

THE ILLUSTRATED BEE

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Ecumenical Conference

The third great representative gathering of world-wide Methodism will be in London, England, in September, 1901. The first conference of the kind assembled in the same place in September, 1881, and the second in Washington, D. C., in October, 1891, each being a decade from the other. The conference will sit about two weeks and be composed of both ministers and laymen, which delegates will represent about thirty branches of Methodism in America and Great Britain, in both home and mission fields. This great delegated body will be made up of representatives from every country and clime.

From Greenland's icy mountains,
From India's coral strand;
Where Afric's sunny fountains
Roll down their golden sand;
From many an ancient river,
From many a palmy plain—

will gather the followers of John Wesley in the metropolis of England to count their victories o'er.

The representation in this conference being based on membership, and the Metho-



DANIEL KNOWLES TINDALL, PH D., D. D.—PASTOR TRINITY M. E. CHURCH, OMAHA—DELEGATE TO ECUMENICAL CONFERENCE, LONDON, ENGLAND, AND REPRESENTATIVE OF TWENTIETH CENTURY FORWARD MOVEMENT.

dist Episcopal church being the largest of all the branches of Methodism, is entitled to the greatest number of delegates to the same. It will send about 150 delegates to London. Topics covering a wide range of thought will engage the attention of the conference, such as temperance, Romanism, education, missions, social problems, war and peace and the outlook of the twentieth century.

The object of the gathering will not be that of organic union, but of fraternity, equity and mutual helpfulness. The occasion will greatly tend to strengthen the bonds of fraternity between the various branches of Methodism represented, as well as to increase the good will now prevailing between the countries and governments from which the delegates will gather. Subjects involving a difference of opinion on church policy will not be debated or presented, and as all the branches of Methodism are the same in doctrine, no dissension will arise in their discussions.

Since it will likely not contain much less than 1,000 members, this conference will be one of the largest delegated bodies of the Christian church, or of any other character, which ever assembled on the globe. Methodism in all its branches is the largest denomination of Protestant Christians in the world. Marvelous has been its growth. In 1776 there were but 5,000 Methodists; now there are nearly 6,000,000. In 1766 it began its worship in America in a hall left in New York City; it now has 27,000 church edifices worth \$116,000,000, many of which are among the best in the country. In 1775 Methodism was third in numbers among the Protestant bodies; now it is first. This wonderful growth has not been, as with some denominations, largely from immigration, but from the unsaved by conversion. Dr. John Hall once remarked that he specially honored the Methodist church for the importance it attaches to conversion. Methodism has no peculiar doctrine, but it does put a peculiar emphasis on conversion and the "witness of the spirit" or "assurance of faith." The peculiar power of Methodism is in its spirit and method. May it never lose its holy zeal and revival fire! May the coming ecumenical conference be an inspiration and blessing to all Methodism and Christianity!

D. K. TINDALL.

Daniel Knowles Tindall, Ph D., D. D., is one of the leading men in Nebraska Methodism. He was chairman of the North Nebraska conference delegation to the general conference which met in Chicago last May.

He was elected a delegate to the Ecumenical conference which meets in London, Eng and, this year, where he represents the Tenth general conference district of the Methodist church, which comprises the states of Nebraska, South Dakota and Colorado. Dr. Tindall is a native of Delaware, where he was born in 1853. He grew to manhood on a farm, where he supported a widowed mother. He was converted at the age of 23, and a year later he joined the Missouri Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He had great success in revivals and in building up the waste places, but in 1886 he returned to the Methodist Episcopal church in which he was reared and united with the Northwest Indiana conference. He served important charges and met with phenomenal success in building churches and winning converts. On one charge over 200 souls professed conversion within two years and nearly all of them were received into full membership under his ministry. In 1886 Dr. Tindall was transferred to the West Nebraska conference and stationed at Kearney, serving three years. He was then transferred to the North Nebraska conference and stationed at Central City, remaining three years. While at Central City he was granted a vacation for the purpose of a trip to the Holy Land, the church paying his full salary during his absence. His next appointment was at Seward street, Omaha, where he remained two years, and was then appointed presiding elder of Grand Island district. He assumed this position during the drouth period, when many of the churches were burdened with heavy debt, but by patient and judicious management most of the debts were eliminated during the six years he served the district. Dr. Tindall is largely a self-made man, having been educated in the common schools and high schools and by non-resident courses in colleges. He earned the degree of doctor of philosophy in U. S. Grant university and received the degree of D. D. from McLemoresville College institute.

About Noted People

For some time past Kaiser Wilhelm has shown special interest in the famous Benedictine abbey of Marie Laach, whose abbot is a frequent visitor to the court when at Berlin. The Kaiser has now accepted from the fathers a superb manuscript volume of 100 leaves of vellum containing the rule of St. Benedict in Roman script. For a whole year the nuns of Marollet, in Belgium, have worked at the gift with pen and pencil.

Senator Platt of Connecticut suffers occasionally from insomnia. Captain Evan Howell has suggested to him the following cure, saying it always works in Georgia: "When you can't sleep get up and take a drink of whisky. Go back to bed and wait half an hour. If you are still wakeful take another drink and repeat at intervals of thirty minutes. By and by, suh, you won't care whether you go to sleep or not."

As sufferers from rheumatism Lord Pauncefoot, British minister, and William Gwynn, colored doorkeeper at the office of the secretary of state, are bound by mutual ties. Some time ago Gwynn ventured to recommend that his lordship try a certain cure for the torment named. The two met on the street a week or two later and the diplomat said to the doorkeeper: "That's a sure cure you recommended, William. It cured me of rheumatism and gave me the gout."

Frederick Palmer, the war correspondent, who accompanied the relief expedition of the allies to Peking, says he carried a bottle of ale all the way from Tien Tsin to the Chinese capital, thinking how welcome it would be to a friend when he crawled out of his bombproof, emaciated and famished. "What he did," writes Palmer, "was to offer me beer and to ask why the relieving column had been so long in coming. He has gained ten pounds since I saw him last. Rice and horsemeat seem to be fattening."

Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese minister, was in Albany, N. Y., the other day and while there met David B. Hill at a reception. "Where are your wife and children?" said the Oriental. Dave confusedly answered that he was a bachelor. "Wrong, wrong," said the diplomat. "You bachelors should be taxed for remaining single, and the older you are the higher you should be taxed." This idea was liberally applauded by all the married men present, thus adding much to the ex-governor's embarrassment.

The senate military committee is made up of old soldiers. Senators Bate and Pettus fought in the Mexican war and in the Confederate army also. Bate was a major general and Pettus a brigadier general. Cockrell was a brigadier general and Harris of Kansas an adjutant general with Wilcox's brigade. On the republican side Senator Hawley, chairman of the committee, was a brevet major general, Proctor a colonel, Shoup a lieutenant and captain of scouts, Sewell a major general, Warren a private and noncommissioned officer and Burrows a major.

Ambassador Choate was recently the guest of Canon Scott, the rector of Lavenham, Suffolk, which boasts one of the finest and oldest parish churches in England. While going over the church Mr. Choate was much struck with its beauty, and, American fashion, kept asking his host the age of this and the other thing. "That screen must be very ancient?" he said. "Oh, yes, it is centuries old," was the reply. "And this paneling on the door?" "Is quite modern," Canon Scott blandly answered. "It was put up forty years before the discovery of

America, you know." The American ambassador was immensely tickled and swallowed his patriotic wrath at the reply.

Walter Williams complimentarily alludes to Governor Dockery of Missouri as "one of the best listeners to be found in this republic. Anybody may get Dockery's ear. Getting his tongue and his name signed to a commission is an entirely different proposition. That's not so easy. Men dig their physical graves with their teeth and their political graves with their tongues. The governor is not a self-appointed candidate for the morgue. Hence his ear is more prominent just now than his tongue."

On March 4 next it will have been fifty years since Galusha A. Grow entered congress. He was recently re-elected to membership in that body. In the Philadelphia Saturday Evening Post of last week there are many interesting stories of his experiences. Mr. Grow entered congress as a democrat; but became a sturdy republican and a trusted friend of Abraham Lincoln. For nearly two years he was with him several times each week, and he says: "I was deeply impressed by the grandeur of his character, brought into strong relief by the lights and shades of the war." Mr. Grow was the father of the famous homestead law. In the article he says: "I introduced five bills at five different sessions of congress before one was finally passed and became a law, as it did while I was speaker. It was one of the most gratifying moments of my life when I had the pleasure of signing this bill. The policy of giving homesteads and of securing the public lands to actual settlers appealed to the convictions and interests of the new states, and more especially to those of the territories."

Told Out of Court

The lawyer's inalienable and inestimable privilege of "cursing the court" when the decision has gone against him is marred, as most lawyers realize, by the fact that the "cursing" must be done in private. This animadversion, however, sometimes takes the form of communication of the lawyer's opinion to the publisher of the law reports. Parts of some of these communications have been printed recently by a law publishing firm. One lawyer wrote: "The case is a legal curiosity, and seems to have been decided by main force." Another, beaten in a highway case, wrote of the court: "They do not know a highway, even when they stumble over it." Another requests the publisher to chastise the court, stating that "it will be of great benefit to the profession that this case be thoroughly aired and the fallacy and danger of it in its far-reaching results exposed." Another "very prominent lawyer" wrote: "The opinion of our court is a schoolboy blunder, deserving of nothing but scathing rebuke, and a review of it should run in that line." Most seductive of all the suggestions was the statement, "I should be very willing to pay for such a criticism of the decision as herein above indicated by me." "This," comments the publisher, "recalls the Quaker chasing his hat in the wind, who hired an urchin to curse it."

The quaint repartee and whimsical humor of an Irish witness give a fillip of excitement to the dulltest court room, relates the Green Bag. Quite recently a woman asked for a warrant against a man for using abusive language in the street. "What did he say?" asked the magistrate.

"He went foreinst the whole world at the corner of Capel street and called me, yes, he did, yer washup, an old encommuniquated gasometer."

"He called me out of me name," said a witness in a case of assault.

The judge, trying to preserve the relevancy of the witness' testimony, said:

"That's a civil action, my good woman."

The witness' eyes flashed fire as she looked up at the judge and retorted:

"Musha then, if ye call that a civil action, 'tis a bad bla'gard ye must be yerself!"

A witness was once asked the amount of his gross income.

"Me gross income, is it?" he answered.

"Sure, an' ye know I've no gross income. I'm a fisherman, an me income is all net."

"No man," said a wealthy but rather weak-headed barrister, "should be admitted to the bar who has not an independent landed property."

"May I ask, sir," said a witty and eminent Irish lawyer, "how many acres make a wiseacre?"

An old lawyer in the Louisville Times tells of two amusing things which he alleges, occurred in Kentucky many years ago. On one occasion a wealthy man died, leaving a fortune, and the heirs became so dissatisfied with his will that they went to court to break it. One witness was called who furnished fun for the crowd. In giving his testimony he stated that the deceased did not wish to make a will because of a dream he had had. He was intensely superstitious and this vision rather dampened his enthusiasm with regard to making a will. "And pray," asked one of the lawyers, "what was this remarkable dream your friend had?"

"Well, sir," replied the witness, "he dreamed that he made a will and just as he signed it he saw a lawyer coming in the room with a big bag to take all his money away."

At another important trial which kept things lively a witness was a vain, conceited woman, who fancied she could teach the lawyers a thing or two. While one of them was cross-examining her she became very saucy, grinned at her husband, who sat in sight, and remarked tartly:



BLACK BEAR POSES BEFORE THE CAMERA.

"Mr. Blank, you needn't worry me with them questions; you just can't catch me."

"Madam," said the lawyer, "heaven knows I don't want to catch you, and your husband looks like he was sorry he ever did."

She was swept up and carefully removed from the stand.

The fair plaintiff's counsel in the breach of promise case thought that he would make life a burden to the unfortunate young man who was the unwilling defendant, relates the New York World.

"Do you mean to say," he asked after a lot of embarrassing questions, "that after you had been absent for an entire month you did not kiss the plaintiff, to whom you were engaged to be married, when you first saw her on your return?"

"I do," responded the defendant firmly.

"Will you make that statement to the jury?"

"Certainly, if necessary."

"Do you think they would believe you?"

"One of them would, I know."

"Ah, indeed! Why should he?"

"Because he was present when I first saw her. He was at the gate when I rode up, and she stuck her head out of the second story window, and I asked her, 'How do you do?' and said I'd be back to supper in half an hour. I'm no graffe."

Tales of the Pulpit

"When a man has a family of growing children he learns lots of things that, while they may be old, are new to him," said a prominent member of the Produce exchange to a Philadelphia Record reporter. "One of my youngsters sprang a riddle on me last night which runs this way: 'Who was a well known Biblical character never named in the Bible, whose death was the most peculiar in history, whose shroud is a part of every household, and the cause of whose death was the subject of a widely read novel?' I'll wager none of you fellows can give me the answer." Not being students of biblical lore, they all gave it up. "Lot's wife is the character," went on the proud parent. "That's the only name by which she is known in the bible. She was turned into a pillar of salt, consequently her shroud is in every household. Her death resulted from looking backward, the title of Bellamy's famous book. Rather ingenious, don't you think?"

One day, relates Youth's Companion, the engine of a western freight train broke down, and the only passenger, a traveling preacher, got out and worked with the train crew, pulling, hauling and heaving as vigorously as the rest. He knew something about the machine, and was, indeed, quite capable of running an engine himself; so he was able to consult with the men, and advise them to some purpose. The work was carried on under a vigorous flow of profanity, which seemed to be quite unconsidered—a mere matter of habit.

Finally, says Rev. C. T. Prady, who tells the story, I suggested an interruption in the swearing, adding that I was a preacher. The head brakeman dropped his crowbar with a look of abject astonishment. Everybody else let go at the same time, and the engine settled down. The men looked at me with amusing consternation.

"You are what?" repeated the conductor, with an oath.

"A preacher."

"Well!" said the official, with a long whistle of astonishment. Then, after regarding me thoughtfully for a moment, he

added: "Well, sir, you work like a man, anyway. Ketch hold again!"

"All right," said I, "but no more swearing on this trip."

"None!" was the laconic reply, and that promise was kept.

When the work was done, and all hands stood panting but successful, the engineer remarked:

"Well, this is the first time I ever saw a preacher that knew a reversing-lever from a box car. Come up and ride with me the rest of the way."

Leap Year

Some curiosities concerning the new century, relates the London Globe, have been collated by the Rev. Prebendary W. A. Whitworth, the well known vicar of All Saints, Margaret street, London. It will have, for instance, 36,525 days, which is one day more than the departing century could show, a difference due to the fact that 1900 is not leap year, but 2000 will be so regarded. With regard to leap years, it will be remembered that every year of only 365 days is too short by nearly six hours, but by having a leap year with its extra day every four years we should make every four years more than eleven minutes too long. Some years, therefore, have to be left out, and the present calendar provides for only ninety-seven leap years to occur in four centuries, which reduces the average length of the year to 365 days 5 hours 48 minutes 12 seconds, which, being only twenty-two and one-half seconds too long, may be considered, for all ordinary purposes, as correct. This explains why in the seven years 1897-1903 there is no leap year. As to the error of about twenty-two and one-half seconds in the average year, Mr. Whitworth remarks that it would take 700,000 years to bring midsummer to December.

Pointed Paragraphs

Chicago News: The skillful man should know how to disguise his skill.

Lots of men know how to cure hams, but are unable to procure them.

It's a pity some men can't draw checks as easily as they can inferences.

When a soldier becomes insane there is something wrong at headquarters.

Probably the majority of clergymen are poor because they preach without notes.

If a woman has a mirror in her room, there's where the carpet will wear out first.

Many a man has married a piece of real estate with a woman in the title deed.

Many an old toper who has never been in Cork has seen a great many drawers of it.

Other birds fight on the co-operative plan, but the eagle fights all his battles alone.

Laws, like sausages, often cease to inspire respect when we learn how they are made.

No man should complain of being weighed on his own scales or of being measured by his own yardstick.

Nearly every father who has a marriageable daughter is willing to allow his home to be used as a court house.

"Once upon a time" is the way fables begin, and after a man goes out once upon a time he begins to tell his wife fables.

When a girl begins to evince a dislike to being called by her pet name she may be considered as officially out of the matrimonial race.