

MINUTES.

*OF THE*

Forty-Fourth Annual Session

*OF THE*

Iowa Conference

*OF THE*

Wesleyan Methodist Connection Of America,

*HELD*

NEAR LA PORTE CITY, BLACKHAWK COUNTY, IOWA.

*COMMENCING*

**SEPTEMBER 29, 1897.**

## CONFERENCE OFFICERS.

### PRESIDENT.

Rev. J. A. PRESTON.

### TRUSTEES.

JOHN McLEOD. C. N. FOX.  
Rev. H. J. RICHARDSON. Rev. J. T. PLATT,  
Rev. GEO. S. FRY.

### SECRETARY.

Rev. F. J. WILSON.

### COMMITTEE ON PRESIDENCY.

Rev. R. W. MACK. Rev. D. E. KNAPP.  
Rev. H. J. RICHARDSON.

### TREASURER.

Rev J. C. McGOVERN.

### COMMITTEE ON CAMP MEETING.

Rev. S. A. GILLEY. JOHN McLEOD.  
Rev. H. J. RICHARDSON. C. H. BABCOCK.  
Rev. GEO. S. FRY.

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Note:—Since the adjournment of Conference, we learn of the sudden death of the President, Bro. J. A. Preston.

We are not yet informed who the new President is.



# MINUTES

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## FIRST DAY.

### MORNING SESSION.

Pursuant to appointment, the Forty-fourth Annual Session of the Iowa Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, convened in the Wesleyan Methodist church (called Immanuel Chapel) seven miles east of La Porte City, in Blackhawk county, Iowa, commencing September 29, 1897, at 10 A. M.

The President, Rev. J. H. Meek, being absent the conference was called to order by the Secretary, and Rev. J. A. Preston was elected President pro tem.

Rev. H. J. Richardson conducted the devotional exercises. He read the 37th Psalm and offered a very earnest prayer.

Revs. R. W. Mack and H. J. Richardson were elected committee on credentials.

On motion of Rev. S. A. Gilley the conference bar was fixed to include the four front seats and the side seats.

The Pastor of the church, Rev. E. R. Dodd, was made committee on religious services.

The committee on credentials reported, George Logsdon, delegate from Bethel, R. W. Wilson, delegate from Marengo, C. H. Babcock and J. E. Grinnell, delegates from College Springs. The report was adopted.

On motion of Rev. S. A. Gilley, the Chair was ordered to appoint two lay delegates to the Committee on Itinerancy and Orders.

The committee on Credentials reported Asenath Skidmore delegate from Manona. The report was adopted.



The Chair appointed R. W. Wilson and C. H. Babcock to the committee on Itinerancy and Orders. R. W. Wilson resigned.

The following committees were appointed

*Resolutions*:—Rev. J. A. Preston, Rev. Thos. Hartley, and J. E. Grinnell.

*Sunday Schools*:—Rev. H. W. Rose and R. W. Mack.

*Missions*:—Rev. O. L. Snow, Rev. J. C. McGovern and R. W. Wilson.

*Statistics*:—Rev. R. W. Mack and J. E. Grinnell.

*Books and Periodicals*:—Rev. S. A. Gilley, Rev. O. L. Snow and George Logsdon.

It was ordered to proceed to the election of the ministerial members of the committee on Pastoral Relations. Revs. S. A. Gilley, H. J. Richardson and J. T. Platt were elected.

The time of the conference sessions was fixed as follows; morning session from 8:30 to 11:30, afternoon session from 1:30 to close at the discretion of the conference.

A letter from Rev. F. E. Calhoun, Missionary to Eastern Montana was read and referred to the committee on Pastoral Relations and Statistics.

Rev. J. A. Preston, F. J. Wilson and A. W. Hall were appointed committee on memorials.

The Roll was called and corrected.

It was ordered, on motion of Rev. S. A. Gilley, to reaffirm our action of last year relating to licentiates acting as delegates to the conference.

Conference adjourned by limitation.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

An excellent sermon was preached by Rev. H. W. Rose from Matt. 5: 13, "Ye are the salt of the earth"

The Roll was called.

The committee on credentials reported J. R. Little from Pilot Rock and John McLeod from Dayton. The report was adopted.

The Chair appointed John McLeod to the committee of Itinerancy and Orders to take the place of R. W. Wilson who resigned.

Letters from Rev. J. H. Meek were read.

The official report of the President, Rev. J. H. Meek, was read and adopted except that part of the report relating to the appointment of Mina Johnson assistant pastor at Manona. The appointment of Rev. R. W. Mack to Howardville and St. Charles circuit was considered a part of the report. (See Presidents report.)



It was ordered that all papers to come before the conference be referred to the proper committees, after being read, without farther action.

A letter from Rev. W. J. Davis was read, which contained a report of his work and a recommendation to the conference to travel under its direction.

The committee on camp meeting reported and the report was adopted. See report No. 1.

The committee on credentials reported E. E. Jones, from Butler, and Samuel Hoover, from Hoover and Walker circuits. Report adopted.

Letters were read from C. P. Sage, M. E. Grinnell, W. H. Stanley, and R. E. Rose.

The examination of character was taken up and the name of C. P. Sage was called. A communication from him had been read and his character was passed.

Rev. J. H. Meek was called and his case was laid over until his delegate should arrive and offer his report.

The names of Revs S. A. Gilley and J. T. Platt were called. They reported and their characters was passed.

The committee on credentials reported W. M. Gippe from La Porte circuit. The report was adopted.

The names of Revs. H. W. Rose and Albert Johnson were called. They reported and their characters were passed.

Ordered on record the following official ruling, "That the church and not the pastor, shall correct the church roll."

On motion of Rev. S. A. Gilley the following telegram of sympathy was ordered sent to the President of the conference, Rev. J. H. Meek;—" 2 Thess. 2: 16, 17. With deepest sympathy; our greetings."

The names of Revs. R. W. Mack, O. L. Snow, H. J. Richardson, and Thomas Hartley, were called. They reported and their characters were passed.

The committee on credentials reported Lizzie Thompson and Orpha J. Clark, from West Union. The report was adopted.

Ordered that the auditing committee be continued, and that they be required to bring in a report before the Treasurer's report.

It was ordered that the chair appoint a committee of two on the roll of Honored Dead. Revs. S. A. Gilley and Thos. Hartley were appointed



The character of Rev. B. F. Logsdon was passed.

Ordered that the chair appoint a committee of one on P. O. addresses. Rev. H. J. Richardson was appointed.

A motion that the collection to be taken up the coming Sunday be for incidentals. Motion lost.

Ordered that a collection be now taken for incidentals. Amount raised was, cash \$8.47 and \$1.00 promised.

The following characters were passed: Revs. John Balch, J. A. Preston and T. C. Breeding.

Committee on religious services reported that Rev. O. L. Snow would preach the opening sermon to-night.

Conference adjourned by motion. Doxology was sung. The benediction by Rev. J. T. Platt.

## SECOND DAY.

### MORNING SESSION.

The devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. John Balch.

The committee on credentials reported J. A. Laird, delegate from Wayne, and Truman Smith, from Masonville and Dundee. Adopted J. A. Laird, W. M. Gippe, and R. W. Wilson were appointed lay members of the committee on Pastoral Relations.

The time for the election of the conference officers was set for 2 P. M., to-day.

Worster Kingsbury's certificate of Elders Orders was read and referred to the committee on Itinerancy and Orders.

A paper relating to the Manona work was read and ordered laid on the table.

Letters recommending R. E. Willis of Marengo, D. M. Wright, C. B. Frost, and Leonard DeVore of Manona, to travel under direction of the conference, were read.

A petition looking to the formation of a new conference, was presented to the conference and referred to the following committee, Rev. J. T. Platt, Rev. Geo. S. Fry, and C. H. Babcock.

Letters recommending A. G. Gage of Manona, and Mina Johnson of Guthrie, to travel, were read.

The following characters were passed; Revs. J. J. Fell, Geo. S. Fry, G. C. Houck, J. C. McGovern, F. A. Calhoun, W. H. Riley, M. K. Gifford, D. Stanford, James Lytle and A. Tuffin.

The Sec. was instructed to write M. K. Gifford as he made no report.

Rev. M. R. Baldrige was called. His character was not passed at the last conference. The action of the last conference in his case was questioned and the matter was referred to the following committee for investigation:—Rev. S. A. Gilley, John McLeod and Rev. Geo. S. Fry.

The characters of Rev. A. B. Wilkinson and Rev. D. F. Shepherdson was called and passed.

Conference adjourned for committee work. Doxology. Benediction by Rev. H. J. Richardson.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Sermon by Rev. Thos. Hartley.

Minutes read and corrected.

The committee on credentials reported E. A. Heisler from Vinton and Geo. Bennett from Howardville and St. Charles. The report was referred back to the committee for correction. The committee then reported E. A. Heisler from Vinton and the report was adopted.

A telegram of greeting from the State W. C. T. U., in convention at Creston, was read.

The order of the day was called for, and the conference proceeded to the election of officers.

The first ballot for President was an informal one. Rev. J. A. Preston received a majority of all the votes cast. The vote was made formal and he was declared President of the conference for the ensuing year.

Upon first ballot Rev. F. J. Wilson was re-elected Secretary for the ensuing year.

Upon first ballot Rev. J. C. McGovern was duly elected Conference Treasurer.

By the renewal of the articles of incorporation it became necessary to elect five Trustees.

It was ordered to elect one first for one year, then one for two years etc.

Upon first ballot John McLeod was elected trustee for one year.

On first ballot C. N. Fox was elected trustee for two years.

Upon first ballot Revs. J. T. Platt, Geo. S. Fry, and H. J. Richardson, were respectively elected for three, four and five years.



The committee on credentials reported Richard Wing, delegate from Maquoketa. Report adopted.

Revs. S. A. Gilley and H. J. Richardson were re-elected to committee on Itinerancy and Orders

Revs. R. W. Mack, H. J. Richardson and D. E. Knapp were elected committee on Presidency.

Revs. H. W. Rose, Geo. S. Fry, J. C. McGovern and J. A. Preston were elected the conference Judicial Committee.

It was ordered that the committee on Itinerancy and Orders be the Camp Meeting Committee.

It was ordered to proceed to fix the time and place of the next camp meeting.

Ordered to fix the place by call of the roll. Upon first call, no place was fixed. It was then ordered to confine the voting to Guthrie, Marengo, and Immanuel, and Guthrie was the place chosen for the next camp meeting.

A motion was made and seconded that the time should be the last Saturday in May. A substitute was offered to fix the time to the third Tuesday in Aug. The whole matter as to time of camp meeting was then by vote laid on the table. It was moved to hold the camp meeting at the time of the next Annual conference, but the motion was tabled.

It was then ordered to re-consider the fixing the time of the next camp meeting. It was moved and carried to fix the time of next camp meeting some time during this session of the conference.

It was ordered to seat George Bennett delegate from Howardville and St. Charles in place of Garrett Winterink who desired to go home, both being elected in good faith.

Conference adjourned for committee work.

### THIRD DAY.

#### MORNING SESSION.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. J. T. Platt.

The roll was called and the minutes read.

Rev. J. A. Preston on account of the pressure of work, resigned his place as chairman of the committee on Resolutions. It was accepted and Rev. H. W. Rose was elected in his place.

A letter from Rev. J. H. Meek was read in which there was a



request that the conference join him in prayer from 9 to 9:20 o'clock, on Saturday morning, for the healing of sister Meek's body. The time specified was made the order of the day.

Rev. H. W. Rose offered the following resolution which was adopted

*Resolution.* Whereas, Our beloved sister, M. C. Grinnell, has been lately bereft of her husband, therefore, — *Be It Resolved*, that the Secretary of the conference be instructed to write a letter of sympathy from the conference to her.

The committee on the action of the conference in the case of Rev. M. R. Baldridge reported. Report was adopted. See report No. 2.

The committee on Sunday Schools reported, and their report was adopted. See report No. 3.

A letter from Rev. J. H. Meek was read.

Rev. T. F. Blair, Rev. J. T. Platt and J. A. Laird were appointed a committee to investigate as to the needs of Rev. J. H. Meek and wife, in their affliction.

Two letters from C. N. Fox, Beaconsfield, were read. His name was ordered to be placed on the roll as delegate from Beaconsfield. The name of W. H. Stanley was also ordered placed on the roll as delegate from Manona.

It was ordered to send the following telegram to the W. C. T. U. Convention at Creston, Iowa:—"We the members of the Iowa Wesleyan Conference to the Iowa W. C. T. U. Christian greetings;—let us unite on the platform outlined in Nehemiah 4: 14."

A letter from I. Colyer was read and his name was ordered placed on the roll of delegates, as delegate from Des Moines.

On motion of Rev. S. A. Gilley, it was ordered that it is the sense of this conference that whenever there are available funds at hand the trustees should secure the purchase of the undivided half of the Beaconsfield church, now owned by the M. E. society, to be deeded to the conference.

It was ordered to send Rev. J. H. Meek \$3.08 due him for conference postage, by Rev. T. F. Blair.

Rev. J. H. Meek's name was called again, his statistical report was read and his character passed.

The name of D. F. Sheperdson was taken up and he was reported by Rev. J. T. Platt. His character passed. The characters of Revs. M. R. Baldridge and T. F. Blair also passed.

The committee on books and periodicals reported and the report was adopted. See report No. 18.



The character of Revs. D. E. Knapp and F. J. Wilson were passed.

The name of Rev. L. True was called. The question as to from whom he should receive his license, was raised, and the chair ruled that if the character of a licentiate in the pastorate, is not impugned by the local church of which he is a member, his ministerial relation is with the conference. Rev L True reported and his character was passed by vote of the conference

The committee on Resolutions made a partial report through Rev Thos Hartley The report was adopted. See report No. 4

Rev. W. H. Kennedy, the Connectional Missionary Secretary was introduced.

The committee on the case of Rev. J. H. Meek reported, the report was adopted See report No. 5.

The following characters were passed, Revs. O. M. True, E. R. Dodd, A. W. Hall, Mary Sheperdson, and James Means Rev. C. M. Bamford's license was not renewed, and his name was dropped.

Rev. W. E. DeHarppart having taken work in another denomination, was considered withdrawn.

It was the order of the day to hold a Missionary meeting first thing to-morrow afternoon. Conference adjourned by limitation. Prayer by Rev. E R Dodd Announcements Benediction by A. W. Hall.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION

Rev R. W. Mack conducted the devotional exercises.

The minnutes were read

Rev Walton, of the Evangelical church of La Port city, and Rev J W. Shawffle, Sunday School Missionary, were introduced to the conference

The name of Rev. C. M. Howe was called, his case was referred to a committee of three, to be appointed by the chair

The conference adjourned for a half hour for committee work, and was called again at 3:45.

The chair appointed Rev Geo. S Fry, Rev. Thos. Hartley and Samuel Hoover, committee on case of Rev. C. M Howe.

Papers recommending Chas. Skidmore of Monona, and Lizzie Snow of Tracy, to travel under the direction of the conference, were read



The committee on Memorials reported through Rev. F. J. Wilson; the report was adopted. See report No. 6.

The committee on Missions reported, through their chairman Rev. O. L. Snow, the report was adopted. See report No. 7.

Rev. O. L. Snow offered the following resolution of sympathy which was adopted:—Whereas in the providence of God our Heavenly Father, it has seemed good to remove from our midst, and from the hearth-stone, our beloved Bro. Rev. Geo. Allen, Therefore

*Be It Resolved*:—That we recognize in this the loving hand of God and would extend to our sister in her bereavement our heart-felt sympathy, and by these presents assure her that she is not forgotten by us. It was made the order of the day to hear the General Agt. report immediately after the Missionary session.

It was moved and carried that we invite the General Missionary Sec. to make his address during the missionary session of the conference

The committee on the case of Rev. C. Howe made their report through their chairman Rev. Geo. S. Fry. The report was adopted. See report No. 8.

It was ordered to take from the table the paper relating to Manona circuit. It was re-read. It was moved and seconded to adopt the paper. It was moved and seconded to amend, by striking out the words relating to appointing power. A general substitute for the whole, to refer the paper to the committee on Pastoral Relations, prevailed. It was ordered that the committee on Pastoral Relations be instructed to include in their report the points contiguous to Manona Mission as possible mission points, provided they appoint Rev. Albert Johnson to that field.

The committee on the petition to form the Missouri River Conference reported, and the report was adopted. See report No. 9.

Conference adjourned by motion. After the announcements the benediction was pronounced by Rev. J. C. McGovern.

#### FOURTH DAY.

##### MORNING SESSION.

The devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. J. A. Preston.

The roll was called and the minutes read.

It was ordered that the chair appoint a committee of three on disbursements of Superannuated Ministers Fund, and the chair



appointed Rev. Geo. S. Fry, Rev. Thos. Hartley and J. A. Larrd. Order of the day called for and prayer was had for the healing of sister Meek.

Rev. Thos. Hartley of committee on resolutions made a final report, which was adopted. See report No. 10.

The chairman of committee on Statistics reported, the report was adopted. See report No. 11.

The money received for sale of song books bought in connection with camp meeting was presented and referred to the committee on camp meetings.

Ordered that the time of the conference camp meeting be now fixed

It was moved and carried that the conference camp meeting commence the second Tuesday in June.

Ordered that a committee be raised to draft rules governing the Ministerial Institute. Revs. A. W. Hall, S. A. Gilley and O. L. Snow were elected.

A postal card from Rev. J. H. Meek was read.

The order of the day was called for, and appropriate services were held in memory of Revs. Joel Grinnell Sr. and George Allen, conducted by Rev. J. A. Preston.

It was ordered that Rev. F. J. Wilson, Sec. of conference, Rev. O. L. Snow and John McLeod be committee on conference paper.

The publishing of the conference minutes was referred to committee on conference paper.

It was ordered that the chair appoint a committee to secure funds to publish the conference minutes in pamphlet form.

It was ordered that the time of the next conference be left to the suggestion of the connectional book committee.

Bids for the next conference were received, West Union, Butler, Marengo and Hoover were received. The roll was called and Marengo received the highest number of votes and was declared to be the place to hold the next conference.

The conference adjourned for committee work. Prayer by Rev. H. W. Rose. Benediction by Rev. J. A. Preston.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. O. L. Snow, prayer by Rev. Albert Johnson. The minutes were read.

The committee on disbursements of Superannuated Ministers Fund



made a partial report through Rev. Thos. Hartley. Referred back for correction.

It was ordered that the name of Rev. John Balch be left on the Superannuated list and the motion to refer the above report for correction be recinded. The report was then adopted. See report No. 12

The conference Treasurer, Rev. J. C. McGovern, made his report. According to previous action the report could not be acted on until the Auditing Committee made its report, which was then heard and adopted. See report No. 13. The Treasurers report was also adopted. See report No. 14.

A collection was ordered taken for the Secretary, which amounted to \$4.59 One for incidentals amounting to \$4.76 and one of \$4.25 for Conference Record Book.

The order of the day was taken up which was the missionary session of the conference. After the meeting was opened Rev. W. H. Kennedy made his address as General Missionary Secretary.

Rev. A. W. Hall, the General Agent, made his report.

The committee on disbursement of the Superannuated Fund made final report which was adopted. See report No. 12.

John McLeod, Rev. J. A. Preston and J. A. Laird were appointed to look into the needs of sister Johnson, widow of the late Rev. H. W. Johnson.

The committee on conference paper reported, the report was adopted. See report No. 15.

Ordered that as far as the funds will go the Treasurer pay the appropriations of last year, each to receive his proportion.

The committee on Itinerancy and Orders, through their chairman, Rev. S. A. Gilley, made their report, which was adopted. See report No. 16.

Rev S. A. Gilley, chairman of committee on Pastoral Relations, made his report, which was adopted. See report No. 17.

A hearty vote of thanks was tendered the people of Immanuel chapel for the royal entertainment the conference had received.

The following Missionary appropriations were made,--Maquoketa \$25:00. Beaconsfield \$25:00.

Rev. Geo. S. Fry protested against the Missionary appropriations and the whole missionary proceedings as illegal.

An appropriation of \$50:00 from the missionary fund was made to Rev. O. L. Snow as Conference Evangelist.

The conference adjourned by motion. Prayer by Rev. J. T. Platt.  
F. J. Wilson, Conference Secretary.



# REPORTS.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

To the Members of the Iowa Annual Conference Wesleyan Methodist Church, assembled at Immanuel church, La Porte charge; Sept. 29, 1897.

Dear Brethren:—I respectfully submit the following report.

1. Sept. 28, 1896. Ordered the sale of the Elgin church property.
2. Oct. 8, 1896. Appointed W. J. Davis to take charge of the work at Des Moines.
3. Oct. 29, 1896. Appointed F. A. Zickefoose Conference Treasurer, to fill the vacancy made by the death of Bro. Geo. Allen.
4. Early in November consented to the arrangement for H. J. Richardson to serve the Bethel charge, and approved the recommendation of the Conference Missionary Society for Bro. Richardson to have an appropriation of \$50.00.
5. Nov 17-1896. Appointed H. J. Richardson conference trustee to fill vacancy made by the death of Bro. Geo. Allen.
6. Jan. 4, 1897. Appointed Mrs. Albert Johnson assistant pastor of Monona Mission.
7. June 8, 1897. Ordered Conference Treasurer to pay over \$5.00 of the superannuated fund to Rev. J. Balch.
8. June 15, 1897. Consented to the arrangement for F. J. Wilson to serve Walker and Hoover charge until Conference.
9. July 29, 1897. Appointed J. C. McGovern Conference Treasurer to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of F. A. Zickefoose.
10. Aug. 2, 1897. Gave F. A. Zickefoose a letter of standing.



11, Sept. 15, 1897. Appointed H. J. Richardson a member of the committee on Itinerancy and Orders, to fill the vacancy made by the withdrawal of F. A. Zickefoose.

12, Have written 105 letters, postage .....	\$2.10
Have written 27 postal cards, postage .....	27
Postage on blank reports .....	16
Conference blank reports .....	25
Stationery .....	30
	Total \$3.08

Respectfully submitted.

J. H. MEEK, President.

Vinton, Iowa,

Sept. 27, 1897.

To the members of the Iowa Annual Conference Wesleyan Methodist Church.

Dear Brethren:—On account of the severe illness of my wife I cannot be with you at this session of the conference. I sincerely hope that you may have a pleasant and profitable session and that the Holy Spirit may be poured out upon you abundantly, and when this takes place harmony and love will prevail which will facilitate the transaction of buisneses.

I have very much desired that our annual gatherings might be a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord, a time of revival and spiritual benefit both to the ministry and laity, a time when souls would be converted and reclaimed, and believers wholly sanctified, and all of God's children anointed anew with divine power. It is not enough for us to be a reform church, but we must be a spiritual church indeed and in truth; truly baptized with the Holy Ghost, which baptism would remove all jealousies, selfishness and every unholy thing that retards the work of the Lord. Oh, that all might receive the Holy Comforter who comes in to *abide* in the hearts of his sanctified children.

I have endeavored to perform the duties enjoined upon me as presiding officer, for the past two years in the fear of God. I ask the christian forbearance and forgiveness of the brethren wherein they may think I have done amiss.

I will not attempt to describe the great suffering my dear companion has been enduring for three months past, but am glad to say grace has triumphed and there has been rejoicing amid it all. I am



enabled now to realize the full meaning of the marriage vow taken over 36 years ago, "I will keep her in *sickness* etc.," and have found pleasure in so doing. We desire an interest in your prayers.

Yours in Christian love,  
J. H. MEEK.

No. 1.

### CAMP MEETING.

Your committee on camp meeting beg leave to report. After some deliberation we located the camp meeting at Marengo, Iowa, near our Fair View church, and fixed the time June 17-28. We secured the use of the Tabernacle owned by Rev. E. R. Dodd, and engaged the services of Rev. G. D. Watson D. D. as helper and 13 tents were erected on the ground, and the audiences were good, evenings and on the two Sabbaths embraced in the meeting. Thirteen ministerial members of the conference were present and heartily co-operated in the work of the meeting. The best of order prevailed, and nearly every service was marked by seekers at the altar. The expenses of the meeting (about \$90.00) were fully met, and the evident sense of the members of the conference present, was that the meeting was of profit. In closing this report, your committee would recommend the holding of an Annual Conference Camp Meeting, and, that a Ministerial Institute be held in connection therewith under the auspices of the conference committee on Itinerancy and Orders.

S. A. Gilley.  
Chairman.

No. 2.

### ON CASE OF M. R. BALDRIDGE.

We the committee in case of M. R. Baldrige would make the following report; we have reviewed the case in the light of all the evidence at hand, and are led to the conclusion that the action of the conference at its last session was defective by failure to carry out the recommendation of the previous committee; and in view of the presence of Bro. Baldrige at this session we would recommend that his name be duly called for report and passage.

S. A. Gilley, }  
John McLeod, } Com.  
Geo. S. Fry. }



No. 3.

## SABBATH SCHOOLS.

As our faith is founded on the Bible, and as the Sabbath School is a most efficient way of becoming familiar with its teaching, and especially of interesting the rising generation in the truths of revelation, and the principles of christianity, thereby making it a valuable help to the church, and to the spread of intelligent christianity.

Therefore;—BE IT RESOLVED that every pastor should diligently seek to promote the interests of Sabbath Schools in every consistent way such as attending and engaging in the work, encouraging by addresses, suggestions etc.

That they should seek to subserve the interests of our church and publishing house by introducing, wherever possible our own S. S. literature and lesson helps.

That he (the pastor) use his influence toward the establishment of Wesleyan Methodist Sabbath Schools when possible, without detriment to the influence of the church over those who are without.

We believe it advisable that the officers and teachers should not only be Christians, but also be in harmony with our reform principles and our doctrine.

That we recognize more fully the thought, that the object of the Sunday School is not only to teach and indoctrinate, but also (and that in a predominating degree) the conversion of the attendant scholars, to Christ.

That this coming year we be more diligent than ever before in Sabbath School work.

Respectfully submitted,

H. W. Rose.

R. Wesley Mack.

No. 4.

## TEMPERANCE.

Partial.

Whereas, the traffic in Alcoholic beverages is causing the death annually of from 60,000 to 80,000 human beings in our own beloved land, and;—

Whereas it is the prime cause of a very large per cent of the poverty, crime, insanity, and financial depression of the nation, and;—

Whereas it has reached out its slimy hand of pollution and death, and has laid it upon the church, the Lamb's wife, and has caused



her to become, by her position and vote upon the liquor question, the bulwark of the same, thus staining her fair hands with the blood of innocent children, and the prostitution of thousands of the fair daughters of our land, and;—

Whereas the eyes of men, women, and children, throughout the length and breadth of our beloved land, who are suffering under the blighting, withering curse of this simoom of death, are turning toward the church of our Lord Jesus Christ as their only hope of deliverance from its influence and power, and;—

Whereas Jesus has said of the church, "Ye are the light of the world." "Ye are the salt of the earth," and has laid it upon the heart of the church to bring, in Jesus name, salvation from rum's curse to this mass of suffering humanity,

*Resolved*, that it is the sense of this body that no person holding a membership relation to the church of our Lord Jesus Christ can knowingly give aid to this vile traffic in human souls, either by engaging in the buying or selling intoxicating liquors, (except for medicinal, or scientific purposes,) or by directly voting for license to traffic therein, or by voting with a political party that favors this traffic, without sinning against God.

H. W. Rose.  
Thomas Hartley.  
J. E. Grinnell.

No. 5.

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

We your committee recommend that the conference take a public collection Sunday morning, and that pastors on returning to their respective charges and their churches to take a subscription to be sent to Bro. Blair to be used for the benefit of Bro. Meek,

T. F. Blair.  
J. T. Platt.  
J. A. Laird.

No. 6.

#### MEMORIALS.

Your committee recommend that services be held in memory of Rev. Joel Grinnell Sr. and Rev. George Allen, Saturday morning at 10 o'clock by Rev. J. A. Preston.

J. A. Preston.  
F. J. Wilson.  
A. W. Hall.



No. 7.

## MISSIONS.

We recognize the importance of mission work, both at home and abroad, and while we are greatly pleased on the one hand with the general advance steps on this line, on the other hand we deplore the condition, especially of the foreign field.

When we remember that the money spent by professed Christians on "needless adornments," or the money spent for the baneful tobacco habit, exceeds the amount spent on foreign missionary work so far that the missionary offering would not equal a lawful interest on either the item spent for "needles adornment, or tobacco," we feel like hanging our heads in shame.

Brethren; are we as Wesleyan Methodist wholly clear on these lines? and have we done our duty, or has worldliness crept in and marred our purity and spotted our character as a reform church?

We hereby enter our earnest protest against this needless waste of money, and suggest that this money be put to a better use, that of carrying the gospel to the heathen.

We also would call the attention of all of our members to the fact that we are a *reform* church, and earnestly exhort them both pastor and laity; preacher and people, not to be led, but to *lead* in this line of reform.

We understand that at this present moment there lies in confusion and on the site for building, all the material with which to put up a much needed building on our work in Rokinso, Timne Land, Africa which is hindered, and the material, in a sense, wasting, simply for the lack of means with which to build, and for the lack of the building, our work is hampered, our cause hindered, our hearts saddened and our Gospel put to shame in the eyes of the heathen.

We pray God that if ever a Wesleyan Methodist brother spends a nickle for tobacco for the purpose of gratifying a morbid and perverted appetite, that his sleep may be disturbed by the clanking chains of superstition and slavery, and the iron heel of despotism and oppression of heathendom may be felt and seen in his dreams until he sees the deplorable condition of his less fortunate brother across the sea so vividly that he will lose his taste for the weed, or else forgo this habit and use the price of his tobacco for the foreign missionary field.



We farther pray that when the sister spends the quarter for the needless adornment, that the shriek of the husband-whipped-child-wife, and the heart rending cry of the drowning girl babe, as it vainly extends its hands towards us for help, or clutches in its tiny dark skinned fingers the foam of the wave, as it sinks to rise no more, until it stands before Him to say "they never told my mother any better," be heard, until the heart will be wrung with grief so deep that no longer our missions will be hampered for the lack of means.

We also most heartily deplore the meagre sums opposite "Missionary and Dollar plan" in our financial reports. Have we, ministerial brethren, been faithful, or have we not been dilatory on these collections? God help us. Amen. Respectfully submitted.

Rev. O. L. Snow.

Rev. J. C. McGovern.

R. W. Wilson.

No. 8.

#### SPECIAL REPORT.

We your committee in the case of C. N. Howe, find that the disciplinary law Sec. 5, paragraph 2, page 36, 7th clause, has been followed, therefore the committee recommend that his character pass.

Geo. S. Fry.

Thos. Hartley.

Samuel Howe.

No. 9.

#### SPECIAL REPORT.

Your committee on the call for a Missouri River Conference, recommend the following as a substitute for the petition presented to conference. From the fact that the Manona mission is missionary territory the whole matter of a new conference be referred to the General Missionary Board and the General Missionary Superintendent.

J. T. Platt.

Geo. S. Fry.

C. M. Babcock.



## STATISTICAL

PASTORS.	CHARGES.	Time (months)	Appointments	Churches	Received	Expelled	Discontinued	Died	Granted Letters	Present No.	Baptized	Unstaid Elders	Licentiate	W. M.'s taken	Bible Standards	Childrens Ban's	Good Words	Early Seekers	Temp. Papers	No. S.	Supts.
J. T. Platt	Dayton	12	1	1	2			1	5	65	2		1	19	12	12	12	12	12	1	1
S. A. Gilley	Guthrie	12	6	6	4		10		3	90	1		1	22	10	10	10	10	10	3	3
C. P. Sage	Marengo	11	1	1	2				2	32	3			10	20	20	20	20	20	1	1
R. W. Mack	Charles; St.	11	2	2			12	2	2	93	3	1		9	30	30	30	30	30	1	1
D. E. Knapp	Masonville	12	3	2	5				2	60	1			2	15	15	15	15	15	2	2
H. W. Rose	Mt. Carmel	6	1	1					4	22				6	6	6	6	6	6	1	1
H. W. Rose	College Spr's	6	1	1					1	42				2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1
H. J. Richardson	Bethel	11	1	1			24	1	4	35				2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1
Albert Johnson	Manona	12	5	4	32		20		1	124	10	1	1	10	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
L. True	Pilot Rock	12	2	1	4				1	38	2	2	2	4	6	6	6	6	6	1	1
T. C. Breeding	Beaconsfield	9	4	1					1	25				1	1	1	1	1	1	4	4
O. L. Snow	Tracy	4 1/2	3	2	25				5	47	4	3	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
R. W. Mack	Butler	12	1	1			2		4	34	7	1	1	6	2	2	2	2	2	1	1
Wm. J. Davis	Des Moines	5	2	1	4				4	25				8	8	8	8	8	8	1	1
J. C. McGovern	Wayne	12	1	1	13				5	70	5	1		7	7	7	7	7	7	1	1
J. H. Meek	Vinton	12	1	1	12					38	6			6	6	6	6	6	6	1	1
F. J. Wilson	Walker*	2	2	2	5				2	25	2			6	6	6	6	6	6	1	1
F. J. Wilson	West Union	10	1	1	1		5	2	1	35	1			4	4	4	4	4	4	1	1
Jas. Means	Maguoketa	12	1	1	4				2	15				4	4	4	4	4	4	1	1
E. R. Dodd	La Porte	12	3	3	29		18	5	1	134	12		7	10	10	10	10	10	10	4	4
W. E. DeHarpart	La Porte	12	1	1					37	1049	59	8	27	140	313	298	298	298	298	28	28

\*and Hoovers.



# REPORT. . . 1897.

Teachers . . . . .	Scholars . . . . .	Books in Libra.	Meeting Houses	Value of . . . . .	Parsonages . . . . .	Value of . . . . .	Pastor's Salary.	Evang. Receipts	Sup'd Ministers	Missions . . . . .	Ed. Enterprises	S. S.'s . . . . .	Bldg & Repairs	Incidental Exp.	Other Benv Obj	Dollar Plan . . . . .	Iconoclasts . . . . .
4	35		1	1000	1	500	350 00	28 65	6 50	267 50		12 00	5 15	38 25		64 35	
11	100		2	22 "	2	1350	333 59	44 44	1 00	50 00		35 00	150 00	25 00		7 93	
5	26		1	7 "	1	600	184 00	20 00	2 13	3 50		8 99	4 63	20 22		32 30	
6	40	40	2	25 "			8 00	37 54	25	20 71	5 00	33 21	72 75	50 00		60 80	
8	65		2	20 "			241 45	3 00	65	16 00		22 59	2 00	19 98		16 00	
5	23		1	4 "		700	21 90	12 59	3 44				3 25	9 88	7 00	18 35	34
10	120		1	6 "		4 "	130 40		1 15				75 00	5 00		2 00	
5	40		1	6 "		225	160 00	22 00	1 25	25 50		29 00	15 00	20 00	9 00	27 25	
5	40		1	1000		500	250 00	42 50	75	5 27		14 10	15 00	12 00		25 50	
19	110		1/2	4 "		5 "	181 00	8 07		6 22		16 75		10 00	1 33	6 00	
4	30		1	750		350	112 83	25 20	1 85	15 25		7 00	100 00	10 00		10 25	
4	40		1	1000			82 32	3 00	4 41			12 90	13 39	13 39	8 50	10 25	
4	40		1	8 "		600	172 69	41 50	7 15	4 1 20	5 00	20 00	5 00	10 00	3 00	50 00	
5	50		1	10 "			70 00	5 50	5 20			30 00		20 00	28 00	16 75	
5	60		1	18 "		650	300 00	64 76	2 12	85		18 68		58 33	4 30	15 50	
6	60	60	2	19 "			283 56	19 00	2 00	2 20		15 14		10 57	10 00	6 00	165
6	42		2	18 "			41 62	11 92		8 57		48 37		5 35			
18	135		2	2000			271 45							43 82			
121	976	10022 1/2	20750	12	6375	3760 44	404 77	42 85	412 77	10 00	323 72	432 78	371 77	71 13	356 98	249	

R. WESLEY MACK. }  
J. E. GRINNELL. } Com.



## REFORMS.

We your committee would respectfully submit the following.

On general principles we would quote from the report of last years report. of committee on reforms.

"To merely maintain our recorded attitude to the great reforms that crowd our age, will not meet the demands that the church and the world have upon us. Consistency requires that we either surrender our positions, or press on in harmony with the principles we affirm to greater and more practical effectiveness. We are persuaded that the need of faithful work along the lines of the moral reforms to which we stand pledged, was never greater than at the present time."

We view with serious apprehension the increase of Sabbath desecration along the lines of both social and business life, and earnestly protest against the same, as calculated to undermine our moral liberty. We favor such legislation as shall preserve the Sabbath as a day inviolate.

We reaffirm our position of hostility to the secret empire, we are prepared to take no backward step in our attitude towards the giant evil, as expressed in former declarations of this body, our motto on this line, "no compromise with the enemy."

We are in sympathy with the W. C. T. U. in its contest against the saloon, as far as they are consistent with prohibition principles. We recognize it as a great power for good in this fight for the home and against the saloon.

We reaffirm our opposition to the use of tobacco as members of the church, on the grounds of the utter inconsistency of the habit with a profession of the christian religion,

In a word the Wesleyan Methodist church stands committed to approve and indorse everything right and good, and oppose everything evil, whether apparently expedient or otherwise, we are founded, not on expediency but on righteousness and truth.

Rev. H. W. Rose.  
 Rev. Thos. Hartley.  
 Rev. J. E. Grinnell.



No. 13.

## AUDITING.

We your committee elected to audit the Treasurers books, beg leave to submit the following. We find on page 38, under heading "Home and Foreign Missions" a mistake in bringing forward the amount on hand from page 36, by which the Treasurer, Bro. George Allen, has overcharged himself to the amount of \$1.80. The other accounts are all found correct, and we recommend that the present Treasurer be instructed to forward to sister Allen the sum of \$1.80, justly due her,

J. McLeod.

Rev. H. J. Richardson,

No. 12.

Partial

## SUPERANNUATED MINISTERS.

Your committee would recommend that the sum of \$20,00 be appropriated to each of the following named persons,

Rev. J. Balch.

Sister Joel Grinnell.

Sister Henry Johnson.

Respectfully submitted,

No. 12.

Final.

Your committee on Superannuated funds, farther would ask the Iowa Conference to raise a committee, for the purpose of taking into consideration the circumstances and environments of sister Henry Johnson, the wife of W. A. Johnson, our African pioneer missionary, with a view of devising some plan for her permanent support, and that this committee report at the next annual conference.

George S. Fry.

J. A. Laird.

Thos. Hartley.



No. 14.

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

## SUPERANNUATED FUND.

Amount on hand at close of last Conference.....	\$103 35
Received during the year,	
Collection at Dayton.....	19 21
Interest on note.....	5 25
Committee on song service.....	18 00
C. P. Sage, Marengo.....	1 63
Wayne Church.....	7 15
During the session of this Conference.....	36 32
Total receipts.....	190 91

## DISBURSEMENTS.

Nov. 23 Loaned to building fund.....	\$1 15
Dec. '96 Loaned to F. J. Wilson.....	10 00
Mar. 27, '97 Loaned to Conference missionary.....	20 00
June 10, '97 Paid to J. Balch.....	5 00
June 14, '97 Loaned to camp meeting committee on song service.....	18 00
Oct. 17, '96 M. C. Grinnell.....	15 00
Nov. 13, '96 Rev. J. Balch.....	15 00
Oct. 2, '97 Cash on hand.....	106 76
Balance..	\$190 91

## AMOUNT RECEIVED FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS DURING THE YEAR,

Amount on hand at the close of last Conference.....	\$ 6 16
Oct. 12, received from Rev. A. Johnson.....	4 00
received from Rev. A. Johnson.....	2 00
Nov. 12, St. Charles missionary Society.....	4 80
Dec. 24, George Lapham.....	6 00
St. Charles and Howardville.....	35 50
June 12, Mt. Hope missionary Society.....	4 86
June 12, Mrs. Fober.....	1 00
June 12, Mrs. D. E. Knapp.....	2 00
Received during this session of Conference.....	35 62
Total.....	101 94

## DISBURSEMENTS.

Jan. 19, '97 Paid to A. W. Hall.....	\$ 15 80
--------------------------------------	----------



Jan. - '97	Paid to	Sister O. M. True.....	7 00
Feb. 12,	" "	A. W. Hall.....	10 00
Apr. 10,	" "	A. W. Hall.....	4 00
June 5,	" "	A. W. Hall.....	11 86
July 28,	" "	A. W. Hall.....	17 50
Oct. 1,	" "	A. W. Hall.....	35 62
Oct. 2, '97	Cash on hand.....		16
		Balance..	101 94

## AMOUNT RECEIVED ON DOLLAR PLAN

Jan. '97	Marengo, per Rev. C. P. Sage.....	\$25 05
Jan. '97	Mrs. Susie Allen.....	1 00
May 22,	Pilot Rock, per L. True.....	17 00
May 26,	Dayton, by J. T. Platt.....	7 50
June 20,	Guthrie, by S. A. Gilley.....	2 18
June 15,	Pilot Rock, J. R. Little.....	5 00
	Received during this session of Conference.....	249 92
	Total.....	307 65

## DISBURSEMENTS.

May 22,	Paid to Sister O. M. True on appropriation..	\$ 4 00
May 26,	Paid J. T. Platt for incorporating Conference..	2 50
Aug. 11,	Paid T. C. Breeding on appropriation.....	5 00
Oct. 1,	Paid A. W. Hall.....	231 27
Oct. 2, '97	Cash on hand.....	64 88
	Balance.....	307 65

## AMOUNT RECEIVED FOR HOME MISSIONS DURING THE YEAR.

June 2,	Mt. Hope Missionary Society.....	\$2 00
March 27,	Borrowed from Superannuated Fund....	20 00
	Received during this session of Conference.....	46 12
	Total.....	68 12

## DISBURSEMENTS.

March 27,	Paid to Rev. H. J. Richardson on appro..	20 00
June 9,	Paid to A. W. Hall.....	2 00
Oct. 2,	Cash on hand.....	46 12
	Balance.....	6,812

Oct. 2, 1897. J. C. McGovern, Treasurer.



No. 15.

## SPECIAL REPORT.

Your committee on Conference Paper beg leave to make the following report, that while we believe a conference paper would be a blessing to the conference, yet owing to the expense involved in issuing, we deem it inadvisable to undertake to establish a paper at this time.

We also recommend the publishing of the conference minutes in pamphlet form.

F. J. Wilson,  
O. L. Snow,  
John McLeod,

No. 16.

## ITINERANCY AND ORDERS.

Your committee beg leave to report as follows:—

1. We recommend the reception of Worster P. Kingsbury as an Elder on his parchments from the Southern Illinois conference of the M. E. church; and that he be placed upon the list of unstationed Elders.
2. We also recommend that R. E. Willis be received to travel under your direction, and be passed to the second year in the course of study, he having an average standing of over 95 in examinations taken at Houghton Seminary.
3. That L. True be continued in the third year in the course of study.
4. That O. M. True, T. C. Breeding, Jas. Means, and G. C. Houck be continued in the first years study, and J. J. Fell in the second year study.
5. That Mina Johnson, Joel E. Grinnell, Lizzie Snow, and Leonard DeVore, be received to travel under your direction, and that they be placed in the first year in course of study.
6. That the recommendations of D. M. Weigle, A. G. Gage C. B. Trast, Chas. Skidmore and W. J. Davis, be referred back to their Quarterly Conference.







12. When and where shall the next conference be held?

Marengo, Iowa Co., Iowa, at the date suggested by the book committee.

13. How is the work supplied this year?

Marengo—R W Mack

Dayton—J T Platt

West Union—F J Wilson

Des Moines—C P Sage

Maquoketa—G C Houck

College Springs—H W Rose

Masonville—H J Richardson

Walker Hoover and Greenwood

left to be supplied.

Tracy and Chariton—T C

Breeding

Charles City—To be supplied.

Woodward and Ortonville—To be supplied.

J. A. Preston Conference President. To travel throughout the bounds of the Conference.

O. L. and Lizzie Snow Conference Evangelists.

F. E. Calhoun to act as missionary to Eastern Montana.

Left to choose their own field of labor.

Revs. George S. Fry, T. F. Blair, C. M. Howe, Thos. Hartley,

J. H. Meek, D. F. Sheperdson, Jas. Means, A. B. Wilkinson, Mary Shepardson, Leonard DeVore, and J. J. Fell.

Attending school at Houghton, R. E. Willis.

A. W. Hall, Connectional Agent and Secretary.

J. A. Preston,

H. J. Richardson,

J. T. Platt,

Gutherie Circuit—S A Gilley

Wayne—J C McGovern

Pilot Rock—D E Knapp

Howardville—M R Baldrige

Beaconsfield—G E Grinnell

Mt Carmel H W Rose

La Port—E R Dodd

Butler—L True, O M True

Manona—Albert Johnson and

Mina Johnson

Vinton—Left to be supplied.

Bethel—To be supplied.

No. 18.

## BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

We your committee on Books and Periodicals would respectfully submit the following:—Whereas our land is being flooded with, not only Godless, and sensual literature, but also with indecent, corrupt and even obscene trashy reading which we view with alarm, and—

Whereas such literature is often circulated at merely a nominal



price, and greedily seized and eagerly read, often in secret, by our young people, even of both sex, polluting their minds, poisoning their souls, and unfitting them for the arduous duties of life.

Therefore:—*Be It Resolved*; that we hereby enter our earnest protest, and raise a warning voice against such literature and call on all true Wesleyan Methodists, as well as all others interested, to aid us in raising the danger signal on this line, and to do all that they can in suppling this class of reading by showing its baneful result and by helping to circulate pure literature.

We farther recommend that each Wesleyan Methodist home supply themselves, if at all practicable, with the Wesleyan Methodist, and such other periodicals or books published by our publishing house as they can.

We also recommend each and all of our Sabbath Schools to use our Lesson Helps, and enter our earnest protest against, and declare it to be contrary to true Wesleyan Methodist to allow the cheap trashy Sunday School literature to flood our Schools.

Rev. S. A. Gilley.

Geo. M. Logsdon.

Rev. O. L. Snow.



# CONFERENCE ROLL.

AND POST OFFICES.

## ELDERS,

H. W. Rose—College Spr's.	O. L. Snow—Albia.
J. T. Platt—Clarance.	J. C. McGovern—Wayne
R. W. Mack—Marengo.	E. R. Dodd—La Porte.
S. A. Gilley—Wichata.	T. C. Breeding—Corydon.
J. E. Grinnell—Beaconsfield.	G. C. Houck—Maquoketa.
Albert Johnson—Sloan.	C. P. Sage.—Sta. 3 Des. Moines.
D. E. Knapp—Cherokee.	T. F. Blair—Vinton.
J. H. Meek—Vinton.	B. F. Logsdon—Baxter.
Geo. S. Fry—Walker.	A. W. Hall—Syracuse, N. Y.
J. A. Preston—Carl.	F. J. Wilson—West Union.
H. J. Richardson—Masonville	C. M. Howe—West Union.
Thos. Hartley—Grenada, Minn.	F. E. Calhoun—Lokna, Mont.
D. F. Shepherdson—Shell Beach.	A. B. Wilkinson—Lake Arthur.
J. Balch—West Union.	M. R. Baldridge—St. Charles.

Woster P. Kingsbury—

## LICENTIATES.

L. True—Bristow.	James Means—Maquoketa.
O. M. True "	R. E. Willis—Houghton, N. Y.
Mina Johnson—Sloan.	Lizzie Snow—Albia.
Leonard DeVore—Ponka, Neb.	J. J. Fell—Clarence.
James Lyttle—Riverton.	E. Tuffin—Linden.
M. R. Gifford—	D. Stanford—

W. H. Riley—Charles City.

## DELEGATES ENROLLED

Geo. Logsdon—Bethel.	R. W. Wilson—Marengo.
C. H. Babcock—College Sp'gs.	J. E. Grinnell—College Sp'gs.
Asenath Skidmore—Manona.	J. R. Little—Pilot Rock.
John McLeod—Dayton.	E. E. Jones—Butler.
Sam'l Hoover—Walker, Hoover.	W. M. Gippe—La Porte.
Lizzie Thompson—West Union.	Orpha J. Clark—West Union.
J. A. Laird—Wayne.	Truman Smith—Masonville and Dundee.
E. A. Heisler—Vinton.	Garrett Winterick—Howardville.
Geo. Bennett—Howardville.	





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Name .....

Address .....

Amount of cash inclosed \$ .....