insurance man, who is church. Outside of Omaha there is consider-Schneider, the Fremont grain merchant, and J. W. Balson, a merchant at Cedar Rapids, will be brought forward by their friends. It is certain that Omaha will be given one of the delegates, since at the last conference the delegates chosen were T. L. Mathews of Fremont and J. M. King of Wayne. The Schneider, although there is a question as to each of the other three districts will probdidates, demanding that at least one be seof the two delegates ture room of Hanseom Park church Friday morning, September 29, there is going to be witnessed a most exciting contest.

While the election of delegates to the genchurch he could have remained only for five eral conference will be a matter of paramount importance, there will be many other things which will make this eighteenth an and it would have been an injustice to numi session an interesting one, and Rev. Dr F. M. Sisson, pastor of the Hanscom Park and have done much to create the desire church, where the meeting will be held, andicipates that the conference will be one of the best in the history of north Nebraska Methodism. This opinion is shared by many others. Special features of the conference will be the presence of two bishops. The presiding officer will be Bishop Henry W. Warren, D.D., LL.D., of Denver, one of the church. Bishop Warren will preach at Hanscom Park church Sunday morning, Ocof the missionary society will be held, which will be addressed by Dr. J. M. Thoburn, clais of the church who will be present and participate in the special services of the conference will be Rev. Dr. William A. Spencer of Philadelphia, corresponding secretary of the Church Extension society; Rev. Dr. J. B. Carns of Lincoln, president of the Nebraska Anti-Saloon league; Rev. Dr. D. W. C. Huntington, chancellor of Nebraska Sesleyan university; Dr. J. W. Hamilton of Cincinnati, secretary of the Freedman's Ald society, and probably Dr. E. A. Schell of Chicago, secretary of the Epworth league. Many Candidates for Elderships.

> There is one other thing which is interestng the clergy to a considerable extent and that is the fact that there will be two vacancies in the presiding eldership because of Rev. T. C. Webster of Grand Island as the successor to Dr. Hodgetts. He is the only man who is known to have been mentioned the upgrade, are putting their surplus into ing company, saloon building, Thirty-ninth homes. have not as yet indicated any special prefer-

of his advancing years. There is likely to or nearly one mile in length. be a lively scramble for his place, as the Hanscom Park from Fremont and has block 1,360 feet in length. this connection, however, it is stated that \$12,000. Mr. Dawson has received a call from one of the leading Methodist churches in Minneapolis and is debating whether he shall accept it or make an effort for the Omaha presiding eldership. Dr. W. P. Murray, for the last two years stationed at Francisco and the last two years stationed at Francisco and the last two years stationed at Francisco and last two years are stationed at Francisco and January and Janua

The pastors of Omaha's Methodist church ! who will participate in the forthcoming con-Trinity; G. A. Luce, South Tenth. Barring the appointment of one of these gentlemen as presiding elder, the only changes two sanctuaries, Revs. Bross and Luce, are likely to be sent to some outside appointments at their own request,

Methodist hospital intends soon to begin completed and ready for occupancy. the erection of a \$50,000 building, and \$10,lected, according one to the Omaha district. at an early date.

the Last Year.

Construction of Business Houses, Fac- idle will be at work again. tories, Dwellings and Churches Furnishes Employment for an Army of Skilled Mechanics.

Although the building senson of 1899 was Omaha this year more buildings than during the same period in any of the ten years preceding. In 1898 the new buildings erected numbered 323, the aggregate cost approxicost from a few hundreds up to thousands fourth and M streets, which has been of dollars. In the majority of cases these erected at a cost of about \$25,000. The buildings are of wood and are neat and com- new office building of the Drovers' Journal of the expiring time limitation of Dr. Max- modious cottages. Some are to rent, but and Stockman, just completed, cost in the field of the Omaha and Dr. Hodgetts of the the majority have been built by the lot neighborhood of \$10,000. Norfolk districts, both of whom have served owners to be occupied by themselves. Such A list of the buildings costing over \$1,000. the allotted six years. There has been some houses have been built by men who hereto- for which permits have been secured since discussion among the laity of the availability fore have been hearding their savings, but April 1, follows: of Rev. T. C. Webster of Grand Island as the who now, realizing that times are more W. Anderson, two dwellings, Twenty-fifth

To give a better idea of what the new ence. Rev. Webster was formerly presiding dwelling houses mean so far as the growth elder of the Chadron district and is an old- of the city is concerned it may be well to timer in Nebraska Methodism. Dr. Max- draw upon the imagination. If they were field, the veteran clergyman who has been all located upon one street and placed side N, \$20,000; Annie Rawley, flat, Twentythe elder of the Omaha district for six years, by side without leaving any space between, will retire from the active ministry because they would form a solid row of 4,195 feet, dwelling, Nineteenth and Missouri avenue,

Few business houses have been built in Omaha district is considered one of the best the central portion of the city, yet in the Flynn, residence. Forty-fourth and L. appointments in Nebraska Methodism. outlying sections forty-six such structures \$1,500; J. Welch, dwelling, Twenty-third and Leading the list among the favorite candidates is Rev. Fletcher M. Sisson, paster of two stories in height. There are a few that fifth and Q, \$1,500; A. F. Hester, dwelling, Hanscom Park church, who has been in the are three stories and some one story. Place onference for about six years. He came to these in a row and they would form a solid

popularized bimself both with the clergy of the conference and the people of his congre-gation. Rev. C. N. Dawson, who has been the pastor of the Walnut Hill church for the and cost \$40,000 each. The third is at the last four years and has been in the North Institute for the Dear and Dumb, and cost Nebraska conference for perhaps thirteen or \$23,000. The Omaha Medical college has fourteen years, is also a likely candidate. In been enlarged by a brick addition, costing

plants in condition for operation.

Investing Their Thousands.

ference are C. N. Dawson, Walnut Hill; M. breweries have been erected, the Metz Bros. road avenue, \$3,000; A. Dickman, dwelling, Since the beginning of the year two new M. Sisson, Hanscom six-story brick and stone building, at a cost terial delegates, while only two representations and made by the Methodist brethren which would Park; F. W. Bross, Monmouth Park; A. C. of \$75,000, and the Nebraska Brewing comthe Cleveland session the matter was taken do credit to some of the successful politi- Welch, Seward street; J. W. Jennings, pany's building, at a cost of \$20,000. The Krug Brewing company has also expended \$7,500 in the construction of a bottling plant. Tenth Street churches. The pastors of these | showing the cost of construction of all structures to be \$821,180.

It is a well known fact that the permit issued by the building inspector represents The splendid work being accomplished by but about 75 per cent of the actual cost. the Methodist hospital in this city will also The other 25 per cent all builders recognize be recognized by the conference in the de- as being the amount required to put the votion of some time to the needs of that in- grounds in condition, pay for extras and stitution, together with the ordination as incidentals. So it will be seen that instead deaconesses of several young women who are of the buildings having cost \$821,180, \$1,devoting themselves to hospital work. The 036,475 must be expended before they are

000 to be applied for this purpose is now on during the last nine months, including Deere this going through, for the reason that both deposit, while half of the entire amount is al- & Co. of Moline, Ill., and Wardner Bushready subscribed. It may be that a wave nell & Gleasner, two of the largest impleof generosity will sweep over the confer- ment concerns in the United States. These ence and the remaining \$25,000 subscribed so people have gone into the wholesale disthat the work may be pushed to completion trict and will make this their general head- at Twenty-fourth and J are not in the lis

BUILDERS ARE KEPT BUSY business. Other implement firms have encates that in a few months Omaha is to become the great center for the farm implement trade of the country.

Hundreds of New Structures Erected During The friction in labor circles resulting from a misunderstanding between employers and employes is retarding building operations to some extent, but there is a prospec ALL PORTIONS OF THE CITY FARE ALIKE that all differences will be adjusted during the next few days, and that before the end of the month the hundreds of men now

Building in South Omaha.

Building operations in South Omaha have been active since the opening of spring Since April 1 fifty-three building permits calling for structures to cost \$1,000 and over late in opening there has been erected in fifty-three buildings, as given by the permits, is \$157,000. Quite a number of the brewerles have erected permanent saloon buildings in different parts of the city, and mating \$1,361,257. This included more than more buildings of this character have been 100 buildings on the exposition grounds, projected. In addition to the permits mencosting, in round numbers, \$750,000. The tioned above, dozens of permits for small Union Pacific Railroad company also took cottages, costing from \$150 up to \$1,900, out a permit in 1898 for the erection of its have been issued. This activity in the \$250,000 passenger depot, so that it becomes building line has kept carpenters and ma-apparent that less than \$500,000 went into sons busy all summer, and the end is not usiness blocks and dwellings in the city, in sight yet. Many buildings have been This year the amount invested in new build- delayed on account of the scarcity of meings largely exceeds this, with fully two chanics and laborers and the difficulty is months of the building season remaining, securing material rapidly enough. Of the What is most remarkable in the building more prominent buildings may be menoperations of the present year is the num- tioned the large brick livery stable being ber of new dwellings. In the office of the erected on Twenty-fourth street between ? building inspector the records show that and O, by Guy C. Barton, for Holmes & since the beginning of the year and up to the Adkins. This handsome stable will cost middle of September permits were issued over \$20,000 when completed. Then there for the erection of 207 dwellings, ranging in is the Odd Fellows temple at Twenty-

and Q, \$1,000; F. J. Lewis, store and hall, Twenty-fourth and M. \$25,000; Armour & Co., Twenty-eighth and Q, \$2,000; Guy C. Barton, livery stable, Twenty-fourth and fourth and K, \$2,800; George McBride, \$1,000; R. C. Strehlow, five dwellings, Twenty-seventh and L, \$1,000 each; John N, \$1,500; Gus Stephens, residence, Twenty-Twenty-sixth and E, \$3,000; I. R. Andrews two residences, Twenty-fourth and C. \$2,800 each; Barney Krittenbrink, dwelling, Sixteenth and M, \$1,600; H. Harding, residence, Twenty-third and D, \$2,000; J. M. Westerfield, cottage, Twenty-first and J, \$1,500; Swan Anderson, two dwellings, Twenty-second and J. \$1,000 each; Louis Schmidt, dwelling, Twenty-fourth and K. \$1,500; G. Brandenburg, five dwellings, Twenty-sixth and L, \$7,500; G. Brandenburg, five dwellings, Twenty-fifth and L, \$7,500; S. Mitchell, cottage, Twentyseventh, between H and I, \$1,000; Cudahy Packing company, paint shop, \$1,000; C. two years stationed at Fremont and who for five years previous was the pastor of Hanscom Park church, is also favorably mentioned. Dr. Hodgetts of Norfolk is also understood to be actively in the race, but with the number of good men available in the Domain district it is facility. Parkins, cottage, Twenty-third and O, \$1,000; Dan Hannon, store building. Twenty-seventh and L, \$2,000; Schlitz Brewing company, saloon building, Rail-Mrs. F. Wear, three cottages, Twenty-sixth and M, \$3,000; G. D. Ellis, cottage, Nine-

Twenty-first and G, \$1,300; Frank H. Scott, Many permits have been taken out for dwelling, Twenty-fifth and B, \$1,500; Mrs. which are likely to take place are in the small buildings, repairs and betterments, Rosa Glest, dwelling, Twentieth and Mispastorates of Monmouth Park and South so that in the aggregate they reach 295, souri avenue, \$1,500; James Colvin, dwelling, Twenty-seventh and E, \$2,100; A. F. Stryker, dwelling, Twenty-third and G, \$1,500; A. Bloom & Co., planing mill, Railroad avenue and O, \$2,500; A. Rushford, warehouse, Twenty-fourth and O. \$2,500 William Derbyshire, Twenty-third and G. \$1,500; Mike Sweenie, residence, Twentysecond and N, \$1,500; Mrs. M. E. Cox, dwelling, Twenty-fourth and D. \$2,000 Swift and Company, fertilizer, \$2,750; Joseph F. Murphy, store building, Twentyfourth, between M and N, \$2,500; B. Jetter, store building. Twenty-sixth and O. \$1,200

> In addition Armour's immense warehouse to cost \$250,000, and the Episcopal church

> August Papez, two dwellings, Twenty-fifth

and L, \$2,000 each,



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