

DAKOTA CONFERENCE

— Of the —

Wesleyan Methodist Church



Thirty-fourth Annual Session

September 22nd-26th

Northville, S. D.



OFFICIAL HAND-BOOK

1915



OFFICERS

President: J. C. McGovern, Northville, S. D.

Vice-President: W. J. Edgar, Northville, S. D.

Secretary: E. F. Harold, Aberdeen, S. D.

Treasurer: W. S. Insley, Avon, S. D.



J. C. McGOVERN
President



E. F. HAROLD
Secretary

FOREWORD

It is with hearts filled with praise to God for the rich outpourings of His Holy Spirit upon the work of the year, that we send forth the record, numerically, financially and spiritually, of what has been accomplished.

We seek that it will but be a testimony of the grace and power of the Spirit of God witnessing to the faithful labors of preachers and people.

Evangelism has been the key-note of the Conference endeavor—the tidings of a full Gospel for a lost world, a complete deliverance from a fatal malady. The baptism of the Holy Spirit for ministry and laity is doubtless the secret of effective, lasting work for the kingdom of Jesus Christ. We covet the earnest united prayers of God's people that the coming year shall see greater attempts and greater accomplishments for our Church and Christ.

E. F. H.



Wesleyan Methodist Church, Northville, S. D.
J. C. McGovern, Pastor.

REGISTER OF CONFERENCE.

Ministerial.

Names.	Present Address.	Ent. Conf.	How.
Baldrige, M. R.	Athol, S. D.	1883.	Probation.
Crosby, Hattie,	West Africa.	1908.	Probation.
Edgar, W. J.,	Northville, S. D.	1883.	Probation.
Harold, E. F.,	Aberdeen, S. D.	1914.	Probation.
Insley, W. S.,	Avon, S. D.	1914.	Probation.
Johnson, L. A.,	Yankton, S. D.	1914.	Probation.
McGovern, J. C.,	Northville, S. D.	1905.	Transfer.
Preston, Gertrude,	Mina, S. D.	1915.	Transfer.
Thompson, C. K.,	Northville, S. D.	1900.	Probation.
Tiffany, A. J.,	Lewiston, Idaho.	1900.	Probation.

Licentiates.

Crosby, Stella A.,	Aberdeen, S. D.
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Lay Members.

Diestler, Mr. A.	Moore, Mrs. A.
Hendricks, Miss Mae	Reed, Mr. W. S.
Jenkins, Mrs. J. F.	Reed, Mrs. W. S.
Knapp, Mrs. D. S.	Rice, Mrs. R. O.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM.

Official Report.

First Day, September 22, 1915.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Session of the Dakota Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church convened at 9:30 A. M., September 22, 1915, at Northville, S. D., the Rev. W. J. Edgar presiding.

Devotionals.—The President conducted the devotionals, reading 2 Timothy, 2nd and 3rd chapters. Mrs. D. S. Knapp, J. C. McGovern, V. B. Ratcliffe, and Prof. S. W. Bond led in devout and earnest prayer for God's blessing upon the Conference.

Roll Call.—The Secretary called the Roll. The following persons responded: W. J. Edgar, J. C. McGovern, C. K. Thompson, W. S. Insley.

Credentials.—W. S. Insley was appointed a Committee on Credentials of delegates.

Report.—The names of the following persons were reported by the Committee on Credentials, and duly elected, their names being added to the Conference Roll:

Aberdeen Church—Mrs. D. S. Knapp, Mrs. R. O. Rice.

Northville Church—Mr. W. S. Reed, Mrs. A. Moore, Mrs. J. F. Jenkins, Mrs. W. S. Reed.

Bushnell Church—Miss Mae Hendricks.

Religious Services.—J. C. McGovern, W. S. Insley and Mrs. W. S. Reed were appointed a Committee on Religious Services.

Transfers.—The Secretary read the letter of Miss Gertrude Preston from Lockport Conference. On motion she was received as a member of the Dakota Conference.

Conference Bar.—The first three rows of seats were adopted as bar of conference.

Introductions.—Prof. S. W. Bond, V. B. Ratcliffe and Miss Gertrude Preston were introduced to Conference. Each addressed the Conference briefly. V. B. Ratcliffe read his statistical report.

Statistics.—Miss Gertrude Preston was elected a Committee on Statistics.

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Pastoral Relations.—J. C. McGovern, E. F. Harold, W. S. Insley (Elders), Mrs. D. S. Knapp, Mrs. J. F. Jenkins and Mrs. W. S. Reed (Lay Members) were elected a Pastoral Relations Committee.

Sessions.—On motion time of business sessions were set for 9:30 to 11:30 in the forenoon. In the afternoon, at the call of the President, to adjourn at the discretion of the body.

Visitors.—On motion, visiting brethren and fraternal delegates were elected to honorary seats in the Conference and the privilege of the floor on any question before the Conference.

Next Conference.—On motion, the time of our Annual Conference was set for the second Wednesday in October.

Order of Day.—On motion the following was made the order of day: (a) Friday, 10:30 A. M., to hear Prof. S. W. Bond on Connectional Interests; (b) Friday, 9:45 A. M., to elect Conference officers for the ensuing year; (c) Saturday, 10:45 A. M., to vote on the tobacco question.

Resolutions.—Miss Gertrude Preston was elected a Committee on Resolutions.

Camp-Meeting.—On motion, it was decided to have a Conference Camp-Meeting, the following persons to act as a Camp-Meeting Committee, appointing time and place, with power to add lay members to the committee: W. J. Edgar, J. C. McGovern and Gertrude Preston.

Adjournment.—On motion, Conference was adjourned by prayer by the President.

Second Day, September 23, 1915.

Devotionals.—The devotional exercises were led by W. S. Insley, who read the thirty-seventh Psalm, with appropriate comment, and called on the Rev. W. D. McMullen to lead in prayer.

Journal.—The Journal of the first day's session was read, corrected and approved.

Introduction.—The Rev. W. D. McMullen, district elder of the Free Methodist Church, was introduced to Conference and addressed same under the Holy Spirit's help, emphasizing the necessity of co-operation between the people who stand for the Gospel truth that the Free Methodists and the Wesleyan Methodists stand for.

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Reply.—President W. J. Edgar spoke in reply, assuring of Christian sympathy and love.

Fraternal Delegate.—On motion W. J. Edgar was elected fraternal delegate to the Annual Conference of the Free Methodist Church to convene at Beresford, S. D., October 6, 1915. J. C. McGovern was elected alternate.

Correspondence.—Letters were read from the following persons: A. J. Tiffany, Hattie Crosby and E. R. Dodd. On motion, the President was asked to reply on behalf of the Conference.

Characters.—The following names were called, their statistical reports read and characters passed: A. J. Tiffany, Hattie B. Crosby, W. S. Insley and Stella A. Crosby.

United Camp-Meeting.—On an amended motion, the Camp-Meeting Committee was requested to confer with the fraternal delegate to the Free Methodist Conference concerning a union camp-meeting.

Adjournment.—Conference adjourned being led in fervent prayer by the Rev. W. D. McMullen.

Third Day, September 24, 1915.

Devotionals.—The devotionals were led by V. B. Ratcliffe, with Scripture reading from 1 Corinthians 13, and definite prayer for the Holy Spirit's power upon us as ministry and laity.

Journal.—The journal of the previous session was read, corrected and approved.

Lay Delegate.—The name of A. Diestler was presented as lay delegate from Richland Church. He was elected and his name added to the Conference Roll, with the rights of an associate member.

Suspension.—On motion the order of the day was suspended.

Characters.—The names of the following persons were called, their statistical reports read and characters passed: E. F. Harold, Gertrude Preston, J. C. McGovern, and C. K. Thompson.

Election.—Conference proceeded to elect its officers for the ensuing year.

Teller.—Gertrude Preston was appointed teller by the chair.

Officers.—Upon first ballot J. C. McGovern was elected President. Upon first ballot W. J. Edgar was elected Vice-President. Upon first ballot E. F. Harold was elected Secretary. Upon second ballot W. S. Insley was elected Treasurer.

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Advisory Board.—On motion W. J. Edgar and A. Cummings were elected as Advisory Board.

Extension.—Time of Conference was extended until noon to hear of Connectional Interests.

Address.—Prof. S. W. Bond addressed the Conference upon Connectional Interests, speaking very encouragingly upon the work and the men of God in this part of the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

Adjournment.—Conference adjourned, Prof. S. W. Bond committing us to our Heavenly Father in prayer.

Fourth Day, September 25, 1915.

Devotionals.—J. C. McGovern had charge of the devotionals, reading a portion of the Word of God from Philippians 2d chapter and leading us in heartfelt intercession for the work.

Journal.—The journal of the previous session was read, corrected and approved.

Tobacco.—The order of the day being to vote upon the tobacco question, the following statement was presented: "Shall we from now refuse to accept as members in our churches persons who raise, manufacture or use tobacco." The affirmative was carried.

Budget.—Gertrude Preston and W. S. Insley were elected a Committee on Apportioning the Budget for each charge, reporting the same to the Secretary. (See page 15.)

Journal.—On motion the Secretary was instructed to have the journal of the thirty-fourth annual session printed, same to be paid for from the Conference fund.

Reports.—Pastoral Relations Committee reported, which report was adopted. (See page 14.)

New Book.—On motion the Secretary was instructed to purchase a new Journal Book. Same to be paid for from Conference fund.

Envelope System.—On motion the pastors were urged to secure the adoption of the Duplex Envelope System for raising finance of the local church and connectional interests.

Introductions.—Evangelist C. W. Ruth, of Indianapolis, Ind., and the Rev. Mr. Harris, of Afton, Minn., were introduced to the Conference. C. W. Ruth bore the Conference greetings from the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene and invited Conference to send a fraternal delegate to their General Assembly to be held in Kansas City, Mo., September 26th.

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Conference Fund.—On motion it was decided to take a subscription for the Conference Fund on the Sabbath, and a special effort to be made on each charge, the Budget Committee to apportion same.

Next Conference.—On motion, the time and place of next Conference was left for the President and Advisory Board to decide.

Presidency.—W. J. Edgar, E. F. Harold, W. S. Insley, J. K. Williams and W. S. Reed were elected a Committee on Presidency.

Fare.—On motion the Treasurer was instructed to pay the railroad fare of V. B. Ratcliffe.

Characters.—The names of the following persons were called and their characters passed: M. R. Baldrige, W. J. Edgar and L. A. Johnson.

Reports.—The following reports were presented and adopted:

Statistical—(See pages 19, 20 and 21.)

Resolutions—(See page 15.)

Budget—(See page 15.)

Adjournment.—On motion, Conference adjourned sine die.

The President pronounced the benediction.

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REPORT OF PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

Appointments.

Charge.	Pastor.
Avon, S. D.....	W. S. Insley.
Aberdeen, S. D.....	E. F. Harold.
	Stella A. Crosby, Assistant.
Bushnell, S. D.....	V. B. Ratcliffe.
Northville, S. D.....	J. C. McGovern.
Richland, S. D.....	Gertrude Preston.
Conference Evangelist..	W. J. Edgar.
General Evangelist.....	C. K. Thompson.
African Missionary.....	Hattie B. Crosby.
American S. S. Union..	A. J. Tiffany and L. A. Johnson.
Supply for Athol Congregational Church...	M. R. Baldridge.
	Your Committee.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

Total income for Conference Fund.....	\$62.33
Total expenditure (for railroad fare).....	50.00
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Total balance on hand.....	\$12.33

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Report of Budget Committee

Charges	Mission	Education	Conference	Superannuated	Total
Avon, S. D.....	\$33.00	\$41.25	\$33.00	\$17.16	\$124.41
Aberdeen, S. D...	52.00	65.00	52.00	27.04	196.04
Bushnell, S. D...	47.00	58.75	47.00	24.44	177.19
Northville, S. D.	45.00	56.25	45.00	23.40	169.65
Richland, S. D...	66.00	82.25	66.00	34.32	248.57

REPORT OF RESOLUTION COMMITTEE.

We, your Committee, present the following report:

Whereas, the pastor and his wife and the members and friends of Northville Wesleyan Church, have so royally entertained this Conference; therefore, be it resolved, that by a rising vote we extend our hearty thanks.

Your Committee.

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NOTES.

The Rev. E. R. Dodd has been a means of blessing to our Conference. Nearly all of the charges have been visited by him and many are the precious souls who will live among the redeemed for the ages to come, thanking God that this beloved servant of His has so faithfully and lovingly brought them the news of Full Salvation.

The Rev. W. J. Edgar is to be our Conference Evangelist for the ensuing year. We are looking forward to times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord as this able preacher of righteousness visits the various charges.

Copies of this Hand Book may be had by applying to the Secretary.



W. J. EDGAR
Conference Evangelist



E. R. DODD
Northwest Evangelist

Statistical Report of Labors, Periodicals and Membership

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Names of Charges and Pastors.	Pastor's Labors.		Periodicals								Membership												
	Time Employed (Months)	Appointments	No. of Church Societies	Wesleyan Methodist	Sunday School Banners	Teacher's Quarterly	Scholar's Quarterly	Junior Quarterly	Primary Class Paper	Our Little Folks Cards	Received	Expelled	Discontinued	Died	Granted Letters	No. Last Year	No. Beginning Year	Present Number	Loss	Gain	Associate Members	Baptized	Licentiates
Avon, S. D. V. B. Ratcliffe	9	1	1	6	18	5	25	12	12	12	21				1	30	30	29	1				
Aberdeen, S. D. C. F. Harold	12	1	1	10	30	6	30	15	15	10				1	32	32	52		20				
Bushnell, S. D. W. S. Insley	12	2	1	14	35	4	20	15	20	30	8			2	43	43	47		4	1	10	1	
Northville, S. D. J. C. McGovern	12	1	1	10	30	5	35	25	15	15	8					30	30	38		8		5	
Webster, S. D.																7	7	7					
Richland, S. D. Gertrude Preston	12	1	1	14	40	5	61			12	4		3	1	2	68	68	66	2		2	4	
Total	57	6	5	54	153	25	171	55	62	79	41		3	4	5	210	210	239	3	32	4	20	1

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Statistical Report of Sunday Schools and Finance

Names of Charges	Sabbath Schools											Church Property					Pastor's Support									
	No. of Sabbath Schools		No. of Officers	No. of Teachers	Scholars in Home Department		Scholars in Cradle Roll		Scholars in Main School		Total Number	Average Attendance	No. Scholars Converted	No. Scholars Joining Church	No. Scholars in Bible Class (Adults)	No. Church Buildings	Value	Indebtedness	No. of Parsonages	Value	Indebtedness	Furnishings or Cash on Hand	Salary	Parsonage Rent	Fees, Marriages and Funerals	Gifts
Avon, S. D.	1	4	3			25	25	21			10	1	\$2000		1	\$800			1	\$800		\$308.50	\$110.00	\$5.00	\$45.00	\$468.50
Aberdeen, S. D.	1	3	7	3	10	80	103	71	12	12	17	1	3000		1	800			1	800	\$500	800.00	100.00			900.00
Bushnell, S. D.	2	10	8			65	73	40	7	4	20	1	1500		1	600			1	600		566.00				566.00
Northville, S. D.	1	5	4			30	70	44	9	6		1	4000		1	1500						614.15	125.00	2.00	8.00	749.15
Richland, S. D.	1		5			63	68	65			4	30	1	2200							96	400.00			8.00	408.00
Total	6	22	27	3	10	263	339	241	28	26	77	5	\$12700		4	\$3700			\$596	\$2688.65	\$335.00	\$7.00	\$61.00	\$3091.65		

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Statistical Report of Expenses and Benevolences

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Names of Charges	Expenses					Benevolences						Sum Total			
	Evangelistic Help	Sabbath School	Building and Repairs	Incidentals	Total	Missions	Education	Conference Fund	Superannuation	Other Objects	Total	For Pastor	For Church	For Benevolences	For All Purposes
Avon, S. D. . .	\$10.00	\$16.00		\$20.00	\$46.00	\$2.00	\$13.00	\$1.00	\$1.00		\$17.00	\$468.50	\$46.00	\$17.00	\$531.50
Aberdeen, S. D.	427.00	57.08	\$34.75	154.27	663.20	152.40	12.00			\$50.00	214.40	900.00	673.20	214.40	1787.60
Bushnell, S. D.	57.00	30.00	37.00	20.00	144.00							566.00	144.00		710.00
Northville, S. D.	286.59	44.86	106.12	117.88	555.45	284.05	558.00	29.50	7.10	524.85	1403.40	749.15	555.45	1403.40	2708.00
Richland, S. D.	146.25	33.78		25.00	205.03	235.25	12.00		5.00		252.25	408.00	205.03	252.98	866.01
Total	\$926.84	\$181.82	\$177.87	\$337.15	\$1613.68	\$673.70	\$595.00	\$30.50	\$13.10	\$574.85	\$1887.05	\$3091.65	\$1623.68	\$1887.78	\$6603.11

DAKOTA CONFERENCE.

WOMAN'S HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Officers for 1915-1916.

President—Rev. Gertrude Preston, Mina.

Secretary—Mrs. Anna McGovern, Northville.

Treasurer—Mrs. Etta Williams, 201 2nd Ave., N. E., Aberdeen.

Superintendent Y. M. W. B.—Rev. Gertrude Preston, Mina.

WOMAN'S HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

"Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance." With grateful hearts we acknowledge the blessing of God upon our work the past year. While our interest is not as great in the salvation of those in heathen darkness as we wish it were, yet we can see an increasing desire to obey the command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

We have been brought to see in the course of study for this year how much need there is of workers, consecrated, Spirit-filled workers, in the great harvest field. We have heard the heart cry of the women and girls who are looked upon as no better than the beasts of the field, those who are in absolute subjection to men who know nothing of Jesus, whose hearts are hardened by sin and their lives filled with selfishness. Our hearts have been crying to God to put the spirit of evangelism into the hearts of the people of this fair land of ours, that we may send workers to those who dwell in heathen darkness, that they may hear the story of Jesus, who loves them.

Our plan for the coming year is to bring before our people, not only the needs of the mission field but our responsibility to carry the Gospel to every creature, not only in the foreign field, but in the dark places in the home land. We feel that our people have not willingly neglected their duty, but that they have not realized the great responsibility God has placed upon them.

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We are glad to find not only a deeper interest in the work in Africa and India, but also in the Home Missionary work, in the work missionaries are doing among the mountaineers in the South, and also in the work of Brother Roberts and his faithful helpers among the colored people in the southern field.

We are thankful for the hearty co-operation of the women of our Conference in the work we have been trying to do. While God has not permitted us to go with the message to these dark places, He has given us the privilege of helping by our prayers and by our means those whom He has sent: and when the harvest has been gathered and brought before Him, He will let us see the sheaves we have helped to gather for Him, "that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together."

Anna McGovern, President.

YOUNG MISSIONARY WORKERS' BAND.

"A little child shall lead them." We feel that this Scripture is being fulfilled in our Y. M. W. B. Our boys and girls are leading out in the missionary work as never before. They work and gladly give their money to help carry the story of Jesus, the children's Friend, to those who have never heard of Him. Jesus, who walked this earth as one of the busiest men, and yet He had time to take the little children in His arms, lay His hands upon them and bless them. Our children have caught the vision of Jesus thus engaged and it has given them a great desire to tell others about Him.

Every church in the Conference has a Y. M. W. B. One new Band of forty members has been organized; another has doubled its membership; others are increasing in numbers, interest and offerings.

We are looking for greater things from our Y. M. W. B. We are expecting that some from our ranks will go to carry the glad tidings of salvation to those who have never heard the story of God's love. It has been a great pleasure to work with our boys and girls in this great work, and in closing the year we can say, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

Anna McGovern, Superintendent.

Miltonvale Wesleyan College

Miltonvale, Cloud County

Kansas

A full salvation college in which young people are thoroughly trained for their life work under Christian influences and among young people with high ideals. A most cordial welcome is given to all young people who are striving for the highest and best in religious and social life and educational equipment.

Courses are given in College, Academy, Normal, Theology, Vocal and Instrumental Music, and eighth grade. Students may enter at any time.

The expenses are very reasonable. Tuition in the college is \$30.00 per year, Academy and Normal \$24.00, Vocal and Instrumental Music \$20.00, Theology free, Grades \$18.00. Furnished rooms in the Ladies' Hall lighted by electricity and heated by hot water are 75 cents per week for each student. Table board is furnished at \$2.75 per week.

Every safeguard possible is thrown around the young people at all times, and the friends and patrons are co-operating most pleasantly with the faculty to maintain the high standards for which we are striving. Each year one or more of the best holiness evangelists to be secured is engaged to hold a series of meetings in the chapel. Scores of the young people are thus saved and sanctified.

We especially invite any of our friends who are intending to move to some school town to educate their children to come to Miltonvale and join forces with us for the highest and best obtainable.

For catalogues and all information write the President,

Silas W. Bond,
Miltonvale, Kansas.