

PROBLEMS OF A CHURCH BODY

Vital Issues to Be Determined at the Methodist General Conference.

WOMEN DELEGATES TO BE ADMITTED

Secular Amusements a Disturbing Factor - Proposed Consolidation Measures-Bishops and Missionaries to Be Chosen.

The coming quadrennial session of the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, to be held in Los Angeles, opening on May 4, promises to be fraught with stirring and important issues and incidents.

The denomination has more than 2,000,000 members, and is the parent body of the Methodist family in this country, which includes the Methodist Episcopal church, south, with 1,500,000 members, the African, the Colored, and the African Zion Methodist Episcopal churches, with an aggregate of a million and a half, the Methodist Protestant, with nearly 300,000, and some minor denominations, making 2,300,000 members.

Accordingly the meeting of the chief council of the leading Methodist denomination for a three or four weeks' session, after an interval of four years, will command the attention of millions of directly interested people, in addition to multitudes in other denominations, who are drawn by a touch of sympathetic interest to the consideration of all movements which have in their promise of good for the public at large.

The general conference will be composed of about 700 delegates, one-half of them laymen. Of this last body about a score will be women—a fact which divides this session of 1904 off from all former meetings of this character.

In May, at the opening of the general conference in New York City, five women of prominence, one of them Miss Frances E. Willard, who had been elected by lay electoral conferences as delegates, appeared to claim their rights.

The various questions pertaining to the episcopacy will attract close and interested attention, not only on the part of the delegates, but on the part of the church at large.

World-Wide Scope. In addition to the episcopal addresses, the reports of the bishops who have administered foreign mission fields will attract close attention.

Consolidation Measures. Two plans involving consolidation of great enterprises will occupy the attention of the general conference.

It is agreed on every side that several new men will be elected to the list of general superintendents.

announced by his friends that he will ask to be put on the superannuated list. Bishops Hurst, Foster and Ninds have died during the quadrennium, and six of the others on the effective list are in their seventies.

What Men Will Be Chosen. Episcopal timber is just now in evidence in all directions. It is not believed that the men who have been mentioned for promotion to the episcopacy have had to do with the mention of their names, or with the quiet canvass which has been going on in regard to their fitness for the great work which a Methodist bishop must do.

The ideal qualities for the office are of a high order. A bishop needs to be a preacher of more than ordinary gifts, a man of scholarly qualities and attainments, a judge of human nature, a man of executive dispatch and of administrative ability, and of unquestioned integrity and religious devotion.

Among the men who are now in the mind of the church as possessing such of these qualities are: President Bushford of Ohio Wesleyan university, Chancellor Day of Syracuse university, Dr. H. C. Jennings of the Western Methodist Book Concern, Rev. Dr. J. P. Barry of the Epworth Herald, Rev. Dr. Levi Gilbert of the Western Christian Advocate, Rev. Dr. W. I. Haven, pastor of the First Baptist church, and Rev. Dr. Henry Spearman of Newark, N. J., a pastor in that city; Rev. Dr. George P. Eckman of New York City, Rev. Dr. James M. Buckley of the Christian Advocate, a man who has had at his disposal, in substance, this office for the last twelve years, but who has refused to allow himself to be put forth as a candidate because, for one thing, he has considered that the editorial field is a larger one than the episcopacy.

Time Limit Once More. One of the inevitable themes of discussion, and of possible legislation, at the coming general conference will be the time limit in the futurity, which was removed four years ago by the quadrennial conference in Chicago.

Another question coming up for consideration at the general conference more or less prominent in the matter of secular amusements. A paragraph was adopted by the general conference of 1873 which has given trouble and occasioned perplexity to pastors and people, and to the general conference as well, ever since that time.

Real Tyroleans. I mention last, but by no means least, one of the most interesting features of the evening's program. This was the arrival of sixteen real Tyroleans who are engaged to sing and dance in the German Tyrolean Alps concert in St. Louis.

All of the guests carried away a most delightful recollection of this Alpine fest, which is another proof that Mr. Knauer well deserves the reputation he is attaining in Berlin—that of being an ideal host, and an inviting to his beautiful home is greatly sought after and appreciated by his many friends.

When, however, this minority report came to be voted on finally for adoption it was laid upon the table, so that it will be clearly seen that the situation from a parliamentary standpoint during the last quadrennium has been something of a perplexity to wise administrators.

and economy, and to elect one publishing agent with three assistants, instead of two publishing agents for the western house and two publishing agents for the eastern house, as at present arranged. The book committee, however, is not a unit in its conviction upon this subject. The discussion will first be carried on in the general conference committee on book concerns at Los Angeles. Its conclusion will then be brought before the general conference, and at that time there will probably be a great debate.

The other consolidation scheme alluded to pertains to the coalescence of the various benevolent organizations of the church. It is proposed to divide the Missionary society in two branches, a home society and a foreign society, dealing respectively with the fields thus indicated, to consolidate with the home society the Board of Church Extension, and to fuse the Board of Education, the Sunday School union, the Tract society and the Freedmen's Aid and Southern Education society into one organization.

Most elaborate was the supper menu and champagne flowed as water. Between the supper courses the guests wandered at will down the long corridor, prettily decorated with evergreens, with Edilewis scattered here and there, to the beautiful ball room and "tripped the light fantastic" in the whirling, dizzy German fashion, to the strains of the orchestra stationed in an adjoining room; or strolled out in the conservatory.

Several flashlight pictures were taken of the entire company, which like everything undertaken by Mr. Knauer, proved a success. Arranged most attractively on a table in the billiard room were lovely souvenirs of all sorts, brought direct from the Tyrol.

At 12 o'clock the next morning when the last guest reluctantly said goodby to his hospitable host, for here in Germany a costume ball is often an all night affair.

At 12 o'clock the next morning when the last guest reluctantly said goodby to his hospitable host, for here in Germany a costume ball is often an all night affair.

At 12 o'clock the next morning when the last guest reluctantly said goodby to his hospitable host, for here in Germany a costume ball is often an all night affair.

At 12 o'clock the next morning when the last guest reluctantly said goodby to his hospitable host, for here in Germany a costume ball is often an all night affair.

At 12 o'clock the next morning when the last guest reluctantly said goodby to his hospitable host, for here in Germany a costume ball is often an all night affair.

SOCIAL CHARMS IN BERLIN

Entrancing Beauty of an Alpine Fest Given by an Ideal Host.

TYROLEAN SCENES, SOUVENIRS, DANCES

Picturesque Costumes, Realistic Decorations, Lavish Hospitality and Rare Cotillon Favors—An All-Night Fancion.

Berlin, March 20.—(Special Correspondence to The Bee.)—On Saturday evening, February 20, it was my good fortune to be a guest at the Alpine fest given by Mr. Hermann Knauer at his beautiful home in Victoria Luise Platz.

Over windows and doors, extending from ceiling to the floor, the entire walls were covered with canvas on which was painted most realistic views of different places of this picturesque part of Germany.

Most elaborate was the supper menu and champagne flowed as water. Between the supper courses the guests wandered at will down the long corridor, prettily decorated with evergreens, with Edilewis scattered here and there, to the beautiful ball room and "tripped the light fantastic" in the whirling, dizzy German fashion, to the strains of the orchestra stationed in an adjoining room; or strolled out in the conservatory.

Several flashlight pictures were taken of the entire company, which like everything undertaken by Mr. Knauer, proved a success. Arranged most attractively on a table in the billiard room were lovely souvenirs of all sorts, brought direct from the Tyrol.

At 12 o'clock the next morning when the last guest reluctantly said goodby to his hospitable host, for here in Germany a costume ball is often an all night affair.

At 12 o'clock the next morning when the last guest reluctantly said goodby to his hospitable host, for here in Germany a costume ball is often an all night affair.

At 12 o'clock the next morning when the last guest reluctantly said goodby to his hospitable host, for here in Germany a costume ball is often an all night affair.

At 12 o'clock the next morning when the last guest reluctantly said goodby to his hospitable host, for here in Germany a costume ball is often an all night affair.

Orchard & Wilhelm Carpet Co.

As at all other times we are offering profitable pickings for prudent buyers. Everything we sell is fortified by quality and therefore you are sure that money spent here will result in satisfaction.

\$1-Carpet-\$1

We want you to see our \$1 velvet carpet. It is not the ordinary \$1 grade, but a carpet far superior. We do not claim for it a \$2 value, but we do say it is the best velvet carpet that you will be able to buy at \$1.

We have for your choosing a broad selection of patterns in all the new and latest coloring effects to harmonize with other furnishings. If you are contemplating buying a carpet in the near future it may be time well spent to visit our carpet dept. Monday, see the superior quality of velvet carpet we have on sale special, \$1 yd.

Stock Rugs—About 250 room size stock rugs in all sizes on special sale. These are rugs made from odd lengths and remnants of carpets with borders. In this lot of rugs you save at least one-third from the regular carpet price. Bring measurements and come early while the selection is complete.

...Furniture...

Chiffoniers 68 patterns, including all the newest designs in the most popular and latest finishes. We have to offer you a select oak chiffonier, five large, commo-dious drawers, entire chiffonier fine golden finish—special \$4.95.

Dressers 86 patterns from which to make selection. These also include the latest designs in all the popular woods. We start them for a solid oak dresser with French plate mirror, finely finished at \$12.50.

Iron Beds 125 patterns in almost every conceivable design and color of finish. We start them at \$1.75 for full size iron bed, white or black. We ask you to compare our \$1.75 bed with others on the market that are advertised as \$2.00 value.

Couches 65 patterns from which to select. The largest line of couches we have ever shown and we believe the best values. We have plain or tufted top velvet couch, solid oak frames, with claw foot at \$5.00.

Parlor Tables An almost endless variety of parlor tables in the latest and newest designs and finishes. Some exquisite pieces in small pattern shape tops in solid mahogany and oak, also a large showing of antique and reproduction pieces.

Lace Curtains—Being the heaviest purchasers of lace curtains in the west we are often in position to pick up some exceptional values. Our entire new spring stock is here and we believe that if you will take time to inspect them you will find our qualities better and our prices as low as are asked very often for second quality goods.

Cheap Settlers' Rates To MINNESOTA, NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA, WYOMING AND CANADIAN POINTS March 1, 8, 15, 22 and April 5, 12, 19 and 26 Via ILLINOIS CENTRAL R. R. Particulars at City Ticket Office, 1402 Farnam St., or write W. H. BRILL, Dist. Pass. Agt., Omaha, Neb.

BEE WANT ADS PRODUCE RESULTS ZAYDAH KATHYLENE WARNER. Marconi will equal the telephone as an investment. See page 11.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS Being the mother of ten children and having taken Wine of Cardui for a good many years while my children were being born, I feel that I can speak with authority as to its merits. Mrs. Susana Merkle 142 W. 59th St. Chicago, Ill. WINE OF CARDUI Many women's lives are unhappy on account of the dread of the dangers of childbirth, especially if they have been afflicted with menstrual irregularities or bearing down pains.

SEE YOUR HATTER NONE BETTER MADE Agribain Hats Mrs. Susana Merkle 142 W. 59th St. Chicago, Ill.