

MINUTES

OF THE

Nineteenth Quadrennial Session

OF THE

General Conference

OF THE

Wesleyan Methodist Connection,
or Church, of America.

HELD AT

HOUGHTON, NEW YORK

JUNE 23-30, 1915

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OFFICERS.

President:—Rev. Eber Teter, Sheridan, Ind.

Vice Presidents:—Rev. E. D. Carpenter, Glens Falls, N. Y.;
Mr. J. Lawrence, Ashburn, Ga.

Secretary:—Rev. E. F. McCarty, Pittsford, Mich.

Assistant Secretary:—Mrs. A. E. Belk, Old Fort, N. C.

Trustees:—Edward G. Dietrich, Edward D. Carpenter, John
S. Willett, Frank A. Butterfield, Howard W. McDowell.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Committee on Questions for Course of Study:—J. J. Coleman, J. O. Baker, F. C. Hill, and H. C. Bedford.

Committee on Constitutional and Statutory Law:—E. Teter, E. G. Dietrich and Charles Sicard.

Board of Review:—William Pinkney, H. W. McDowell, L. L. Folger, Fleming Perrine and J. Lawrence.

Standing Committee on Course of Study:—T. P. Baker, W. L. Thompson, C. H. Dow, E. L. Henderson, J. S. Luckey, and Clarence Williams.

Auditing and Invoice Committee:—Charles Sicard, E. D. Carpenter and D. S. Bedford.

Committee on Disfranchisement of Ministers:—Charles Sicard, F. A. Butterfield and William Pinkney.

Committee on Union with Free Methodist Church:—J. S. Willett, F. A. Butterfield and P. B. Campbell.

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ROLL OF MEMBERSHIP.

Ministerial		Lay
	Africa	
G. H. Clarke		Ruby Helen Paine
	Alabama.	
J. A. Wood		R. M. Bearden*
	Allegheny.	
P. B. Campbell		F. W. Dreyer
I. A. Grise		C. P. Rank
I. F. McLeister		Charles Ries
	Canada.	
John Scobie*		Robert Renneck*
	Champlain.	
E. D. Carpenter		C. B. Armstrong*
S. W. Wright		D. L. Prouty
	Dakota.	
C. K. Thompson		
	Georgia.	
R. W. Gray*		J. Lawrence
W. M. Lee		F. A. Lewis
	Illinois.	
Wm. Pinkney		O. N. Carnahan
	India.	
		Stella Wood
	Indiana.	
T. P. Baker		Mrs. O. J. Davis
J. O. Baker		Emma Fall
H. T. Hawkins		Jasper Hester
Jacob Hester		J. L. Rigsbee
E. Teter		George Rager
W. L. Thompson		D. L. Shidler
W. J. Seekins		J. E. Smiley
Aaron Worth		R. C. Smith
	Iowa.	
F. A. Butterfield		Frank Ballou
	Kansas.	
C. H. Dow		P. M. Martin
P. A. Miller		C. L. Williams.

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Lockport.

H. W. McDowell
Charles Sicard

G. W. Hall
J. S. Luckey

Michigan.

S. A. Manwell
E. F. McCarty
D. T. Perrine

E. D. Cheney
C. C. Conrad
Mary P. Manwell

North Carolina.

A. E. Belk
H. W. Hawkins
E. L. Henderson
E. W. Jones

N. M. Bales
Mrs. A. E. Belk
W. L. Thurber
Miss Cleo Young

North Georgia.

F. M. Graham*

North Michigan.

E. A. Boyd

C. V. Black

Ohio.

A. D. Osborn
Arthur W. Smith

W. B. Jaycox*
L. H. McMillan

Oklahoma.

A. B. Bissey *

Rochester.

J. S. Willett
M. E. Warburton

E. G. Dietrich
J. B. Douglass

South Carolina.

J. O. Davis*
L. L. Folger
J. M. Hancock

C. H. Boggs
D. M. Newton*
O. H. P. Woolbright

South Ohio.

G. W. Jackson

Garfield Armstrong*

Tennessee and Alabama.

F. M. Roberts

W. H. Humphrey*

Willamette.

D. B. Hampe *
J. S. Mowry *

Wisconsin.

Wesley Markee

O. S. Ballinger

* Not present

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THE RELIGIOUS SERVICES

The committee on religious services provided a full program for the Conference session, which was interrupted only by calling extra business meetings. The great volume of business to be attended to on the occasion of the General Conference made this change quite necessary, yet a large place was left for the more strictly religious part of the conference work.

The General Conference was prefaced by a fellowship meeting which was a time of rejoicing and thanksgiving to all who participated. Each meeting throughout the entire session of the conference was introduced with devotional services. In all these the presence of the Spirit was manifest.

Brother C. L. Williams, of Miltonvale, Kansas, directed the singing. His ability as a leader of song is of a high class. His work was enjoyed by all and added much to the success of all our meetings.

The Sabbath day was wholly devoted to religious services. The love feast opened at 9:30 o'clock and for one hour and a half, God's children testified amidst tears of rejoicing to the wonderful love and grace of the Saviour. This season of refreshing was followed by a most excellent sermon preached by Rev. J. S. Willett. Hearts touched into tenderness by the Spirit bowed at the altar.

Rev. P. B. Campbell, president of the Allegheny Conference, preached a very practical and helpful sermon in the afternoon. After the sermon several sought the Lord, and claimed victory before the service closed.

The sermon was preached Sunday evening by Rev. C. H. Dow, pastor of the church at Miltonvale, Kansas. All were greatly benefited by this service, as the message was clear, logical, forceful, and of a high spiritual character. At the close of this day all felt assured that it had been a day of exceptional privilege and great profit.

The reports of the General Conference committees and officers of the connection which are printed in this journal indicate in a most effective way, our position on some of

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the vital questions of the day, and also our prosperous condition. Our publishing interests, educational work, and missionary enterprises at home are in a fine growing condition. The foreign work, on account of the war is greatly hindered, but the interest in this work is intensified, as may be seen by examining the reports of the missionary secretary, the committee on missions, and the W. H. & F. M. Society. Special missionary and educational rallies were held when various important topics, bearing upon these departments of the work were ably presented. These were occasions of seed-sowing, but the harvest time will surely come.

Those competent to judge declared this to be one of the best quadrennial sessions ever held by our Church. To God be all the glory.

We trust the Holy Spirit will lead us onward into a more perfect unity and fellowship with Himself, that when the King comes He may find us WATCHING.

E. F. McCarty, Secretary.

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JOURNAL OF DAILY PROCEEDINGS.

First Meeting.

Opening.—The nineteenth quadrennial session of the General Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection (or Church) of America, convened in the chapel of Houghton, Wesleyan Methodist Seminary, Houghton, N. Y., Wednesday, June 23rd, 1915, at 2 o'clock P. M., with the President, Rev. E. Teter in the chair.

Praise Service.—A praise service of much profit and blessing had been conducted in the forenoon by the Rev. J. Hester, of the Indiana Conference. This service was characterized by clear testimonies to full salvation and much freedom.

Devotional Services.—The opening devotional services of the first sitting were conducted by Rev. W. Pinkney, P. B. Campbell and W. M. Lee. Rev. P. B. Campbell read the Scriptures, all leading in prayer, singing being conducted by Rev. D. H. Scott.

Enrolment.—The chairman appointed J. H. Lawrence and E. D. Carpenter a committee on enrolment to receive credentials of all delegates to the conference. The committee made a partial report, and the following delegates were accepted as members of the General Conference: F. A. Butterfield, E. D. Carpenter, S. W. Wright, A. D. Osborn, Arthur W. Smith, Wm. Pinkney, W. J. Seekins, J. O. Baker, W. L. Thompson, Jacob Hester, H. T. Hawkins, T. P. Baker, E. Teter, J. S. Willett, M. E. Warburton, L. L. Folger, J. M. Hancock, J. A. Wood, E. L. Henderson, A. E. Belk, E. W. Jones, H. W. Hawkins, F. M. Roberts, G. H. Clarke, Wesley Markee, S. A. Manwell, E. A. Boyd, W. M. Lee, P. B. Campbell, I. F. McLiester, Charles Sicard, H. W. McDowell, L. H. McMillan, O. N. Carnahan, Emma Fall, O. J. Davis, J. S. Luckey, George Rager, O. H. P. Woolbright, C. H. Boggs, N. M. Bales, W. L. Thurber, Mrs. A. E. Belk, O. S. Ballinger, Mrs. Mary P. Manwell, C. V. Black, Glen W. Hall, J. Lawrence, F. A. Lewis, C. P. Rank, J. E. Smiley, R. C. Smith, J. L. Rigsbee, Jasper Hester, D. L. Shidler, I. F. Prouty, C. B. Armstrong.

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Remarks by the President.—The President made appropriate remarks, introducing the work of the Conference, urging the necessity of adherence to the will of God, of sufficient breadth in planning for our future work, and of co-operation in order to the best success.

Professor J. S. Luckey in behalf of the Literary Society of Houghton Seminary, presented the President with a gavel brought from Jerusalem.

Committee on Religious Services.—The chair stated that he had appointed Revs. J. J. Coleman and H. W. McDowell a committee on Religious Services for this session of the General Conference, and asked the Conference to fill out the committee.

Upon motion of P. B. Campbell, Rev. J. Hester was added to the committee.

The Conference Bar Fixed.—By vote of conference the first five seats in front of the rostrum was constituted the conference bar.

Order of Business.—The committee elected to arrange an order of business for this session of the General Conference made the following report, which was adopted:

I. Calendar of Business for Each Meeting.

1. Devotional Service.
2. Roll call.
3. Reading and adopting minutes.
4. Presenting credentials of delegates.
5. Unfinished business.
6. Presentation of amendments to the Discipline, petitions, memorials or resolutions.
7. Special orders.
8. Reports of Committees.
9. Miscellaneous business.
10. Adjournment.

II. Calendar of Special Orders.

1. Wednesday, Preliminary organization.
2. Thursday, report of Missionary Secretary.
3. Friday, election of conference officers.

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4. Saturday, report of Connectional Treasurer.
" at 2 P. M., Educational Meeting.
5. Monday, Editor's Report and Election of Connectional Officials.
6. Tuesday Report of the Board of Review.
" at 2 P. M. Missionary Rally.
7. It is recommended that, only when otherwise provided by the conference, there shall be one regular meeting of the conference per day; from 8 o'clock A. M. to 11:30 A. M.
8. No recommendations for changes in the Discipline shall be received later than Saturday, the fourth day of the conference.
9. Recommendations of revision shall be read at three separate sittings before a vote is taken.

J. J. Coleman,
E. G. Dietrich,
J. Lawrence,
Committee.

Nominating Committee.—The conference endorsed the action of the President in appointing the chairman of the various committees, and elected the following committee to nominate the other members of said committees: W. J. Seekins, J. S. Willett, E. L. Henderson, C. V. Black and W. L. Thurber.

Assistant Secretary.—The secretary nominated, and conference elected Mrs. A. E. Belk, of North Carolina, as assistant secretary.

Preliminary organization being completed, the President stated that it was proper to proceed with the regular business.

Memorials Referred to Committee on Revision.—Rev. H. W. Hawkins presented a memorial to the General Conference to amend the Discipline so as to give licentiates who are pastors the right to vote for conference officers and General Conference delegates. It was moved to refer this recommendation and all like memorials to the committee on revision, without further motion.

Committee on Revision Reports.—The committee on Revision presented a memorial from persons in the bounds

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of the former Miami Conference, asking the General Conference to rescind former action, whereby it constituted the Ohio Conference, by uniting the Miami and Central Ohio Conference, which petition was by vote of conference, referred to the committee on Boundaries.

The committee on Revision presented a further action by said committee, in which they report the rejection of a petition from the Indiana Conference, on the question of making the use of tobacco a test of membership.

The committee on Revision reported that they did not recommend a petition from the same conference which was to the effect that the Connectional Editor, Connectional Agent and Treasurer, and teachers in connectional schools shall not be eligible to election as members of the Book Committee. Upon motion conference adjourned.

The Lord's Supper Celebrated.—According to previous arrangements by the Committee on Religious Services the congregation proceeded to celebrate the Lord's Supper. This service was conducted by the Rev. S. A. Manwell, President of the Michigan Conference, and the delegates and visitors bowed at the table of the Lord in humble acknowledgement of their faith in the Saviour's atoning blood.

Benediction was pronounced by the Rev. C. B. Whittaker.

Second Meeting.—June 24th, 1915.

Opening.—Devotional services were conducted by the Rev. E. A. Boyd, who read a part of Colossians, third chapter, and led the conference in prayer. Brother C. L. Williams conducted the singing, and all joined in singing hymns Nos. 45 and 423 in the Wesleyan Hymnal.

Roll Call.—The roll was called, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Committee on Enrolment Reports.—The committee on enrolment made a further report, and the following names were read and added to the roll: D. T. Perrine, C. H. Dow, P. A. Miller, Carl C. Conrad, Miss Cleo Young, Elmer D. Cheney, C. L. Williams, Ruby Helen Paine, Frank Ballou, Charles Ries, and F. W. Dreyer.

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Communications Read.—A communication was received from F. M. Graham of the North Georgia Conference, stating that though he was a delegate from said conference, he would not be present, and expressing his interest in the welfare of the conference. His name was ordered placed on the roll.

India Mission Conference.—The Missionary Secretary presented a petition from our mission workers in India, consisting of Albert E. Ashton, Bessie Ashton, Stella Wood, John Reed, and Mrs. John Reed, requesting to be received and constituted the India Mission Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection of America. The Missionary Board having endorsed the request, it was by vote of the conference accepted.

Committee on Revision Reports.—The secretary of the committee on Revision made a farther partial report, reading items No. 2A, 2B, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 19. It was moved to consider the report item by item in order to any discussion that may be desired. The motion was carried.

The committee on Enrolment presented the names of E. G. Dietrich, and I. A. Grise, which were added to the roll.

Committee on Constitutional Law Reports.—The committee elected at the last General Conference to determine what was constitutional and what was statutory law stated that they were ready to make a report in view of its probable bearing upon questions that might arise, the committee was permitted to make its report. It was moved that the report be adopted. It was then determined to consider it item by item. It was moved to amend items four and five, bearing upon the question of eligibility to interpret them as meaning statutory law instead of constitutional law. A motion to adjourn was lost. Moved to lay the question under discussion upon the table. The motion prevailed.

Committee on Nominations made its report. The report was adopted. See report No. 1.

Conference adjourned by limitation.

Benediction by Rev. A. E. Belk.

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Third Meeting,—June 25th, 1915.

Opening.—The conference convened at 8 o'clock A. M. Devotional services were conducted by Rev. A. W. Smith, of the Ohio Conference.

The roll was called.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The committee on Enrollment made a further report, presenting the names of delegates, C. K. Thompson, Stella Wood, Aaron Worth, and J. B. Douglass, which were added to the roll.

Committee on Courtesies.—Charles Sicard and J. O. Baker were elected a committee on Courtesies.

General Conference Reporter.—Professor S. W. Bond was elected Conference Reporter.

By request of the Woman's Missionary Conference it was voted to change the special order of meetings, appointing the Missionary Rally for Saturday afternoon, and the Educational Meeting for Tuesday afternoon.

Election to Fill Vacancy.—The resignation of L. L. Folger as a member of the committee on Boundaries was accepted, and I. F. McLiester was elected to fill the vacancy.

Fraternal Greetings Arranged for.—Notice being given that a fraternal delegate from the Free Methodist Church would visit the Conference, Rev. A. Worth was elected to respond to the fraternal address that would be given.

Report of Committee on Constitutional Law Considered.—Upon motion of Brother Pinkney, the report of the Committee on Constitutional law was taken from the table. The report was amended by referring items four and five to a committee which shall be elected, to report upon the same at the next session of the General Conference. Items six and seven were considered. No objections were offered. It was moved to amend paragraph four of item eight, making new laws binding after the new Disciplines are published. Item nine was considered. The report as amended was adopted. See report No. 2.

Introductions.—Mrs. Anna Boardman Smith, returned missionary from Africa, formerly in the employ of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, more recently under the

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employment of the United Brethren Church, was introduced to the conference.

Conference Officers Elected.—The special order of the day was called—the election of conference officers. The chair appointed A. E. Belk, C. L. Williams, J. Lawrence, and J. S. Willett as tellers. For General Conference President, Rev. E. Teter received a majority of all votes cast on the first ballot, and was declared elected. Upon second ballot for Ministerial Vice-President, Rev. E. D. Carpenter received a majority of all votes cast, and was declared elected.

Introductions.—The Rev. M. A. Parker, a minister of the Free Methodist denomination, of Perry, N. Y., was introduced to the Conference, and presented a resolution from the General Conference of the Free Methodist Church, now in session in Chicago, relating to the disfranchisement of many of our ministry, consequent upon our itinerary system, and asking that our General Conference arrange to co-operate with them in an effort to secure civil legislation concerning it. It was moved that when we adjourn we adjourn to meet at 2 o'clock P. M.

Election of Conference Officers Concluded.—Upon second ballot for lay Vice-President, Mr. J. Lawrence received a majority of all votes cast, and was declared elected. Upon the third ballot for General Conference Secretary, Rev. E. F. McCarty received the majority vote, and was declared elected. These brethren made appropriate remarks in accepting the obligations of their respective offices, and conference was declared adjourned by limitation.

Benediction by Rev. E. W. Bruce.

Fourth Meeting.—2 P. M., June 25th, 1915.

Opening.—Conference convened as per adjournment, at 2 o'clock P. M.

Devotions were conducted by Rev. E. W. Bruce, of the Michigan Conference.

The roll was called, and the minutes of the previous meeting read, corrected and approved.

Memorial Service Arranged For.—It was moved that a committee be appointed to arrange for a memorial service for the Rev. A. T. Jennings, and that suitable resolutions be

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drafted, and that H. W. McDowell be chairman of said committee. P. B. Campbell and J. S. Luckey were added to the committee.

Miscellaneous Business.—A motion was carried that a committee be elected to draft a uniform statistical blank and present it to this body. Charles Sicard, H. W. Hawkins and A. E. Belk were elected as such committee.

Unfinished business was taken up by the conference, and the newly elected secretary took his place after making a few remarks in which he accepted of the office.

It was voted that Sister A. E. Belk be continued as assistant secretary.

The committee on revision of the Discipline offered a partial report, in which they read items Nos. 22, 23 and 24, for the first time. No discussion followed.

Committee on Budget Reports.—The committee on the Budget made its report. A motion prevailed to adopt that part of their report that does not effect the revision of the Discipline. (See report No. 3.) By a previous motion, the part referring to revision was referred back to the committee.

The Committee on Sunday Schools Reports.—That part of their report that does not effect the revision of the Discipline was adopted. (See report No. 4.)

The report of the committee on the State of the Church, was offered and adopted. (See report No. 5.)

Missionary Secretary Reports.—The Vice-President was asked to take the chair, and Rev. E. Teter, the Missionary Secretary, gave an abbreviated report of the general conditions of our missionary work at the present time. He affirmed that additional information would be furnished the conference on the occasion of the Missionary Rally. His report was adopted. (See report No. 6.)

Memorial from W. H. & F. M. Society.—Mrs. Mary P. Manwell read a memorial from the W. H. & F. M. Society to the General Conference, recommending changes in their constitution. (See resolution No. 1.) The rules were suspended and the report was adopted.

Committee on Revision Reports.—The committee on revision gave a second reading of items Nos. 2 and 3. A motion was carried that the recommendation of the Book

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Committee concerning item No. 3 be adopted by this body, thus referring said petition to the Educational Society and to the Trustees of the Indiana Conference, for further consideration. Item No. 4 was read the second time, but was not recommended by the committee. Item No. 5 was not approved, but a substitute was offered by the committee on Revision. This was its second reading. The following items were given a second reading: Nos. 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19.

Upon motion conference adjourned. The doxology was sung, and the benediction was pronounced by Rev. L. L. Folger.

Fifth Meeting.—8 o'clock A. M., June 26th, 1915.

Opening.—Conference opened with the devotional exercises conducted by Rev. W. R. Emerson, President of the Iowa Conference.

In the absence of the roll, the minutes were read, corrected and approved. The roll was called.

Miscellaneous Business.—Rev. Aaron Worth offered his resignation as the speaker to answer the fraternal delegate from the Free Methodist Conference. J. S. Willett was elected to fill the vacancy.

Amendments Nos. 25, 26 and 27 received their first reading, and were referred to the committee on revision.

A resolution was offered stating that it was the sense of this General Conference that all delegates should remain until the final adjournment, and no excuse will be granted except for sickness or death. The resolution was adopted.

Committee on Missions Reports.—The committee on Missions offered its report. H. W. Hawkins gave a general report. The work was divided among other members of the committee as follows: F. M. Roberts reported on Tennessee and Alabama; Stella Wood on India and G. H. Clarke on Africa. A motion prevailed to adopt the reports with the exception of the recommendations, which were referred to the Missionary Society for further consideration. See report No. 8.

Connectional Treasurer's Report.—The orders of the day were called for, and the Connectional Treasurer gave his

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report. A motion prevailed to defer the adoption of this report until the Monday morning meeting.

Seventy Years Ago Fund.—The Treasurer proceeded to take pledges to liquidate the balance of the Seventy Years Ago Fund. More than the necessary amount was raised.

The conference arose, sung the doxology and the President pronounced the benediction.

Sixth Meeting.—2 P. M.

Opening.—The special missionary rally arranged for by the Committee on Program was given, and was greatly appreciated by the audience. The free-will offering amounted to \$105.10. The audience was dismissed, and the President called the conference to order for business.

Miscellaneous Business.—The motion was carried to refer to the Committee on Thanks the matter of drafting our sentiments of appreciation for the faithful services of our former secretary.

It was moved that all committee reports be gotten up in good shape before being handed to the secretary.

The Committee on the State of the Country and Prohibition made its report, which was adopted. (See report No. 9.)

The Committee on the Societies of the World reported. The report was adopted. (See report No. 22.)

Introductions.—The following were introduced to the conference: F. S. Lee, William Clow, S. Bedford, S. W. Jennings, F. L. Presley, of the Rochester Conference; W. R. Emerson, of the Iowa Conference; E. W. Bruce and Jennie Ayers, of the Michigan Conference; J. E. Tiffany, H. J. Bullock, C. W. Smith, W. Readett, H. C. Bedford, D. S. Bedford, J. R. Babcock and C. B. Whitaker, of the Lockport Conference; A. E. Moses, A. C. Dow, of the Champlain Conference; G. W. Calhoun and Della Osborn, of the Ohio Conference; P. D. Cutshall and Mary E. Buell, of the Allegheny Conference; and Belle McClure, of the Indiana Conference, all of whom made fitting remarks.

A motion prevailed to grant all who were introduced to the conference honorary seats.

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Agent's Request Granted.—The Agent requested that after devotional exercises Monday morning time be granted him to finish his work on the Seventy Years Ago Fund and to burn the certificates. By motion his request was granted.

On motion the President declared the conference adjourned until 8 o'clock Monday morning.

Benediction by H. W. Hawkins.

Seventh Meeting.— 8 A. M., June 28th. 1915.

Opening.—The seventh meeting of the General Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of America convened at 8 o'clock A. M., with the President in the chair. After singing, Rev. P. D. Cutshall led the devotional exercises, reading and giving a brief exposition of the 91st Psalm.

The roll was called. The minutes were read and approved.

A motion was carried, requesting the secretary to carefully report the religious services during the conference, and insert them in a prominent place in the journal.

Burning of the Certificates.—J. S. Willett, with a few fitting remarks, proceeded to carry out the order of the day, which was to burn the paid-up certificates of the Seventy Years Ago Fund. The conference united in singing "Blest Be The Tie That Binds" and other appropriate stanzas of songs while they were burning. An occasional "Praise the Lord" from appreciative hearts broke the stillness. This part of the morning service was concluded by standing and singing "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow," and Brother Willett offered a most earnest and touching prayer, giving thanks to Almighty God for removing these financial burdens, and graciously filling the treasury of the Seventy Years Ago Fund full and overflowing.

Fraternal Relations Considered.—A motion was carried that the members of our joint commission, viz., W. J. Seekins, E. Teter, P. B. Campbell and J. S. Willett be authorized to confer with the fraternal delegate of the Free Methodist Church to consider items of fraternal re-

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lations as stated in the Free Methodist General Conference Daily.

Treasurer's Report adopted.—The report of the Connectional Treasurer was adopted. (See report No. 10.)

Editor's Report.—The order of the day was called for and the editor gave his report, which was adopted. (See report No. 11.)

Sunday School Secretary's Report.—The report of the Sunday School Secretary was made and adopted. (See report No. 12.)

Election of Connectional Officials.—The special order of the day was called for—the election of the Connectional Officials. The chairman appointed the following tellers: A. E. Belk, C. L. Williams, J. Lawrence and Charles Sicard.

F. A. Butterfield having received a majority of all votes cast, upon the first ballot, was declared elected to the office of Connectional Editor. For Connectional Agent, J. S. Willett received a majority of all the votes cast, upon the first ballot, and was declared elected. For Connectional Missionary Secretary, E. Teter received a majority of all the votes cast, upon the first ballot, and was declared elected.

Districting the Connection.—The Committee on districting the Connection submitted its report. Upon motion the report was referred back to the committee with instructions to make the districting and distribution of members of the Book Committee on the basis of twelve, and that the three Connectional officials be members ex-officio, or members at large.

Committee on Revision Reports.—The committee on Revision gave a second reading of the following items: Nos. 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27. Item No. 25 was amended by changing the word "require" to "recommend." A motion prevailed to extend the time for the second reading of items Nos. 28 and 29. These items were then read.

The President declared the conference adjourned by limitation of time.

Benediction by Rev. L. L. Folger.

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Eighth Meeting.—2 o'clock P. M., June 28th, 1915.

Memorial Service.—The special memorial service provided for by the conference opened at 2 o'clock. The service was introduced with song. H. W. McDowell, chairman of the Committee on the Memorial Service, offered a few suitable remarks, after which he presented four different speakers, who in turn ably mentioned many of the excellent qualities possessed by our brother A. T. Jennings, in whose memory the service was held. Steps were taken to raise a fund for the purchase of a suitable monument for his grave, as an expression of the high esteem in which the man was held by the Connection.

After dismissing the audience, the President called the conference to order for business.

The committee on districting the Connection submitted its report, which was adopted. (See report No. 13.)

Catechism Ordered Revised and Published.—A motion prevailed that the Editor and Agent constitute a committee to edit a revised edition of the Catechism, by Jennings.

Conference Records.—The committee on Conference records gave its report. It was adopted. (See report No. 14.)

A motion carried requesting the Editor to supply the lacking statistics caused by the absence of some conference records, the same to be entered on the journal and shown in the published report.

A motion prevailed that the committee on records formulate a standard of excellence for our annual and General Conference secretaries for keeping our records.

Course of Study.—The committee on the Course of Study reported. A motion was carried to give it a second reading before adoption.

Memorial Service.—A motion prevailed that the resolutions read by the committee on memorial services be adopted, and spread upon the minutes. (See report No. 15.)

Committee to Purchase Tomb Stone.—A motion was carried, electing a committee to purchase a tomb stone for the grave of Rev. A. T. Jennings, and H. W. McDowell was made chairman of said committee. J. S. Willett and J. S. Luckey were added to the committee.

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Boundaries.—A motion carried to refer the question on the boundary of the South Ohio Conference to the Committee on Boundaries.

Annual Conference Records.—A motion prevailed that the secretary of the General Conference be instructed to notify the secretaries of the Annual Conferences at least sixty days before the General Conference convenes to send the records of their annual conferences to the seat of the General Conference in time for use by the Committee on Conference Records.

Questions on Course of Study.—A motion was carried to elect a committee to prepare questions on the Course of Study, and J. J. Coleman was made chairman. J. O. Baker, F. C. Hill and H. C. Bedford were added to the committee.

Location of Next General Conference.—A motion prevailed that the place for the next General Conference be referred to the Book Committee.

Committee on Constitutional and Statutory Law.—A motion was carried that the former members of the committee on Constitutional and Statutory Law be continued in office. Charles Sicard was added to the committee.

Adjourned by vote. Benediction by W. L. Thompson

Ninth Meeting.—8 o'clock A. M., June 29th, 1915.

Opening.—The devotions were conducted by E. L. Henderson, of the North Carolina Conference. The roll was called. Minutes of the two previous sittings were read and adopted.

Introductions.—Rev. H. A. Baldwin, of the Free Methodist Church, and Rev. S. D. Wilcox, of the Rochester Conference, were introduced.

Resolutions Offered.—Resolutions were offered to the effect that it is the judgment of this General Conference that the following provisions shall from this date constitute a part of the unwritten law of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection of America. (1) That no elder shall be elected to the office of Conference President for more than four consecutive terms. (2) That the General Conference Presi-

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dent, Connectional Officials, and members of the Book Committee shall not be elected to the same office for more than two terms in succession. These resolutions were laid on the table by vote of 34 to 29.

Standard of Excellence.— Committee on Records reported their standard of excellence for conference records. The majority report of the committee was adopted. (See report No. 19.)

Miscellaneous Business.—The committee on the Course of Study gave their report a second reading.

A. E. Belk was elected to fill the vacancy in the committee on Statistics, made by J. M. Hancock being compelled to leave on account of sickness.

Extension of Time for Licentiate.—It was moved to increase the time for finishing the course of study, and enjoy the rights of a licentiate, from five to seven years. The rule was suspended, and the motion carried.

Licentiate Privileges Extended.—The authorization to administer the sacrament was amended to read "appointed to definite, active work," instead of "pastoral work."

Previous Question.—The previous question was called for, and the motion was carried.

Item 29 was given a third reading. This item was adopted.

Nominations for Book Committee.—The nominations of the various districts as provided for, were made, which were as follows: Ohio, South Ohio and Tennessee, lay, L. H. McMillan; Michigan and North Michigan, ministerial S. A. Manwell; Lockport, ministerial, H. W. McDowell; Canada, Champlain and Rochester, ministerial, E. D. Carpenter, lay, E. G. Dietrich; Allegheny, lay, Fleming Perrine; Kansas, Oklahoma and Willamette, ministerial, P. A. Miller; Indiana and Illinois, ministerial, William Pinkney, lay, Jasper Hester; Iowa, Wisconsin and Dakota, lay, O. S. Ballinger; North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, North Georgia and Alabama, ministerial, L. L. Folger, lay, Joe Lawrence. These members were elected to the Book Committee, whom with F. A. Butterfield, Editor, J. S. Willett, Agent, and E. Teter, Missionary Secretary, constitute the full Book Committee.

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Report on Records Adopted.—The committee on Records gave its final report which was adopted. (See report No. 14.)

Report on Book Concern.—The Committee on Book Concern made its report. It was adopted. (See report No. 16.)

Adoption of Report on Boundaries.—Committee on Boundaries reported. It was considered item by item, and was adopted. (See report No. 17.)

Educational Report Adopted.—The committee on Education gave its report, which was adopted. (See report No. 18.)

Uniform Statistical Blanks.—The committee on Uniform Statistical Blanks reported. The consideration of the report was deferred for lack of time.

Adjourned by limitation.

Benediction by S. D. Wilcox.

Tenth Meeting.—2 P. M., June 29th, 1915.

Opening.—The tenth meeting opened at 2 o'clock, with the Vice-President in the chair. Devotions were conducted by F. S. Lee. The meeting was then turned over to H. W. McDowell, chairman of the special educational rally, previously arranged for.

Educational Rally.—He presented seven different speakers who discussed various important phases of the educational work of our Connection. These services were highly appreciated by the audience and undoubtedly will prove effectual in awakening an increased interest in the educational work of our Connection.

A motion prevailed that when we adjourn we adjourn to meet at 7:30 o'clock today.

Uniform Statistical Blanks.—The report of the committee on the uniform statistical blanks was adopted. (See report No. 20.)

A motion was carried that this committee be authorized to edit these blanks. A motion prevailed that each conference secretary notify the Agent as to the number of blanks needed and pay for those ordered.

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Board of Trustees.—A motion was carried that the secretary of the conference be instructed to cast the ballot of this body for Edward G. Dietrich, as first member on the Board of Trustees. The ballot was cast and Edward G. Dietrich was declared elected. Ballots were cast for the four following members of the Board of Trustees, and they were declared elected: Edward D. Carpenter, John S. Willett, Frank A. Butterfield, and Howard W. McDowell.

Board of Review.—The nominations for the Board of Review were as follows: William Pinkney, H. W. McDowell, L. L. Folger, Fleming Perrine and J. Lawrence, all of whom were unanimously elected for the next four years.

Course of Study.—The committee on the Course of Study gave its report a third reading, which was adopted. (See Item No. 18 Revised Course of Study in Discipline.) (See report No. 23.)

Committee on Thanks.—The Committee on Thanks submitted its report, which was adopted. (See report No. 21.) A resolution was offered, discussed and left as unfinished business.

Adjourned to meet at 7:30 o'clock.

Benediction by C. K. Thompson.

Eleventh Meeting.—7:30 P. M., June 29th, 1915.

Opening.—The President called the meeting to order and Aaron Worth led in prayer.

Unfinished Business.—The resolution presented in the former meeting was taken up as unfinished business and adopted. (See resolution No. 2.)

The motion was made and carried to adjourn at 8:15.

Proposed Tobacco Amendment, 3rd reading.—The third reading was given to item No. 1. It was discussed until the President declared the conference adjourned by limitation.

Benediction by Aaron Worth.

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Twelfth Meeting.—8 o'clock A. M., June 30th, 1915.

Opening.—W. L. Thompson, of Indiana, conducted the religious services, reading Isaiah 62. The roll was called. The minutes were read and approved.

Offering for the Secretary.—A free-will offering was taken for the secretary—amount \$13.75

Vacancy in Book Committee.—A motion prevailed that where a member of the Book Committee moves from the district from which he was chosen, that shall forfeit his membership on the committee, and the necessary steps be taken to elect his successor.

The motion was made that when a vacancy occurs in the Book Committee, it be the duty of the chairman of the Book Committee to notify the Presidents of the respective conferences in the district where the vacancy occurs, and that they nominate a new member of the committee.

Tobacco Amendment Considered.—The unfinished business was taken up and the discussion of item No. 1 continued.

A motion was made to substitute a resolution for the original amendment in item No. 1, making the use, cultivation and sale of tobacco objectionable, requiring a three-fourths vote to admit members into our churches. This resolution was laid on the table.

Before the above resolution was tabled the motion prevailed that the further discussion of this item be deferred until the President give his decision as to whether the resolution offered would be substituted for the amendment before this body.

Reading of Proposed Amendments.—Item No. 2 was given a third reading and referred to the committee on Constitutional and Statutory Law.

Item No. 2, sub-paragraph "A" was read and adopted.

Item No. 2, sub-paragraph "B" was read and adopted.

Item No. 4 was read and referred to the committee on Constitutional and Statutory Law.

Item No. 5 was read. The original item was amended and the substitute was adopted.

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A Standing Committee on Course of Study.—The motion was carried that the present committee on Course of Study be constituted the standing committee on Course of Study.

Vote on the Proposed Tobacco Amendment.—The previous question was called for touching the discussion of Item No. 1, which had been under consideration. It was carried.

The yea and nay vote was taken on Item No. 1—a proposed amendment to the Discipline.

The whole number of votes cast, 70—55 yeas; 15 nays. The amendment was declared carried.

A motion prevailed to extend the time to give opportunity to those voting to state why they voted as they did.

Adjourned by vote until 1:30 o'clock.

Benediction by J. S. Willett.

Thirteenth Meeting.—1:30 P. M., June 30th, 1915.

Opening.—The devotional exercises were led by G. H. Clarke. The roll was called and the minutes were read and approved.

Introductions.—L. W. Strong, of the Allegheny Conference, was introduced.

Greetings Ordered Sent.—A motion prevailed that our greetings be extended to all conferences not represented in this body.

General Conference Minutes.—A motion was carried that our Connectional Editor, Agent and General Conference Secretary be authorized to edit and publish the General Conference minutes.

The Discipline.—The motion was made that our Connectional Editor and Agent be authorized to edit and publish the new book of Discipline and put it on sale. Also, that they are hereby instructed to make a better grouping of paragraphs where needed, and to give an enlarged, or cross-reference index.

Denominational Year Book.—A resolution was passed recommending that the Book Committee be instructed to consider the preparation of a denominational year book. (See resolution No. 3.)

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Discussion on Tobacco Amendment Continued.—The unfinished business was then taken up, and reasons were given by different members of the conference for voting as they did on item No. 1, making tobacco a test of membership in our churches.

A motion carried that the summary of the yea and nay votes on the above question be published in our minutes, omitting the names of the voters.

It was moved that the Presidents of the various conferences shall notify pastors of their conference of the general conference action, and instruct the pastors and churches to take the vote on the tobacco amendment, also take the vote of the conferences, and report said action to the General Conference President by January 1st, 1917.

Pay for Services of Secretary.—A resolution was offered recommending that it be the sense of this General Conference that our secretary be allowed \$50.00 for services during the session of the General Conference and in the preparation of the minutes for publication, also copying the records in the journal; that the assistant secretary be allowed \$15.00 for services during the session of the General Conference, and that these amounts be paid from the treasuries of the active incorporate societies of our Connection.

The W. H. & F. M. Society Reports.—The W. H. & F. M. Society gave a summary of the treasurer's report also a summary of the statistical report. The motion carried that this report be received and spread upon our conference minutes. (See report No. 24.)

The W. H. & F. M. Society presented a request to the General Conference, asking it to advise the Executive Boards of the Annual Conferences to publish the minutes of the W. H. & F. M. S. and their statistical reports free of charge, in token of their appreciation of their work. The request was granted.

Reading of Proposed Amendments Continued.—The following amendments were given third reading and acted upon: Item No. 7 was amended by striking out the last paragraph, and then adopted. Item No. 7—it was adopted. Item No. 8. This amendment was lost. Item No. 9. It

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was adopted. Item No. 10 was adopted. Item No. 11 was amended so as to read "three" instead of "two" and then adopted. Item No. 12 was amended so as to read "excepting trustees." This item as amended was adopted. Item No. 13 was read and adopted. Item No. 14 was declared by the President out of order and expunged. Items No. 15 and No. 16 were adopted. Item No. 17 was amended by substituting the word "committee" in place of "advisory board." This item was adopted. Items Nos. 18 and 19 were referred to committees. Item No. 22 was amended, making the requirements the same as for a licentiate to have and retain the privileges of administering the sacrament. It was adopted. Item No. 28 was read on the recommendations offered by the Sunday School Committee. A motion was carried, recommending that the plan as outlined by the committee be approved and that it be referred to the Book Committee for further consideration. The report was adopted item by item, there being seven items in all.

Items Nos. 23, 24, 25 and 26 were given their third reading and adopted item by item.

Statistical Report Adopted.—The report of the committee on Statistics was made and adopted. (See report No. 25.)

Authorization to Appoint Chairmen of Committees.—A motion carried that the President of the General Conference be authorized to appoint the chairman of all committees, including the committee to arrange an order of business for the General Conference.

Business Referred to Book Committee.—A motion prevailed that any business not attended to at this conference will be referred to the Book Committee for settlement.

Auditing and Invoice Committee Elected.—The Auditing and Invoice Committee were elected as follows: Charles Siccard, E. D. Carpenter and D. S. Bedford.

J. S. Willett was elected to preach the next General Conference sermon. P. B. Campbell was made reserve.

Fraternal Delegate Introduced.—W. W. Clay, of the Illinois Conference, was introduced, and given opportunity to speak as fraternal delegate to the Free Methodist Church.

The following committee was elected to act jointly with

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the commission appointed by the Free Methodist Church, in the matter of disfranchisement of ministers: Charles Sicard, F. A. Butterfield and Wm. Pinkney.

Issuing of Sunday School Diplomas.—A motion prevailed that the Sunday School Secretary be authorized to issue and sign diplomas to those taking the S. S. studies under the direction of the International Sunday School Association.

A motion was carried to adjourn until 7:30 P. M.

Benediction by W. W. Clay.

Fourteenth Meeting.—7:30 P. M., June 30th, 1915.

Opening.—The meeting opened with song service, conducted by C. L. Williams. D. T. Perrine, of Michigan, conducted the devotions.

The minutes were read, corrected and approved.

Committee to Confer with like Committee from Free Methodist Church.—The fraternal delegate, W. W. Clay, reported that the Free Methodist Church requested this body to elect a committee to act jointly with a like committee elected by the Free Methodist General Conference.

A motion was carried that this General Conference elect a committee of three, having in mind, the same thought that the Free Methodist General Conference acted upon, that this committee receive its instructions from the Book Committee as to how far they shall go in contemplated union of the two churches. The committee elected was J. S. Willett, F. A. Butterfield and P. B. Campbell.

The minutes of the present sitting were read and approved.

Upon motion by J. S. Willett the conference adjourned sine die.

The audience arose, sang the doxology and the President, Rev. E. Teter offered prayer, committing the interests of our beloved Church to the care of Almighty God, and thus closed the nineteenth quadrennial session of the General Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church.

Eber Teter, President

E. F. McCarty, Secretary.

REPORTS

Report No. 1.

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

First, Sabbath Schools:—Rev. W. J. Seekins, Chairman; Rev. H. T. Hawkins, Rev. J. A. Wood, C. P. Rank, and Frank Ballou.

Second, Districting the Connection for the purpose of nominating the Book Committee:—Rev. E. D. Carpenter Chairman; Rev. E. L. Henderson, Rev. A. W. Smith, C. V. Black, D. L. Shidler, and E. G. Dietrich.

Third, Committee on Boundary:—Rev. E. A. Boyd, Chairman; Rev. I. F. McLiester, Rev. P. B. Campbell, J. E. Smiley, and N. M. Bales.

Fourth, Committee on State of the Country, including Prohibition:—Rev. W. L. Thompson, Chairman; Rev. A. E. Belk, Rev. E. F. McCarty, Rev. A. Worth, W. L. Thurber, O. S. Ballinger, and E. Cheney.

Fifth, Committee on State of the Church:—Rev. F. A. Butterfield, Rev. S. A. Manwell, Rev. E. Teter, L. H. McMillan, O. N. Carnahan, and Rev. J. S. Willett.

Sixth, Education:—Rev. H. W. McDowell, Chairman; Rev. J. O. Baker, Rev. S. W. Bond, J. S. Luckey, Mary P. Manwell, and Carl C. Conrad.

Seventh, Committee on Budget:—J. S. Luckey, Chairman; Glen W. Hall, Rev. M. E. Warburton, A. D. Osborn, and I. L. Prouty.

Eighth, Committee on Missions:—Rev. H. W. Hawkins, Chairman; Rev. J. Hester, Rev. W. M. Lee, J. Lawrence, Jasper Hester; Africa, G. H. Clarke; India, Stella Wood; Home Missions, including Mission School in Alabama, Rev. F. M. Roberts; Oklahoma, Rev. A. D. Bissey, and Rev. E. Teter.

Ninth, Committee on Societies of the World, including Secret Societies:—Rev. P. A. Williams, Chairman; Rev. E. W. Jones, Rev. William Pinkney, J. L. Rigsbee and C. B. Armstrong.

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Tenth, Committee on Conference Records:—J. Lawrence, Chairman; S. W. Wright, Wesley Markee, O. H. P. Woolbright and Emma Fall.

Eleventh, Committee on Book Concern:—Rev. Charles Sicard, Chairman; Rev. J. S. Willett, Rev. I. F. McLeister, Geo. Rager and C. H. Boggs.

Twelfth, Committee on Thanks:—Rev. S. A. Manwell, Chairman; F. A. Lewis, Mrs. O. J. Davis, R. C. Smith and Rev. P. B. Campbell.

Thirteen, Committee on Statistics:—Rev. I. A. Grise, Chairman; Rev. J. M. Hancock, Rev. D. T. Perrine.

Fourteenth, Committee on Course of Study:—Rev. T. P. Baker, Chairman; Rev. W. L. Thompson, Rev. C. H. Dow, Rev. E. L. Henderson, Prof. J. S. Luckey and Clarence Williams.

Respectfully Submitted,

W. J. Seekins, Chairman.
E. L. Henderson,
C. V. Black,
W. L. Thurber,
J. S. Willett.

Report No. 2.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY LAW.

We, the remaining members of your committee appointed by the last General Conference to report on the above questions, beg leave to report as follows:

Constitutional.

We define constitutional law to be that part of the policy of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection, or Church, of America as can only be changed by a vote of the General and Annual Conferences and membership vote of the churches, as provided for in Section 5, paragraph 72, of the present Discipline.

1. All that is mentioned in said paragraph, that can only be changed as prescribed, is constitutional law.

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2. We believe that the supervision of the Annual Conferences over the ministry and Churches within their bounds, is a Constitutional right, but is limited by sub-sections Nos. 1, 2, and 3, and that the rights of the churches and ministry, as is set forth under said Section 81 and sub-sections Nos. 1, 2, 3 are constitutional.

3. (a) The right of the Churches to receive and expel or discontinue members of the same, is constitutional. That is to say, no pastor or any officer of the church has a right to receive or discontinue a member of the church. It must be done by the action of the Church.

(b) The right of the Church to elect all its officers, and remove the same, is a constitutional right. No pastor or other official has any right to appoint an officer or declare an office vacant. This right belongs to the Church alone.

4. The rights of the Eldership, as to holding any office to which elders are eligible, is a constitutional right.

5. The rights of the laity to hold any office to which a lay member is eligible, is a constitutional right.

6. The conditions of membership is a constitutional right. No Annual Conference or Church, or the General Conference, can change said conditions, either by repeal of present conditions or adding new conditions, but said changes must be made by the concurrent action of all three,—the General Conference, Annual Conference and membership of the churches.

7. The Articles of Religion being constitutional as to change, it will follow that it is unconstitutional to place any book in the course of study that teaches anything that contravenes our articles of faith. The Board of Review shall be the authority to decide on any book called in question.

8. Any law that destroys the principle of equal representation of the ministry and laity, in any of the representative bodies of the Church, would be unconstitutional.

Statutory.

1. The General Conference has the right to say who shall constitute its membership, provided there is maintained equal representation as it pertains to the ministry and

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laity, and provided further that no Annual Conference shall be deprived of representatives.

2. The General Conference has the right to say who shall compose the membership of an Annual Conference, provided it maintains the equality of representation as to the ministry and laity, and further provided that no church or charge shall be deprived of representation.

3. The General Conference has the right to legislate as to the best methods of conducting the business of the entire Connection, beginning with the churches, and including the quarterly and annual conferences, and also the business of the General Conference itself. It also has the right to legislate as to the best methods of carrying on the work of the Publishing Association, Missionary Society, Educational Society, and all corporate societies, and all the judiciary departments, whether of churches, quarterly or annual conferences.

4. All statutory laws take effect when the Discipline is published upon the adjournment of the General Conference, unless otherwise specified.

We recommend that as much of this report as is adopted, be made a separate section of the Discipline, with paragraph numbers to correspond with same.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Teter,
E. G. Dietrich,
P. B. Campbell,
J. S. Luckey.
(A. T. Jennings deceased.)

Report No. 3.

THE BUDGET.

We, your Committee on Budget, report as follows:

Adequate and business-like financing lies at the heart of every successful enterprise. This is fundamental and never incidental. Especially is this true in church activities. If a church is to be strong, spiritual, aggressive, and wide

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awake, it must have its finances well organized. This is not all that is necessary for success, but there cannot be success without this. The same is perfectly true in regard to the Connection. While financial prosperity does not necessarily imply sound spiritual conditions, nevertheless it is true that lack of financial success does prevent the highest spiritual efficiency. The work committed to the Church cannot be done without the developing of proper agencies. The Kingdom must be extended, workers must be trained, and a loyal laity, the backbone of the Church, must be established in its doctrines. This cannot be done without the expenditure of money, and God has seen fit to make us co-workers with Him in this matter. Without doubt He could have made other provision, but He has made no other plans. He is truly counting on us. The benevolent institutions of the denomination depend on her membership for their existence. The institutions of learning and the agencies for extending the work in general can accomplish their purpose, serve the needs of this generation, and meet the requirements resting upon them, only as they are provided with the necessary funds. If these funds do not come from the membership, is it probable that they will come from any other source?

When we consider the average amount per capita that is needed to support all the denominational interests, the ability of the Church to support them all is practically self-evident. When success is not achieved, the reasons are usually two-fold. In the first place, a definite, well organized and thoroughly worked financial system is needed in the denomination, in each conference and in each church. John Wanamaker says: "Eighty per cent of the churches are able to care for the interests of the Kingdom and pay their pastors a good living salary, and will do so when the slipshod, spasmodic ways of raising money—are given up and the Church puts her finances on a business basis, holding her members to an honest fulfillment of her vows as to giving." In the second place, the attitude of many church members toward the support of the church should be changed. The author of the "Better Way" says: "The impression has gone abroad that the entire fault has been with the system, when the facts are that it is in the spirit and purpose of giving as well as in the system. The fundamental idea of Christian giving is, that we are bond-servants of Jesus Christ, and as such belong to him by a two-

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fold title—creation and redemption. To fail in faithfulness in rendering unto the Lord that which is His, is sinful if not criminal. We have allowed ourselves to look upon church support as a charity. With many the church is regarded as an organized appeal to charity, and they respond to her appeals as they do to other charities. This is a great mistake. A proper conception as to the true relation of the Church of Jesus Christ to the social and moral condition of society will place her appeal for support on an entirely different basis. An institution that is a necessity to our well-being must be maintained, and every individual is responsible for his part of its maintenance."

There are, however, better times just ahead for our church affairs if we will but give but a little time to investigate the system of finance that is now so successfully taking the place of the old in many of our churches. Many of us remember the despondency that prevailed a few years ago when so many used an "if" in speaking of our continued existence. All our interests seemed to be running behind, debts were accumulating and financial ruin seemed near at hand unless steps were taken at once to change the situation. How heavy was the burden on those whose shoulders were bearing the load, and how mightily was the throne of God besieged for deliverance only eternity can reveal. But God did hear and already the dawn of a better day seems to be ushered in. In the midst of this depression, after very careful and prayerful consideration of the matter, the "Budget Plan" was adopted by the board, and later on, by an act of the last General Conference, it was made the financial system for raising the benevolences of the Connection. Already it is producing splendid results in our church work, and with God's help success seems certain if we do our share. The plan as given in our Discipline, paragraph 252, page 141, is:

"The Educational Society and the Missionary Society shall submit to the Executive Board of the Book Committee, at its February meeting each year, a budget showing the amount needed in their respective departments for the ensuing year. It shall be the duty of the Book Committee to aggregate the amounts needed in the various departments of church work into one budget of expense, and from the budget so gathered apportion to the several conferences the amount of such apportionment. The Book Committee shall

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take into account the number in the conference and their ability to pay the share assigned them, and also state the estimate for each benevolence. It shall be the duty of each conference at its annual session to apportion the budget of connectional benevolences assigned to it, to the various charges of the conference, stating the estimate for each benevolence. It shall be the duty of the pastor and stewards to see to the faithful collection of the share assigned their charges, and they shall send all moneys so collected to the conference treasurer, obtaining his receipts for the same, provided that if any such money shall be paid to any of the connectional officials direct, a duplicate receipt of same shall be furnished the conference treasurer. The conference treasurer shall remit to the connectional treasury quarterly."

For four years this plan has been in operation and is now past the experimental stage. It has helped to bring system out of chaos, to place the finances of the denomination on a much firmer foundation, and to restore confidence in all branches of our work. Our greatest opportunity as well as our greatest duty is to operate the Budget Plan with all our ability and to make it just as perfect as we possibly can. Observation and experience indicate that certain principles must be considered to bring the highest success, and we believe that the following thoughts are worthy of our attention:

In the first place, every department of the Church and every person in the Church should recognize that we form a unit, that failure in one branch will bring general failure, and that no one is free from responsibility. The Board, the officers in the various departments, the conferences, the pastors, and the laymen must all recognize their responsibility, work in harmony with the majority, and support with equal interest and enthusiasm every arm of the Church. In the second place, there should be the utmost definiteness and clearness in every particular. Every person who has any responsibility has a perfect right to know just what is wanted and just why it is wanted. Hence every one who is asked to co-operate in operating the Budget Plan should be given full information concerning every point for which he is in the least responsible. In the third place, business methods should be applied in every phase of the work. Our people have a right to demand and they are

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demanding that the benevolences of the Church shall be raised and expended in a way that commends itself to sound business men.

In view of these principles it seems to us that the denominational finances are one of the the foundation stones of the Church and should receive the most careful consideration by every party involved. In making up the budget, the Executive Board should receive from the societies itemized statements giving very careful estimates of the receipts and necessary expenditures for the coming year and should then decide on the total amount to be raised. This amount should then be apportioned to the conferences, and we believe that better results would be obtained if it were definitely stated what the apportionment of each conference is for Education and what for Missions. To what degree, then, is each conference financially responsible for the success of the denomination? Unless the Executive Board has been unjust or made a mistake it is self evident that each conference is responsible at least to the amount of its apportionment. If our church is to be perpetuated and her interests maintained, it is absolutely necessary that each conference shall recognize the responsibility and co-operate with the whole Connection in carrying out its financial policy. Having received its apportionment from the Executive Board, each conference at its annual session should apportion this amount to the various charges. In apportioning the amount to the various charges, we believe that, as far as possible, all reference to a per capita apportionment should be avoided. This was one of the greatest defects of the "Dollar Plan," for it does not properly emphasize or encourage proportionate giving, which is the basis of tithing and Paul's injunction in 1 Cor. 16:2. Of course membership must be an important factor in determining the apportionment of a charge, but this is not the only factor, and it will be difficult to make a financial plan fully succeed that does not take into consideration the ability of a charge to pay, as well as the number of its membership. The responsibility now rests with the pastor and stewards to operate a definite financial plan on the charge, and the members are responsible for co-operating and raising their quota.

In no sense should the General Conference or the Board dictate the method by which a conference or a charge shall

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raise its budget; but if the voice of the denomination is not wrong, it has a right to ask that each conference shall turn over to the connectional treasurer its apportionment in full for each benevolence. Therefore, for a conference or a church to be perfectly successful in raising its budget it must turn over to the proper authorities the full amount for both benevolences, missions and education.

Of course a conference or a church is not fully successful if it fails in raising both educational and missionary apportionment, but it also does not fully succeed if it raises one in full but lacks in the other; in fact, a conference or a church is not perfectly successful even if it raises the total amount of both benevolences, but has a surplus in one and a lack in the other. So far as the conference can control the matter, has it a right to pay a surplus for one benevolence while there is a lack in the other? Some say that gifts cannot be controlled, but is it not true that usually there are enough individuals and churches who are willing to pay on the undivided plan to keep the matter in balance? Many churches are seeing the wisdom of raising the total apportionment for both benevolences as a whole and paying the amount undivided to the proper authorities. A church has met its obligations when it has paid to the conference treasurer its apportionment in full for each benevolence. A conference has met its obligations when it pays to the Connection its apportionment in full for each benevolence.

We believe that it would be in accordance with sound business principles if full publicity were given to the results that each charge and each conference is accomplishing for the budget. To accomplish this the statistical blank for the pastor's report should contain a budget item, which, when filled out, will show the amount assigned the charge for each benevolence, the amount raised for each benevolence, and the amount raised as undivided budget. It should be necessary for this item to be audited by the conference treasurer, and each pastor should be held strictly accountable for having done his best to raise both parts of the budget in full or an undivided amount sufficient to balance the two parts. The conference statistics should show the amount assigned for each part of the budget and the amount raised for each part. At the close of each series of conferences a statement should be published in the Wesleyan

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showing for each conference the membership, the amount assigned for each part of the budget and the amount raised for each part.

J. S. Luckey,
A. D. Osborn,
I. L. Prouty,
M. E. Warburton,
G. W. Hall.

Report No. 4.

(See Item 28, under Report No. 7.)

Report No. 5.

THE STATE OF THE CHURCH.

Brethren and Members of the General Conference, your committee begs leave to submit the following report:

The state of the Church has been a question of vital importance ever since its institution by Jesus for the accomplishment of his purpose upon the earth. With the promise which he gave that "all the gates of hell should not prevail against her," was the implied prediction of constant warfare between her and the powers of darkness as long as this present dispensation should endure. The conflict has raged about her and at times the onrushing hordes of the evil one have threatened her extermination; but always she has emerged from the struggle purified and stronger to renew her warfare against the opposing forces. In the darkest hours God has raised up defenders and leaders who have directed her course in constant anticipation of the announcement, "Behold the Bridegroom cometh." As the times of apostacy have come and the multitudes have sunk into the sleep of carnal security, like the virgins of old, or have gone off after other lovers, and as the near approach of the advent of the Lord is being more clearly indicated by the momentous events in the fulfillment of prophecy with which the world is being visited, the inquiry concerning the state

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of the Church is assuming a gravity second to no other. God's people ought to be sure of their preparation to meet their Lord; they ought also to be sure that the organism of which they are a part, the Church of Christ, is in the best possible state of preparation to do the will of her Lord while she awaits his coming.

The Wesleyan Methodist Church.

We thank the Lord that he saw fit to call into existence the Wesleyan Methodist Church at a time when there were few to defend the rights of human liberty, and that she nobly fulfilled her trust and held up a standard to which the people of the nation rallied and wrote liberty into the constitution in letters of blood. Since her organization she has become the champion of spiritual freedom as well. With her Lord she has felt, under the anointing of the Holy Ghost, the call to "preach deliverance to the captives and the opening of the prison to those that are bound." She has determined that the victims of Satan's oppression and wrath shall not appeal to her in vain. She has proved to her own satisfaction that the "gospel is the power of God unto salvation," and to those who would escape the tempter's power, the bondage and oppression of sin, and the despair of eternal death, and whose helpless, appealing hands are stretched out for aid, she has undertaken to point to him who is the help of the helpless and the hope of the hopeless, and is doing what she can to bring these lost sons and daughters of earth to the Savior of men. What her present state of preparation and equipment for this work is, together with the degree of progress for the past several years, is an important subject of inquiry.

Doctrinally.

We believe that the Wesleyan Methodist Church is sound and biblical doctrinally. In these times when the churches which through the past have been the champions of Bible doctrines and practice have departed from the faith to such an appalling extent as to be almost unbelievable and have lowered the standard of Christian living until it is scarcely higher than that held by the world, we are glad that there is still afforded a home for those who love the truth of God, where the false doctrines and skepticism of the present age

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of apostasy are excluded, and where an opportunity for service is afforded to those whose spirits revolt at the worldliness and corruption in high places. We believe that the Church is more of a unit in its devotion to the sound Bible doctrines of salvation from sin and Bible holiness and the allied doctrines and reformatory principles for which she has stood in the past than ever. The times of controversies with regard to these questions have largely passed with us and our strength is being more wholly devoted, not alone to the defense of these doctrines and principles, but as well to aggressive, constructive work in harmony with these standards. We believe that it can be said that as a unit the Wesleyan Methodist Church is more truly a holiness church from a doctrinal standpoint than ever in the past.

Spiritually.

What has been said of our Church doctrinally we believe can truthfully be said of her from a spiritual standpoint. If spirituality is the application and fruitage of correct doctrine in practical and holy living, we believe that the Wesleyan Methodist Church is making great gains spiritually. The correct form and the perfect machinery are both valueless unless energized with life and power; so the Church without spiritual power is a vain thing. On the whole we believe that the type of spirituality of our people is of a high quality. This is evidenced by the large degree of peace and harmony among ourselves, and the ever increasing passion for the salvation of the lost which breaks out in pentecostal revivals in almost all quarters of the church. While there is much to be wished for along these lines, yet there is much to encourage and inspire to greater faithfulness and effort. In this particular we would suggest that our people throughout the Church pray and work for a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Church in every department of its work. This we believe will solve more of the perplexing problems than any other method or plan that could be put into operation. God grant that the day may speedily come that we will not alone seek out the very best plans and methods of doing the work which we have been called of the Lord as a Church to do, but that we will not rest content until all these plans and methods, as well as the workers, are under the mighty baptism of the

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Holy Ghost. We firmly believe that the pentecostal experience and pentecostal methods will still bring pentecostal results. We thank God we can report that progress is being made in the right direction.

Numerically.

Numerically the Church has more than held its own during the last quadrennium. This increase is true of most, if not all of the conferences, so that today marks a degree of progress and activity which is very encouraging. The statistical report will undoubtedly reveal a larger increase than is generally supposed. This growth has been gradual, and we believe substantial and permanent.

Financially.

The financial condition of the Church in the years since the last session of the General Conference has been at times the cause for the gravest concern. The Church seemed to be passing through a financial crisis in her history. This was caused in part by the transition from an unsettled and unsatisfactory to a more stable and secure financial system. The Budget system adopted by the last General Conference has proved to be eminently practical and efficient wherever it has been put into operation and worked with a desire to give it a fair and honest trial. This plan needs to be still farther improved and more fully adopted by all parts of the Church. If this is done there will be ample means provided to meet the needs of the various departments of our Church. The publishing interests are in a better condition than at any time for many years, as will be seen by reference to the Agent's reports to the Book Committee for the past two years and the financial statement submitted to this body. We believe that the crisis has been safely passed and that we are now in a fair way to better times from a financial standpoint.

Educationally.

We have great reason for satisfaction over the progress made in the educational field. There are a greater number of young men and women of ability in places of responsibility in the church, who have been trained in our own in-

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stitutions of learning, than any other time in our history. Each of our schools, including the Fairmount Bible School, stand unfalteringly for the highest type of spirituality as well as for the best mental and physical development. The revival fires are burning constantly at these places where the best young people from all parts of our Church gather, and the consequence is that they go forth with a mental equipment that enables them to successfully compete with others in whatever their calling may be, and with a moral and spiritual equipment that makes them a power for good in the church and in society. The financial situation throughout the country, has seriously affected the income of all of our schools, and especially is this true of the school at Central; but we believe that under the blessing of the Lord and with the help of our loyal and sacrificing people, these difficulties will be passed safely. But we direct your attention to this as one of our most pressing needs at the present time.

Our Missionary Fields

Our missionary work in the foreign fields has probably suffered more on account of the unusual conditions arising from the war in Europe, than has any other part of our work. It was a serious question for a time whether it would be possible to continue the work in India and Africa, and of course it is not yet known what the developments of the near future may be. But while the work has been much hindered, both because of the lack of funds and on account of the danger and uncertainty, and the inability to transmit funds regularly to the fields, nevertheless the work has been continued and we trust that with the blessing of the Lord no further impediment will arise, but that the work may be continued. Much credit is due to the Y. M. W. B. and its efficient superintendent for the raising of a constantly increasing amount of money with which to make possible the successful continuation of our missionary work.

Among the Conferences.

The replies to inquiries sent to the presidents of the various conferences, with scarcely an exception, indicate that the general condition of the conferences is good, the spiritual state showing decided improvement, with a hopeful and encouraging outlook along almost all lines for the

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future. These replies which we are unable to embody in this report are most encouraging and furnish a good foundation for a most optimistic and hopeful outlook for the Church as a whole. There are still many difficulties to encounter, and our progress must be made by overcoming and converting them into stepping stones to better things. Among the difficulties enumerated we find the following: Difficulty in getting good pastors and evangelists; insufficient support for pastors; lack of funds with which to carry on the work which might otherwise be undertaken; lack of a better financial system among the churches generally; the opposition of the lodge and of those who hate holiness; disloyalty on the part of some to the principles of the church of which they are members; discouragement resulting from the unfaithfulness of some who have been in official position. These and other difficulties we have always been called upon to face and they are no more pronounced than formerly; but on the other hand there is a greater degree of victory over the difficulties and hindrances in some quarters than in the past. It is to be hoped that so far as may be possible these hindrances may be removed that the work of the Lord may be accomplished and the truth established in the earth.

Aggressive Evangelism.

One of the greatest needs of the Church at the present time is a better and more comprehensive system of home missionary work and general evangelism under Connectional direction. This demand is coming from all parts of the church and constantly increasing in intensity. We recommend that some definite steps be taken looking toward improvement in this direction.

Needs of the Sunday School Work.

In this connection we believe that one of the most fruitful fields is through the Sunday School. The possibilities of the Sunday School as an evangelizing agency is rapidly being realized by our preachers and churches. If the plans adopted by the last General Conference and which will in all probability be improved upon by this body were more fully adopted throughout the Church great good would undoubtedly result.

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Unity Among Ourselves.

As an evidence of the blessing of the Lord upon us as a Church is the progress being made in harmony and unity among ourselves. We can only expect to conquer by presenting an undivided front to the foe. With hearts perfect toward God and full of love and affection for one another we can conquer every foe. On the whole we believe that we have every reason for encouragement. We are ambitious for nothing but the glory of God and the advancement of his kingdom. Beneath the banner of "Holiness unto the Lord," let us press forward until the face of the King we view.

F. A. Butterfield, Chairman.
E. Teter,
J. S. Willett,
O. N. Carnahan,
F. H. McMillan.

Report No. 6.

REPORT OF THE MISSIONARY SECRETARY.

Africa.

1. The work in Africa has made good progress since our last meeting. The work was being cared for both as to workers and money, till the present war started. This has made it very difficult to take care of the work.

2. The conditions now existing will make it more necessary than ever that money be paid into the treasury, to relieve the situation, the moment it can be relieved. It is a time for earnest and importunate prayer. Brother G. H. Clarke, Dr. Paine and others will make a full report touching this work and its needs, they having just returned from the field.

India.

The work in India is a large and very promising field. Brother Ashton about two years ago asked for a furlough to come home on account of failing health. This was changed later to a permission to go to the mountains, about

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1,000 miles away. He, with his family, have been there for about eighteen months. I need not say that it makes it a hard problem for any one to manage a mission who is not on the field, or in such close proximity that the field could be reached in a day or so. Brother Ashton sent in a request to the Board to have his leave of absence to the mountains extended during the war. The Board did not see proper to grant this, but authorized his recall when possible. It will take some over \$1,200 to pay the return trip, as he has several children who are old enough to require full price for passage. Brother John Reed, who is now the only man on the field, will have charge of the work till other arrangements are made. The war has also made it very difficult to manage that work. Sister Stella Wood, who has just returned from that field, will make a more definite report.

Home.

1. The work in the homeland is about the same as it was four years ago. The work has been carried on through the various conferences.

2. Since our last session, however, the Missionary Society has started a Mission School for the benefit of the colored people in the South, and for Alabama in particular. It is doing a good work, and Brother Frank Roberts, who is our superintendent for that work, will speak with reference to it. There are others also who will speak with reference to our work at home.

General.

The General Conference in the past adopted what is known as the budget system, which required the Missionary Secretary to submit an estimate to the Missionary Society of how much money it would take to carry on the work of the Church, as to Missions. The Missionary Secretary did so, placing the amount at \$20,000. This would give \$12,500 for Africa, \$2,500 for India, and \$5,000 for home. This amount has not been reached by our people, the shortage this year being \$2,439.40. If we had this amount, it would place us out of debt, and with other contributions, through bequests and interest, we would have enough to tide us over emergencies, unless it was unusual, and enable

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the Missionary Society to take care of all the work it has authorized. As the amount asked for is only about an average of \$1 per member of the Church, it will be to our confusion and shame in the Judgment if we do not do it. We ought not to stop short of \$5 per member for missions. True, some can not pay, but others can pay up to the hundreds, and possibly thousands.

I have been a member of the Board for twenty-one years. No present member has been a member as long. I have been Missionary Secretary for fourteen years. Comparing our work as a Church in missions, with what it was twenty-one years ago, it is marvelous what has been done and the work accomplished. The raising of funds has been systematically planned, and among said plans is the Y. M. W. B., whose beginnings were small, but whose prosperity has been such under the leadership of Mrs. E. G. Hartson as to make it one of the strong methods of the Church in raising money, as we have passed the \$7,000 mark in raising funds, which is more than twice as much as is raised from all other sources. The Limba Workers' Band, under the supervision of Mrs. Lizzie Ayers, has also done good work. The General Conference Woman's Missionary Society has also been very helpful in the work, and if, in addition to all that these Bands and Society have raised, the pastors would raise their Budget, for missions, I am sure that we would not have to ask our people to sing the Doxology, for I think it would sing itself. But, while all the above is true, we have no ground for boasting, for we are below our duty and privilege in the matter of giving. Taking the figures of the General Conference of 1911, and adding up the amounts given for all purposes as reported by the Conferences, and dividing it by four so as to get the average contributions for one year, I find that we have paid out in the Lord's service about \$260,000. The membership was about 20,000. This will make an average of \$13 per member for all purposes in Church work. Now, counting only 10,000 as wage earners, and put the earnings at only \$300 per year, and the tithe would be \$300,000, or \$40,000 more than we have given. We have not come up to the tithe, to say nothing of gifts and offerings. The divine rule is: "To lay by in store every week, as God has prospered us," which means nothing less than the tithe, and offerings and gifts should be added; and if we will do this, there will be

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meat in the Lord's house, and the blessings of the Lord will be so poured out upon us as that there will not be room enough to contain it.

I am very grateful for the hearty co-operation of my brethren, official and otherwise, and also to the whole Church, for the hearty support that has been given the cause while I have been serving you, and trust that the blessings of the Lord will still abide with us.

Personally, I wish to retire to private life.

E. Teter, Missionary Secretary.

Report No. 7.

COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF DISCIPLINE.

Submitted by the Book Committee as Committee on Revision.

Item No. 1:—In paragraph 269, amend by striking out the words, "Licentiate or ministers," and insert the words, "Members into our churches," instead. Insert between the words "use" and "tobacco" the words "cultivate, manufacture or sell."

The paragraph will then read: "We will not receive as members into our churches, nor will we ordain or license to preach, or exhort, persons who use, cultivate, manufacture or sell tobacco." (Adopted.)

Item No. 2:—Change paragraph 93, page 64, to read "The General Conference at its quadrennial sessions shall elect a Book Committee consisting of fifteen persons, eight elders and seven laymen. The Connectional Editor, Connectional Agent and Treasurer, Connectional Missionary Secretary and teachers and heads of Connectional schools shall not be eligible to election to this committee." (Lost.)

Sub. a:—Paragraph 102, page 68, ninth line, the words "Connectional Agent" shall be stricken out and the words "Book Committee" inserted. (Adopted.)

Sub. b:—Paragraph 104, page 70, first line at the top of the page, change to read, "the Book Committee shall cause the Connectional Agent," the rest of the paragraph standing as it is. (Adopted.)

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Item No. 3:—Resolved, That we hereby tender the Fairmount Bible Training School to the Connectional Educational Society.

Condition One: All endowment moneys, notes, bequeaths and other values shall remain in the ownership and control of the Indiana Conference. The proceeds of these moneys, together with what shall be raised for running expenses, shall be turned over to the Connectional Treasurer by the Conference Treasurer, to be used for the maintenance of said Fairmount Bible School.

Condition Two: The Connectional Treasurer shall open an account for said school and conduct the business the same as for other schools which pay in money through sub-treasurers. (Referred to Educational Society and Trustees of Indiana Conference.)

Item 4:—Change the first sentence of paragraph 134, page 80, to read: "Each Annual Conference shall elect a Missionary Board of not less than three persons. No Annual Conference officer, teacher or head of Conference School shall be eligible to election on this Board, or the Board of Conference Trustees." The rest of the paragraph beginning with the words, "they shall serve one year." shall read as it is, provided that all points in the Discipline shall be harmonized with this change. (Referred to the Committee on Constitutional and Statutory Law.)

Item No. 5:—In paragraph 90 of the Discipline, beginning at the top of page 59 of the Church Discipline, change the remainder of the paragraph so as to read: "The Quarterly Conference at its first session of each Conference year shall elect a Committee on Pulpit Supply, each member of which shall continue in office until his successor is elected. If the charge consists of more than one church, an equal number of the committee shall be elected from each church. This committee shall be properly organized for the purpose of taking the vote of the churches, and communicating same in writing to the Annual Conference through its delegate. In case of the resignation or death of the pastor, this committee, with the aid and consent of the President of the Conference and his Advisory Board, shall secure a pastor for the remainder of the year.

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If the pastor does not desire to serve the charge as pastor any longer than the present year, he shall communicate the same to the Committee on Pulpit Supply, not less than sixty days before the next Annual Conference. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Pulpit Supply, not less than thirty days before the next Annual Conference, to ascertain by vote the desire of the charge as to retaining the present pastor, provided that he has not served notice on the committee that he will not remain another year. In case such notice has been given by the pastor, a vote on change or no change shall not be taken. In case the pastor cannot be secured for another year, an expression in like manner may be taken with reference to securing another pastor. Notice of the meeting shall be given on two successive Sabbaths, and it shall require a majority of all the members present, voting, to constitute a call in either case. The vote shall be taken at a regular business meeting of the church. The result of the vote shall be instructions to the delegate, and the delegate shall report said action to the Annual Conference which instructions may serve the purpose in guiding the Conference in supplying the work, but all appointments to work within the bounds of the Conference shall be made by the Committee on Pastoral Relations of the Conference and approved by the Annual Conference."

We recommend that all previous laws touching upon this point that conflict with this law shall be stricken from the Book of Discipline. (Amended and adopted. See below.)

Item No. 5, as adopted:—Beginning with the words "Quarterly Conference," at the top of page 59, let the paragraph stand as it now reads to and including the fourteenth line, but in the fifteenth line, beginning with the words, "Not less than thirty days," change so as to read as follows, "Not less than sixty days before the next session of the Annual Conference. In case the pastor does not wish to serve the charge for another year, no vote shall be taken as to retaining said pastor. It shall be the duty of the committee on pulpit supply, not less than thirty days before the next session of the Annual Conference, to ascertain by vote the desire of the charge of retaining the present pastor, provided said pastor has not given notice as above. Notice of the meeting at which the vote is to be taken shall

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be given at least two weeks before the vote is taken, a majority vote of those present to constitute a call." The balance of the section to remain as it now reads.

Item No. 6:—(Insert as a separate paragraph between paragraphs 239 and 240).

The Committee on Revision of the Disciplinary Course of Study shall be a standing committee, consisting of five members, three elders and two laymen, elected by the General Conference, whose duty shall be to pursue their work from the adjournment of the General Conference, and shall at the end of the third year publish the result of their work in four consecutive issues of the Wesleyan Methodist.

All objections, with reasons for the same, to any book or books in said proposed course, or the removal of any book from the course shall likewise be published in four consecutive issues of the Wesleyan Methodist. The committee shall have privilege to remove said books, against which objections are raised, from proposed course in which case they shall not be considered as a part of their report to the General Conference. No book shall be given a place in the Course of Study that contradicts the Articles of Faith as set forth in our Book of Discipline.—(Amended and adopted).

Item No. 7:—Sec. VI., Art. 79, add "or committees affected by the same." (Adopted).

Item No. 8:—Sec. V., Art 62, insert between the third and fourth lines, "The Agent, Editor and Missionary Secretary shall be ex-officio members of the General Conference in addition to the regular delegates." (Lost).

Item No. 9:—Paragraph 86 should be repealed and omitted from the next Discipline as all necessary provisions for the privileges of licentiates to vote in an annual conference are found in paragraph 79 of the present Discipline. (Adopted).

Item No. 10:—Paragraph 59 should be corrected so that reference will be made to paragraph 204 instead of paragraph 197 as in the present book. (Adopted).

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Item No. 11:—Inasmuch as the course of study has been extended from a three years course to a four years course it is proposed that paragraph 80 be so changed as to provide for four ministerial members instead of three as at the present time. The paragraph or that part of it relating to the number of members on the committee would then read as follows: The Annual Conference shall elect a Committee on Itinerancy and Orders, the chairman of which shall be chosen for one year; the second member for two years, the third member for three years and the fourth member for four years, and thereafter their successors shall be elected yearly for the full term of four years. (Amended and adopted).

Item No. 12:—Page 47, paragraph 76, beginning in the twelfth line from the top of the paragraph following the fourth word continuing to read, "Also fill vacancies in any annual conference office or standing committee." (Amended and adopted).

Item No. 13:—Insert new paragraph on page 47, to the known as sub-paragraph 1, to follow the words General Conference:

"The annual conference at the time of election of its officers shall elect a Board of Annual Conference Trustees, consisting of five persons—one elected for one year, two for two years, two for three years, and thereafter their successors to be elected yearly as their respective terms expire, for a full term of three years." (Lost.)

Item No. 14:—On page 57, paragraph 86, beginning in the tenth line from top of paragraph, after sixth word in line, be amended by striking out the words "Election of conference officers," the remainder of the paragraph to stand as it now reads. (Expunged from report.)

Item No. 15:—"Request for license to preach or exhort shall be referred to the Church Committee and pastor for consideration in accordance with paragraph 55, sub-paragraph (4) of Discipline before being granted by quarterly conference or church." (Adopted.)

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Item No. 16:—"Reports of preachers, exhorters, stewards and treasurers shall be in writing, when made to the quarterly conference or church." (Adopted).

Item No. 17:—Let paragraph 55 beginning with the third line from top of page 32 be changed as follows,—Each church shall at the time of election of church officers (204 sub-paragraph (4) elect a Church Advisory Committee of not less than three persons of which the pastor shall be chairman ex-officio, the duties of which shall be: (as stated in sub-paragraph (1) (2) and (4). Omit sub-paragraph (3) and in others where the word "committee" occurs change to the word "board." (Amended and adopted).

Item No. 18:—Course of Study. (See Report No. 23.)

Item No. 19:—Regarding time limit for Presidents of Conferences holding office. (Referred to committee on Constitutional and Statutory Law.)

Item No. 20:—Statistical Blank. (See Report No. 20.)

Item No. 21:—Lengthening the time in which privileges are to be granted licentiates. (Adopted).

Item No. 22:—On page 49, paragraph 79, beginning with the ninth line and read as follows "Licentiates, who are regular pastors, shall have the right to vote in the election of all Annual Conference officers and delegates to General Conference and other business except election to Elder's Orders and passing the character of elders where a vote is required." (Amended to change to Licentiates appointed to definite active work).

Item No 23:—Recommendation for separate Connectional Sunday School Secretary. (Referred to Book Committee.)

Item No. 24:—In order to meet the increasing demand for general evangelistic work under connectional oversight and direction, we recommend that the Missionary Society be authorized to enlarge the scope of the home missionary activities to embrace the work of general evangelism, by the

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adoption of a new paragraph to follow what is now paragraph 132 of the Discipline. The proposed paragraph follows:

II. Connectional Evangelism.

Paragraph 133. The Missionary Society shall have under its management and direction the general evangelistic work of the Connection. It shall recommend from time to time such books and reading matter as may promote a more general interest in this important subject, and in other ways as it may determine to seek to extend evangelistic activities more generally throughout the church.

(1). It shall examine into the fitness and availability of persons for general evangelistic work, engage such as may meet its approval and the needs of the work may require, designate the nature and field of their activities and direct the same, and require reports to be made. It shall enter into such agreement for the employment and remuneration of these persons as may meet the necessity of the case and the available resources for this purpose may warrant. When such persons shall have been engaged they shall be designated as Connectional Evangelists.

(2). The Missionary Society shall conduct its evangelistic activities through the Missionary Secretary, provided in case of necessity some other arrangement may be made for the care of the work.

(3). The Missionary Society may recommend such persons as may be endorsed for General Evangelistic work in the conference in which they hold their membership, and may publish a list of such evangelists in the Wesleyan Methodist. (Adopted.)

Item No. 25:—We recommend that it shall be the duty of every pastor to cause every Sunday School under his charge to observe the first Sunday in June, or such other Sunday as may be convenient, as Children's Day, and upon said day, as part of the service he shall take a collection to be devoted to the Children's Fund. The pastor shall forward the collection aforesaid directly to the Treasurer of the Educational Society.

The Educational Society shall administer the Children's Fund to assist worthy young people, members of the Wes-

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leyan Methodist Church, in obtaining a more advanced education. The aid shall be granted only in the form of loans, but the Educational Society shall have the authority to cancel said loans, in part or in whole, for protracted ill health, or for five years actual missionary service. (Adopted.)

These paragraphs shall be added to section ten.

Item No. 26:—Page 45, Sec. VI, Par. 74, second sentence. Change so as to read, "If the charge or circuit has for its pastor either an elder or licentiate of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and one or more elders not on the unstationed list reside on the charge or circuit," rest of paragraph to remain the same. (Adopted.)

Item No. 27.—Resolved, (2) That we petition the General Conference to change the name "Central New York and Pennsylvania" to the "Rochester" conference. (Adopted.)

Item No. 28.—Sunday Schools:—Your Committee on Sunday Schools respectfully submit the following report:

I. We recommend the election of a Connectional Sunday School Secretary and Editor.

Paragraph 172, pages 93 and 94 to be amended as follows: The Connectional Sunday School Secretary shall be at the head of the Sunday School work of the Connection, under the direction of the Connectional Sunday School Board. He shall be the Editor of our Sunday School literature and shall travel among the conferences in the interests of the Sunday Schools. Those who determine the salaries of the other Connectional officials shall fix his salary. The Wesleyan Methodist Publishing Association shall pay one-half of his salary for the work of editing our Sunday School literature. The other one-half of his salary shall be paid by the Book Committee who shall apportion the same to the Annual Conferences upon the basis of the Sunday School membership as revealed by the statistics the year previous to his election.

The Annual Conferences shall apportion the amount among their various charges. And it shall be the duty of the pastors to collect the same:

II. The following shall compose paragraph 180: There should be a Home Class Department under the care of a

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superintendent who shall report quarterly to the Sunday School. At least one day each year shall be set apart as Home Department day, which shall be under the care of the Home Department superintendent and the pastor.

III. Paragraph 181 shall read as follows: There should be a Temperance Department in every Sunday School under the direction of a competent superintendent. The quarterly Sunday School temperance lessons, literature, programs, addresses and other proper means should be employed to educate the young concerning the direful results of the use of intoxicating beverages and tobacco, and encourage them to sign the pledge against their use.

IV. The following shall constitute paragraph 182: We recommend a Missionary Department under the direction of a superintendent who is interested in missionary work. Special services may be held for the instruction of our scholars in missionary needs and provide support for the same.

V. Present paragraph 181 shall be numbered 183, and paragraph 182 shall be 184, and amended to read as follows: Every Wesleyan Methodist Sunday-school shall use Wesleyan Methodist literature.

VI. The present paragraph 183 be numbered 185 and amended as follows: In third line from the close of the paragraph after the word "work" add the following words, "for the Annual Conference and for the Connectional Sunday-school Secretary," striking out the remainder of the paragraph.

VII. We urge upon our people the importance of adopting approved Sunday-school methods in harmony with deep spirituality and our doctrine as a Church. The Sunday-school is the Church organized for Bible study. The Bible is able to make all ages of human kind wise unto salvation, hence we should inject into our Sunday-school work the spirit of evangelism and expect our scholars to be converted and wholly sanctified through the truth taught and practiced by Spirit-filled teachers. Our aim should be the salvation of the young as well as the old and to lead them into the deeper spiritual relationship with Christ and into useful Christian lives.

(Paragraph I. referred to Book Committee; remainder adopted.)

GENERAL CONFERENCE MINUTES.

Item No. 29.—First, the following shall take the place of Section XX of our Church Discipline:

Church Finance.

1. It is the judgment of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection that the law of tithing is scriptural and that God requires all his people to pay him the tenth of all their increase. We do therefore recommend:—

a. That all our people tithe, and that they subscribe themselves into a denominational Tithing Union.

b. That each church and Annual Conference elect a tithing Secretary whose duty it shall be to keep a tithing roll in which shall be subscribed the names of all members who tithe, and he shall gather statistics in evidence of the verification of God's promises to all who observe this law.

2. The Educational Society and the Missionary Society shall submit to the Executive Board of the Book Committee, at its February meeting each year, a budget showing the amount needed in their respective departments for the ensuing year. It shall be the duty of the Book Committee to aggregate the amounts needed in the various departments of church work into one budget of expense, and apportion to the several conferences the amount of this budget. In making this apportionment the Book Committee shall take into account the number of members in each conference and their ability to pay the share assigned to them. As soon as possible after the Executive Board has made the assignments, the Editor shall publish in the Wesleyan Methodist a statement showing for each conference its membership according to the latest statistics, and the apportionment for each benevolence. Two weeks before the session of each annual conference the Agent shall send to each conference president and to each conference secretary a statement of the apportionment for that conference. At the close of each series of conferences the Editor shall publish in the Wesleyan Methodist a statement showing for each conference its membership, its apportionment for each benevolence, and the amount raised on the budget for each benevolence. Every person authorized to receive Connectional funds who receives money that can count on the budget and that has not passed through the hands of a conference treasurer, must give the person from whom he received it a duplicate

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receipt, or else send a duplicate receipt to the proper conference treasurer.

3. It shall be the duty of each conference at its annual session to apportion the budget of connectional benevolences assigned to it to the various charges of the conference. In making the apportionment, the conference shall take into account the number of members of each charge and their ability to pay the share assigned to them. The conference shall state the exact amount assigned to each charge for each benevolence, and the conference secretary shall report the same to each pastor within two weeks after the close of the conference session. A conference has met its financial obligations to the Connection when it pays its apportionment in full for each benevolence.

4. It shall be the duty of the pastor and stewards to see to the faithful collection of the share assigned their charges. All money paid for current expenses of the Educational work, or for the current expenses of the Missionary work, either home or foreign, and pledges and interest (but not principal) paid for these purposes, and all money paid by the W. H. & F. M. S., the Y. M. W. B., or the Sunday Schools for these purposes may count toward the budget. If any person or society pays money to any person authorized to receive Connectional funds for any of these purposes, a duplicate receipt shall be given, and the pastor and stewards shall accept these receipts as payments on the budget. All money and duplicate receipts collected by the pastor and stewards for the budget shall be sent to the conference treasurer, provided however that money collected definitely for education or definitely for missionary work, and not as undivided budget, may be sent to any person authorized to receive Connectional funds. In this case a duplicate receipt shall be given which shall be sent to the conference treasurer. A charge has met its obligations to the Connection when it has paid the conference treasurer its apportionment in full for each benevolence, or when it pays an undivided amount sufficient to balance in full its apportionment for each benevolence. The pastor's statistical report to the conference shall contain a budget item showing the amount assigned to his charge for each benevolence, the amount raised definitely for education, the amount raised definitely for missions, and the amount raised as un-

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divided budget. This item must be audited by the conference treasurer before it is accepted by the conference.

5. The General Conference recommends:

a. That the charges be urged to raise the budget, as far as possible, on the undivided plan.

b. That the conference treasurer be instructed to remit to the Connectional treasurer at least quarterly all money received definitely for education, or definitely for missionary work, but that undivided budget may be retained until it is evident where it will be needed to maintain a balance between the benevolences, and should then be distributed so as to maintain this balance.

c. That the pastors be urged to investigate the Duplex Envelope System, and to introduce the same wherever practicable.

Second, The following shall take the place of sub-section (8) paragraph 82. (a) Have you faithfully presented the subject of Missions and Education on your charge? (b) Did your charge elect a Missionary Board? (c) Did your charge meet its financial obligations to the Connection as defined in paragraph (insert the correct number)? (d) Is there any territory within the bounds of your work that you consider a good field for missionary work? (e) Of how much of this work can you take charge? (Adopted.)

Report No. 8.

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

Missions impress our minds in three ways: First, there are those who are so far from the law of virtue, honesty, self respect, and right conception of their eternal interests, that they have reached the lowest depths of demoralization. Second, there are those who have become awakened, not only to their own personal interests, but that of others, and are using means to carry to them the truth that "lightens every man that cometh into the world." Third, there are those on whom God's hand has been laid to carry the light.

This is the great command that our Lord gave to the church, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Knowing that the sword had failed to conquer, and develop the purpose of God in the lives of

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men who had fallen so low in the depths of sin, we must espouse the interests of humanity and strive to carry into execution the great commission. While the great issues which gave the Church her place in the world were slavery and the moral reforms of that day, which are questions almost settled, if we would have a healthy existence in the world and grow, we must give our hearty co-operation and support to missions.

As a token of this great trust committed to the church you can look and see bright faced, brilliant young people who are now members of and visitors to the General Conference, that are a credit to any church as pastors, evangelists, and missionaries in the homeland. Also we can look about us and see twenty-two returned missionaries on whose hearts lie the burden of the foreign work to which God has called them. Some are anxiously waiting to be returned. Can we as a Church live and expect God to give us such noble characters for the field if we fail to do our best in giving to support those whom He has already given us? Surely these are questions that are before us as a Christian Church; for truly God does not call a person for one, two, three, or a dozen years, but for a lifetime, and when force of circumstances are such that one is not permitted to return as is the case now, because of the present war, we are compelled to bow our heads in submission to the will of God.

We recommend that just as soon as money can be raised and a safe voyage is possible that Brother and Sister Sprague, Sister Day, Sister Young and Sister Lord be returned to their field of labor, for we believe that conferences are losing interest in missions because these have not been returned.

We further recommend that all returned missionaries, after a short time of rest, be employed by the missionary societies of the Connection and by the Missionary Secretary to travel in the interest of missions, soliciting funds from parties that may not be reached by the services of the church, and when one has worked a conference or district that there be a changing about until the entire Connection has been canvassed, and definite arrangements be made that worthy and efficient returned missionaries may be paid for this work and when their health will permit, be returned to their labor on the foreign field.

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We recommend further that all conference presidents, pastors and evangelists co-operate with such missionaries when coming into their midst by arranging a schedule for them.

We also recommend for the homeland that all our missionary interests in Oklahoma, Alabama, and all other places that are opening to us, be entered as fast as proper persons and means can be had to develop and care for the work; that encouragement and support be given the work among the colored people in Alabama, by providing teachers, evangelists and pastors to care for the work; also East Tennessee with four churches organized, that with evangelistic help it may soon become a conference. During the last year in the state of Virginia our work has been organized, with other places in the state calling for meetings, and with organizers placed there with proper support, during the next four years healthy conferences can be organized. This work is now being cared for by the North Carolina Conference and is being pressed to the point above mentioned, but each point could well use a tent and evangelistic services which would help to develop the work.

We were much pleased in hearing the reports of the Missionary Secretary and Agent with the great advancement in all these lines during the past four years, and especially the increased interest in our Connectional work.

Brethren, let us not nestle down and rest on past achievements, for there is much unoccupied territory, both in the states now holding conferences and those that have not yet been organized, but who would welcome the work in their country. As a church will we remain in territory now covered, or will we be used of the Lord and go under the command and fill well the place to which He has called us that is yet unoccupied?

Brethren of this General Conference, let us make the next four years a time of growth in the homeland, and as we do this our work across the seas will get its touch of glory and increased help. May God's richest blessing rest upon each of us, and may our faithfulness be proven.

Respectfully submitted,

H. W. Hawkins,
Jacob Hester,
W. M. Lee,
J. Lawrence,
Jasper Hester.

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Africa.

Houghton, N. Y., June 25, 1915.

To the members of the General Conference now assembled, Greetings. Your committee on Africa begs leave to submit the following report:

It is with a deep sense of gratitude to our heavenly Father for his manifold blessings and his protecting care over our mission work and workers in Africa during the past four years that we present to you this report.

The general health of our missionaries has been much better than in the past in spite of the added burdens which have been put upon them because of a lack of workers and because of conditions which have grown out of the political situation in Europe.

During the past quadrennium one of our number, Rev. J. C. Ovenshire, has been called to his reward from the mission field, but his life of energy and devotion lives on in the hearts of those who learned to love him.

During the past quadrennium we have seen many changes in the social, political and economic condition of the country which have materially effected our work in some respects. It was reported at our last General Conference that a new railway was likely to pass through the part of the country where some of our missions are located. This railway has now been put through two of the towns where we have mission stations. Kunso and Masumbo are from five to seven miles from the line, but quite as close as is good for our boarding schools at these two places. The coming of the railway has made possible a rapid advancement of so called civilization into the interior and our missionaries are placed under obligation to meet the new conditions thus thrust upon them. To properly meet these new conditions, and also to meet the demands which the natural development of our work there has created, we need a large force of workers.

The time has come when we must have Church organizations, and church buildings; we must have day schools and school buildings; we must have a manual training department with buildings and equipment for the teaching of carpentry, blacksmithing, etc.

An encouraging feature of our work is the protection which has been thrown about our missions by the British

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government. Three of our mission stations are within prohibitive territory and the importation of liquor into this territory is prohibited by law. The result is that some of our young men who were being led astray by the allurements of the grog-shop and its kindred evils are now living sober, industrious lives.

The coming of the railway has greatly reduced the difficulties of travel and the cost of transportation. Instead of a three or four days' march overland and a hard and sometimes dangerous river trip to reach the coast, we can now take the train almost at our doors and our supplies from Freetown are brought right to us by rail.

Our school work has made marked progress during the past four years, and our schools have been highly commended by the English Government School inspector who visits our schools annually. The English Government is now making grants in money for our schools, which grants we are supposed to use for the purchase of better school equipment and not for paying the salaries of teachers. Our grant for the year 1914 was £28-15-00, or about \$140.

At our last General Conference you were asked to consider some new features of mission work. One of these new features was a medical department. We are glad to report that this has received special attention and our medical work has made rapid progress toward self-support.

Our conference of workers assembled at Kunso in the month of April last sent the following recommendation to this Conference:

"We recommend that our dispensary be located at Mabai and that there be erected during the dry season of 1915-16 a building with good walls, cement floor, and iron roof which can be used for dispensary purposes, and that a building for dispensary and hospital purposes be erected as soon thereafter as possible."

Another feature of mission work you were asked to consider was the opening of a manual training department in our school at Kunso.

The Conference of Workers send you the following in connection with this work: "For your encouragement we wish to mention the splendid work done by our school boys in helping in the erection of a dormitory, dining hall, and kitchen for our school boys, and the building of a home for our native teacher, at Kunso.

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These buildings were made necessary by the fire which occurred in the spring of 1914, destroying nearly everything at Kunso except the mission house. The enthusiasm and energy with which our boys performed their part of the work, and, in the absence of a regular carpenter, the special ability manifested by some of them in the use of the carpenter's tools, only increase our desire to see a thoroughly equipped manual training department at Kunso for the benefit of these boys, and, through them, for the benefit of the people."

We have on hand £28-15-00 Government school grants for last year which the Conference of Workers has voted to use for the erection of a manual training building at Kunso. We recommend that the erection of a building be ordered. Our mission buildings at Masumbo have become uninhabitable and some of them are practically beyond the possibility of repair.

For various reasons it was thought best to temporarily remove our girls' school from Masumbo to Bingkola. After the change had been made the chief and head men of the town plead for their return and promised to do their best to make the buildings there inhabitable.

There is no more important department of our work than the evangelistic. Whenever possible some of our number have given their time to preaching the Gospel in the towns about the country. We would be glad if this department could be provided for in the near future, and some one sent out especially for this work.

The Conference of Workers recommended that a rest home be builded at a convenient and suitable location where the missionaries might go for a complete rest some time during their term.

The faithfulness of our missionaries in preaching the Gospel of Christ has been evidenced by the revivals which have been held in our schools, and by the general progress that has been made along spiritual lines. The first and all important work of all our mission force is to preach the glorious Gospel of salvation from all sin, both by precept and example. The importance of this is readily acknowledged by all our workers and we believe that all these are living wholly sanctified lives before the natives, and their holy lives are having the effect which we believe God has intended. As a result we hear our young men and women

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seeking after and praying for purity of heart and holiness of life.

Our regular work in Africa, under normal conditions requires the services of eleven or twelve workers. The war conditions in Europe during the past year have materially added to the burdens under which our missionaries have been compelled to labor, while their numbers have been decreased nearly one half. We deplore this retrenchment and entreat the General Conference to take steps, if possible, to send to the field at the earliest opportunity such of our missionaries now on furlough as are available.

Recommendations: (Africa).

1st. We recommend that a building be erected during the coming dry season, at Mabai, for dispensary purposes, according to the recommendation from the Conference of Workers.

2nd. (a) We recommend that a building for manual training purposes be erected at Kunso during the coming dry season, and that we approve the plan of the Conference of Workers to use the Government school grants for this purpose and as much more as may be secured from local contributions.

(b) We further recommend that an appropriation of \$100 be made by the Board for the purpose of purchasing tools and equipment.

(c) We further recommend that a special effort be made to secure the services of a suitable young man to take charge of this department and that he be given at least four months of training in a good manual training school before being sent to the field.

3rd. We recommend that there be erected at Masumbo during the coming dry season such buildings as are necessary for the proper care of our girls' school, but that the W. H. & F. M. S. be requested to supply the funds for these buildings.

We further recommend that the outlay for the erection of these buildings be limited to \$1,200.

4th. We recommend that no more money be expended upon our African Mission field for the building of grass roofed houses, except in the case of a new mission station being opened.

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5th. Owing to the pressing need for workers in our African mission we recommend that Brother and Sister Sprague be sent to the field within two months, and that as soon thereafter as the superintendent and Conference of Workers shall call for more workers, Sisters Lord, Young and Day be sent out, provided they pass a satisfactory examination before a practicing physician who has had experience in the treatment of tropical diseases.

6th. We recommend that the matter of erecting a rest home be left with the Conference of Workers for further consideration and future recommendations with plans and specifications to the Mission Board.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. H. Clarke, Committee.

India.

We, your Committee on India, beg leave to submit the following report:

We can say in the words of the Psalmist, "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad." The work has moved forward in spite of the many hindrances, namely, the death of Brother John Armstrong, sickness of other workers and scarcity of workers at all times.

During the last four years two new out-stations have been opened so we now have four light-houses from which the gospel light is radiating to darkened hearts. We have native houses at the three out stations where our native pastors can live the year around, and a good comfortable Bungalow at Pardi. Counting our mango orchard of nearly one hundred trees and the wells at the different stations the valuation of the property in India owned by the Wesleyan Methodist Church is estimated at \$6,000. But the value of the souls who have passed into eternity praising God cannot be estimated in dollars and cents, but only in the light of Calvary sacrifice.

Village schools have been opened in different places and have been taught by our own Christian workers with the

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oversight of the missionaries. These can only continue for a part of the year as at certain seasons the children must be at home to help their parents.

The Lord has specially blessed in the touring work among the villages during the last two years, I had the privilege of going with Brother and Sister Read for a few weeks this last cold season. Between four and five thousand heard the Word of life, but how it makes our hearts ache that because of lack of workers many of these people can only hear once a year and many thousand of others are passing away without having heard at all. We found comparatively no opposition in this work, but on the other hand we met with good, attentive crowds and had a ready sale for our Gospels and religious booklets.

The great need at present is consecrated workers who will count it a privilege to hold up the banner of the cross in dark India. We feel our work could be greatly forwarded if a qualified M. D. could open up work in our field. God has entrusted this field with its darkened hearts to our charge, if we as a church fail to carry the glad news of salvation to those for whom Christ died, how can we give an account of our stewardship before the bar of God?

I wish to thank the Missionary Board for their hearty co-operation, the Missionary Secretary for the great help and encouragement given, and the Church at large for their loyal support and prayers.

We wish to recommend that workers shall be sent to India as soon as suitable ones can be found and means are available.

Respectfully submitted,

Stella Wood.

Tennessee and Alabama.

We are indeed grateful to our kind heavenly Father for his great love in sparing us to meet this esteemed body for the purpose of reporting our work in the South.

At the last General Conference many words of encouragement were given us for our effort in trying to better the moral, intellectual, and spiritual condition of the people to whom we are called to labor.

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We returned to our field with new zeal and greater faith for the accomplishing of God's will, and there have we continued in faithful service since our last report.

We have not seen all accomplished that we desired, but to our best ability we have labored earnestly, and wish we could have been able to do more.

Since our last report every church building has been repaired, one church house destroyed by storm has been rebuilt and one house burned down a new building is erected and free from debt.

Our churches have not gained numbers so rapidly but as we review the sad condition of the work as we found it, greater has been the change than we can make plain by this report.

Some of the churches were made up of men and women looked upon as leaders who were given to lives of shame, and all manner of vileness in sin and ignorance with the awful drink habit the moral condition of which cannot here be described.

But by a persistent effort in teaching and preaching the gospel accompanied by the Holy Spirit there has been a great change in the people of our churches, and in the communities surrounding us.

The lack of appreciation for the good work in a measure has been overcome, the spiritual nature of this people has been enlightened so that through their lives an influence is being exerted that speaks well for the church and its work.

We have in our churches a large number of young people. Some very devoted who love our church for its principles in whose lives are great possibilities and the hope of the church in future years.

We have spared no pains in the interest of our Sunday Schools and to this arm of the work is due much credit for our success whatever it may have been in getting before this people a true conception of truth, and duty.

Our mission work in Alabama is in a prosperous condition, the church is the best it has been since its organization with an increase in its membership. We have suffered great loss in the death of the Rev. J. L. Avery for whom we deeply mourn, and his name should be held in sacred memory for the great, and noble work which he did.

Since the last report, through the kindness of our friends in the North who have manifested a generous spirit toward

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our work in the South we have erected a good substantial school building in which is being held a seven month school each year.

There are 249 children of school age in the district, and last winter we had 190 of this number in our school.

To dispel ignorance and darkness from the minds of this large number of children is indeed a great work. Many of the larger students have professed conversion, and are workers in our church and Sunday School.

It being the custom for the women and children to labor in cotton fields from early spring till late fall it can be easily seen that industrial work among this people is very much neglected.

Experience taught us that some effort should be made giving the girls of our mission an opportunity to learn general housekeeping. This great need was brought before the W. H. & F. M. Society of the Central New York and Pennsylvania Conference who responded with means, making it possible to start an industrial department in connection with our other work, and last winter there were 40 girls who were in training in cooking and sewing.

The girls take great delight in this work and improved very rapidly and to my mind no effort has been put forth more needful and which will prove a greater blessing to the homes than our industrial work.

A room will be needed in time for the winter term for the accommodations of this work, and four teachers will be needed as one will have charge of the industrial work.

I therefore recommend that we be permitted to erect a room larger and more suitable than the one we now have at a cost not to exceed \$150.00 in which to carry forward this work, and that one more teacher be added to the list in all making four to be employed.

Much praise is due the women of missionary societies of the different states who have been very kind in sending to our mission a large lot of clothing making it possible to have in our school many who otherwise could not have attended, and we thank the friends with our Missionary Secretary for their support and prayers in our struggles for the uplift of the needy South.

Humbly submitted,

F. M. Roberts.

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Report No. 9.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY AND PROHIBITION.

Our country today occupies a unique position among the great nations of the earth. While war with its destruction and carnage is threatening the very foundation of civilization, crumbling age worn creeds and systems and changing geographical lines, our nation, built upon the foundation of political freedom and equality before the law, stands as an arbiter of the nations.

God has blessed America, as He has not other nations, with wealth and natural resources.

The noble response of America to Belgium's starving millions in the last few months has proven that the humanitarian spirit still actuates our nation and that the faith of our fathers is not extinct.

America is still the refuge for the downtrodden of other nations, and offers opportunity to every man to follow the pursuit of his own happiness.

Among these favorable factors that enter into our national and social life, still exists the antagonism between Capital and Labor, and the twin evils of the "White slavery" and the liquor traffic.

The gigantic struggle between capital and labor is continually increasing. The high cost of living, the low wage scale, in many cases, the great army of the unemployed, and the large fortunes accumulated by the many captains of industry, render the present situation in our country very serious. This condition of things is greatly intensified by the international European struggle. Soon our land will be sought as a refuge from the great burdens of taxation loaded upon the defenseless citizens of those warring nations.

These enormous war debts will have to be paid, and the tax payer will have to do it, largely. But when the burden becomes unendurable, the system will be antagonized and the offended will seek a new home. Effort is being made by socialism, trades unions and various other organizations to solve these labor problems. But all these methods appear to possess some of the elements of anti-Christianity. As a Church, we believe the Sermon on the Mount outlines the kingdom conditions, and that these conditions cannot obtain in any other way, than by exalting our coming King.

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Therefore as a Church we will give encouragement to and co-operate with those methods only which are in harmony with our holy religion, as outlined by the Master and will strenuously oppose any other method.

The white slave traffic is a great menace to our country. Many of our young maidens are becoming an easy prey for human vultures who concentrate their hellish designs upon an innocent womanhood. Sixty thousand girls go out of sight and three hundred million dollars go into the white slave traffic annually.

Seventy per cent of our young men are unfit for matrimony because of immoral diseases. We recognize the great power of the ministry to cry out against this evil, and we urge upon our ministers the great importance of discharging their duties in this respect.

The temperance question has been handicapped by ill-advised political action in this country until many of the earnest workers for this cause have become discouraged and have abated their zeal. The hope of the temperance reform is not in moral suasion alone, but in political action by a party thoroughly committed to the overthrow of the drink traffic, by electing men to office who stand on a platform that declares for the utter annihilation of the manufacture and sale of all intoxicating beverages. To expect any reform to come by voting for good men in license parties that are receiving revenue from the traffic is contrary to all sound reason as well as express declaration of the Word of God.

Developments in Russia and France, who realized that if they were to conquer, they must have a sober people, have given impetus to the prohibition forces of America. The autocratic stroke of Russia's ruler, which procured prohibition for the Empire and thrift for the people, has changed the pessimist to one whose optimistic vision can see the dawn of a sober day when the saloon will not be seen in all our domains.

Our duty as a Church is to continue a factor of reform, with renewed energy and faith in the ultimate triumph of Truth and the enthronement of the principles, which gave us denominational birth.

Signed by the Committee, W. L. Thompson, Chairman,
 A. E. Belk, Secretary,
 E. F. McCarty,
 W. L. Thurber,
 E. D. Cheney.

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Report No. 10.

REPORT OF THE CONNECTIONAL TREASURER
FOR QUADRENNIAL TERM CLOSING
JUNE 1, 1915.

Through the tender mercies of our Lord we are permitted to bring to you the work and results of another quadrennial report. In many ways the tokens of God's favor have rested on all the Corporate Societies of the Church and we have special cause for gratitude to our Lord for his hand that has so graciously preserved us and his power that has wrought for us in caring for our Church interests. In spite of the trying time financially, on account of the European War, yet God has watched over our work and every need has been supplied in the different departments, and we are able through his grace and mercy to report progress all along the line.

We herewith present the report of the various incorporate Societies of the Connection for your action.

WESLEYAN METHODIST CONNECTION (OR
CHURCH) OF AMERICA.

Assets and Liabilities.

Assets.

Note and stock	\$1,800.00	
Cash in Trust & Deposit bank	8.77	
		<hr/>
Total assets, June 1, 1915		\$1,808.77

Liabilities.

Note and interest	\$1,025.00	
Loan from Publishing Asso.....	126.70	
Educational Society loan	110.73	
		<hr/>
Total liabilities		\$1,262.43
		<hr/>
Net assets, June 1, 1915		\$546.34
Net assets, June 1, 1911		775.17
		<hr/>
Loss for the four years		\$228.83

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**SUPERANNUATED MINISTERS' AID SOCIETY OF
THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CONNEC-
TION OF AMERICA.**

Assets, June 1, 1911	\$1,724.83
Cordelia Bassett Bequest	600.00
	<hr/>
Total assets June 1, 1915	\$2,324.83

WESLEYAN EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY.

HOUGHTON.

Cash Receipts and Disbursements.

Receipts.

Principal on endowment notes	\$3,789.38
Interest on endowment notes	2,824.39
Interest on endowment loans	525.74
Pledges	4,247.05
General contributions	13,757.84
Tuition	18,240.27
Dormitory	3,077.88
Rents	565.52
Apparatus fund contributions	963.92
Academic fund from New York State ..	364.92
Bank interest	53.33
Interest on Lindley Reserve Fund	284.67
Interest on tuition notes	79.88
Principal on tuition notes	77.22
Loans	3,370.96
Principal on endowment loans.....	500.00
Lindley Reserve Fund	2,333.33
Miscellaneous receipts by H. W. Mc- Dowell	164.11
Miscellaneous	1,045.29
Cordelia Bassett Bequest	7,800.00
	<hr/>
Total receipts	\$64,128.70
Cash on hand June 1, 1911	996.12
	<hr/>
Total for balance	\$65,124.82

NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION.

Disbursements.

Teachers' and Janitor's salaries	\$31,426.95
Endowment loans	5,290.00
Interest on borrowed money	1,154.29
Treasurer's salary	265.41
Clerk's salary	1,159.95
Postage	296.36
Board Meeting expense	447.20
Heating and lighting	3,862.50
School supplies and office expense	559.95
Repair and maintenance of grounds	1,113.83
Apparatus	812.81
Advertising	108.05
Sundries and legal fees	533.99
Annuities	744.00
Traveling expense	724.53
Freight, cartage and express	134.70
Retained by H. W. McDowell	119.13
Printing	952.94
Bills payable	3,463.22
Fire escape	250.00
Besse note and loan	2,435.07
Rent for water system	71.58
Miscellaneous disbursements	1,136.60
Scholarship	240.00
Educational Secretary's salary	441.33
Loan to E. Teter, Agent of Lindley Reserve Fund	2,333.33
Endowment for water system	700.00
	<hr/>
Total disbursements	\$60,658.59
Cash on hand June 1, 1915	4,466.23
	<hr/>
Total to balance	\$65,124.82

Assets and Liabilities.

Assets.

Office supplies, furniture and fixtures..	\$2,004.00
Apparatus	1,410.00
Retained by H. W. McDowell	119.13
Cash in T. and D. Bank	4,010.61
Cash in O. C. S. Bank	455.62

GENERAL CONFERENCE MINUTES.

Loans	5,620.49	
Bills receivable, tuition notes & interest	552.94	
Library	2,300.00	
Real estate	55,880.00	
Wesleyan Methodist Publishing Association loan	840.03	
Wesleyan Methodist Connection loan	110.73	
Foreign Mission loan, Africa	983.13	
Apparatus fund notes and pledges....	2,235.01	
Endowment notes and interest	39,821.53	
Pledges	2,583.25	
Lindley Reserve Fund	2,333.33	
Pump House machinery, etc.	60.00	
		<hr/>
Total assets		\$121,319.80
Liabilities.		
Bills payable	\$5,120.14	
Patterson contract	200.00	
Foreign mission loan	1,046.18	
Accounts payable for salaries and cost	1,891.82	
		<hr/>
Total liabilities		\$8,258.14
		<hr/>
Net assets, June 1, 1915		\$113,061.66
Net assets, June 1, 1911		105,320.79
		<hr/>
Gain for the four years		\$7,740.87

MILTONVALE.

Cash Receipts and Disbursements.

Receipts.

Principal on endowment	\$696.90
Interest on endowment	3,043.74
Interest on Lindley Reserve Fund	284.39
Endowment reserve contribution	400.00
Endowment loan	300.00
Loans	1,500.00
Lindley Reserve Fund	2,333.33
Pledges	1,374.53
General contributions	6,768.16

NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION.

Tuition	13,200.23	
Bank interest	23.39	
Interest on endowment loans	430.23	
Martin scholarship note	300.00	
Miscellaneous receipts	172.28	
		<hr/>
Total receipts	\$30,827.18	
Cash on hand June 1, 1911	1,075.99	
		<hr/>
Total for balance		\$31,903.17

Disbursements.

Teachers' and janitor's salaries	\$20,221.52	
Agent's and clerk's salaries	700.90	
Postage	69.84	
Board Meeting expense	282.49	
Office and school supplies	448.35	
Heating, lighting and water	645.13	
Freight, cartage and express	19.20	
Repairs and maintenance of grounds ..	434.77	
Traveling expense	880.30	
General expense and sundries	368.97	
Legal fees	40.85	
Martin scholarship note	300.00	
Miscellaneous	476.37	
Tuition returned	70.62	
Interest on and bills payable	1,420.42	
Loan to E. Teter of Lindley Reserve ..	2,333.33	
Endowment loans	1,875.00	
Educational Secretary's salary	380.37	
Apparatus	98.35	
Rent	330.00	
		<hr/>
Total disbursements		\$31,396.78
Cash on hand June 1, 1915.....		506.39
Total to balance		\$31,903.17

Assets and Liabilities.

Assets.

Furniture and fixtures	\$3,711.05
Trust and Deposit Bank	2.90
Onon. Co. Savings Bank	503.49

GENERAL CONFERENCE MINUTES.

Library	603.00
Real estate	23,756.40
Loans	2,399.40
Lindley Reserve Fund	2,333.33
Endowment notes and interest	30,000.04
Retained by S. W. Bond	20.00
Pledges	1,318.97
Foreign Mission loan	148.95
Wesleyan Methodist Publishing Association loan	178.75
	Total assets
	\$64,976.28
Liabilities.	
Accounts payable	\$2,406.85
Loan and interest	1,500.00
	Total liabilities
	\$3,906.85
Net assets June 1, 1915	\$61,069.43
Net assets June 1, 1911	\$46,539.95
	Gain for the four years
	\$14,529.48

CENTRAL.

Cash Receipts and Disbursements.

Receipts.

Lindley Reserve Fund	\$2,333.34
Interest on Lindley fund	284.19
General contributions	5,833.45
Tuition	3,045.64
Cordelia Bassett Bequest	600.00
Dormitory	777.82
Miscellaneous receipts	1,241.90
Loans	1,451.81
	Total receipts
	\$15,568.15
Cash on hand June 1, 1911	91.81
	Total to balance
	\$15,659.96

NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION.

Disbursements.

Teachers' and janitor's salaries	\$8,182.46
Loans and interest	1,899.58
Agent's and clerk's salaries	245.65
Board Meeting expense	119.14
General expense	134.09
Postage	18.88
Printing	252.59
Legal fees and expense	38.35
Insurance	307.70
Traveling expense	332.23
Fuel and light	619.34
Repairs and maintenance of grounds..	524.18
Dormitory	80.72
Loan to E. Teter of Lindley Reserve..	2,333.34
Miscellaneous	411.17
Total disbursements	\$15,499.42
Cash in bank June 1, 1915	160.54

Total to balance	\$15,659.96
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Assets and Liabilities.

Assets.

Central school property, per Invoice Committee	\$17,290.00
Lindley Reserve Fund	2,333.34
Endowment note and interest	142.29
Trust and Deposit Bank	160.54
Retained by J. M. Hancock	1.00
Total assets	\$19,927.17

Liabilities.

Loans	\$359.92
Accounts payable	1,590.09
Home Mission loans	3,320.00
Total liabilities	\$5,270.01
Net assets June 1, 1915	\$14,657.16
Net assets June 1, 1911	11,771.62
Gain for the four years	\$2,885.54

NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION.

THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE WESLEYAN
METHODIST CONNECTION OF AMERICA.

HOME MISSIONS.

Cash Receipts and Disbursements.

Receipts.

Cordelia Bassett Bequest	\$1,200.00	
General contributions	13,843.66	
Interest, bank and loans	156.44	
Interest on Lindley Reserve Fund....	426.59	
Loans	1,364.15	
From India Funds to equalize salary of Missionary Secretary and general ex- pense	189.75	
Sale of No. Cohocton Church Property	450.00	
Lindley Reserve Principal	3,500.00	
Misc. receipts	14.00	
		<hr/>
Total receipts	\$21,144.59	
Cash in Bank June 1, 1911	6.55	
		<hr/>
Total to balance		\$21,151.14

Disbursements.

Tuition as per Ostrander Contract	\$25.00
General mission work	13,180.57
Missionary Secretary's salary	1,020.00
Traveling expense	312.40
Agent's and clerk's salaries	384.81
General expense	159.46
Board Meeting expense	302.07
Printing	19.64
Postage	47.02
Annuity	120.00
Insurance and interest on loans	160.05
Lindley Res. loan to E. Teter	3,500.00
To Rome Church from Bassett Bequest	600.00
Loans	600.00
Office expense	27.41
Exchange, freight, cartage and express..	16.44

(GENERAL CONFERENCE MINUTES.

Legal fees and expense	62.25
Southern School expense	19.50
Real estate	592.59
<hr/>	
Total disbursements	\$21,149.21
Cash on hand June 1, 1915	1.93
<hr/>	
Total to balance	\$21,151.14

Assets and Liabilities.

Assets.

Cash in bank	\$1.93
Church property	4,100.00
Judd bequest	427.83
Real estate	1,100.00
Educational Society loan	3,320.00
Notes and interest	1,781.49
Furniture and fixtures	85.15
Lindley Reserve Fund	3,500.00
<hr/>	
Total assets June 1, 1915	\$14,316.40

Liabilities.

Loans and interest	\$1,364.65
Foreign mission loan	614.80
<hr/>	
Total liabilities	\$1,979.45
<hr/>	
Net assets June 1, 1915	\$12,336.95
Net assets June 1, 1911	7,992.76
<hr/>	
Gain for the four years	\$4,344.19

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Africa.

Cash Receipts and Disbursements.

Receipts.

General contributions	\$42,797.91
Bank interest and loans	124.30
Interest on Lindley Reserve Fund	266.61

GENERAL CONFERENCE MINUTES.

Sale of Books	138.67	
Lindley Reserve	2,187.50	
Loans	8,666.00	
Cordelia Bassett Bequest	900.00	
Medical Building Fund	276.45	
Miscellaneous Receipts, in and out ...	218.00	
Cash over	1.00	
		<hr/>
Total receipts	\$55,576.44	
Cash on hand June 1, 1911	94.76	
		<hr/>
Total for balance		\$55,671.20

Disbursements.

General mission work and workers	\$39,350.49	
Missionary secretary's salary	2,537.50	
Traveling expense	783.18	
Agent's and clerk's salary	629.06	
Board Meeting expense	631.83	
Postage	108.86	
Interest and annuity	407.10	
Loans paid	5,852.45	
Printing	675.00	
Exchange	36.39	
General Expense	331.40	
Miscellaneous, in and out	218.00	
Cash short	1.00	
Lindley Reserve loan to E. Teter	2,187.50	
Office expense	73.55	
Freight, cartage and express	17.07	
Legal fees and expense	60.50	
		<hr/>
Total disbursements	\$53,900.88	
Cash on hand June 1, 1915	1,770.32	
Total to balance		\$55,671.20

Assets and Liabilities.

Assets.

Cash in bank	\$1,770.32
African mission property	6,700.00
Merchandise	598.35
Furniture and fixtures	110.15

NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION.

Home Mission loan	614.80	
Educational Society loan	1,046.18	
Wesleyan Methodist Publishing Association loan	1,623.32	
Lindley Reserve Fund	2,187.50	
Notes	3,466.99	
		<hr/>
Total assets June 1, 1915		\$18,117.61

Liabilities.

Loans	\$1,823.55	
Educational Society loan and interest..	1,132.08	
		<hr/>
Total liabilities		\$2,955.63
		<hr/>
Net assets June 1, 1915		\$15,161.98
Net assets June 1, 1911		9,758.78
		<hr/>
Gain for the four years		\$5,403.20

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

India.

Cash Receipts and Disbursements.

Receipts.

Cordelia Bassett Bequest	\$600.00	
General contributions	13,390.63	
Native workers	665.58	
Bank interest	25.68	
Interest on Lindley Reserve Fund	160.03	
Loans	1,800.00	
Miscellaneous	5.15	
Lindley Reserve Fund	1,312.50	
		<hr/>
Total receipts	\$17,959.57	
Cash on hand June 1, 1911	52.37	
		<hr/>
Total to balance		\$18,011.94

GENERAL CONFERENCE MINUTES.

Disbursements.

General mission work and workers....	\$12,682.84
Missionary secretary's salary	520.00
Traveling expense	142.20
Agent's and clerk's salaries	254.40
Board Meeting expense	139.07
Postage and exchange	55.32
Loans and interest	1,533.50
Printing	32.54
General expense	50.72
Office expense	12.69
Freight, cartage and express	9.60
To Home Missions to equalize expense of workers and Missionary Secre- tary, salary	189.75
A. E. Ashton, as per agreement (1913 report)	600.00
Lindley Reserve loan to E. Teter	1,312.50
	<hr/>
Total disbursements	\$17,535.13
Cash on hand June 1, 1915	476.81
	<hr/>
Total to balance	\$18,011.94

Assets and Liabilities.

Assets.

Cash in bank	\$476.81
India mission property	4,500.00
Merchandise	28.00
Lindley Reserve Fund	1,312.50
Notes	750.00
	<hr/>
Total assets	\$7,067.31

Liabilities.

Loans	\$301.25
	<hr/>
Net assets June 1, 1915	\$6,766.06
Net assets June 1, 1911	257.48
	<hr/>
Gain for the four years	\$6,508.58

NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION.

WESLEYAN METHODIST PUBLISHING
ASSOCIATION.

We here repeat the preface in our annual report and say it is with deep thankfulness to God that we are able to report the work of this corporation. Some of the elements that have entered into its success are:

1. The valuable and careful work of our Editors and their assistants in giving the Church such excellent periodicals and literature that meet our needs. Most loyally has the Editorial Department co-operated with the Agent in giving the very best to our people at the lowest cost, and the broad, comprehensive needs of the work have been effectively handled through the literature of the Church and as a result the Church life has been greatly quickened and loyalty to the principles of the denomination increased.

2. Our preachers as agents of the Publishing House have rendered most faithful service and have assisted in the sale of our books and also pushing the circulation of the Church literature, and have been alert to direct attention to the appeals that have been made for the needs of the work.

3. On the part of our foreman, Rev. Charles H. Cox, and all of our employees there has been manifested a spirit of co-operation that has meant much in the line of increased efficiency and economical management of the work.

4. We here record our appreciation of the valuable help rendered by the members of the Executive Board both in counsel and assisting in carrying out plans best adapted to the needs of the work.

5. All these human elements have contributed their quota to the work, but back of and through and in it all we must recognize God's hand that has blest the seed sown and given the increase and has unstintingly poured out his blessings upon the work. To him we devoutly ascribe all the praise and all the glory.

We give below a summary of the four years' work, setting forth the assets and liabilities of this Association.

Receipts.

Total receipts	\$119,682.34
Cash on hand June 1, 1911.....	2,159.13
Total to balance	\$121,841.47

GENERAL CONFERENCE MINUTES.

Disbursements.

Total disbursements	\$120,995.17
Cash on hand June 1, 1915	846.30
	<hr/>
Total to balance	\$121,841.47

Assets and Liabilities.

Assets.

Cash in Trust & Deposit Bank	\$665.25
Cash in Onon. Co. Savings Bank	159.78
Petty cash	21.27
Accounts receivable on customers' ledger	2,136.32
Books and miscellaneous mdse.	3,550.54
Paper	1,164.20
Ink, cuts and electros	425.93
Unexpired insurance	284.02
Unfinished printing	300.00
Press room and basement machinery and tools	6,656.85
Post office deposit	18.39
Real estate buildings and improvements	51,718.96
Composing room machinery	8,128.90
Furniture and fixtures	1,350.55
Office and sales room expense inventory	108.51
Editorial room expense inventory.....	11.07
Building maintenance expense inventory	202.00
Notes and loans	533.17
Editorial petty cash fund	3.90
Loan to Wesleyan Methodist Connection	126.37
	<hr/>
Total assets	\$77,565.98

Liabilities.

Accounts payable (Mdse, building and repairs)	\$795.72
Loans on Certificate Plan	1,531.23
Educational Society loans	1,018.78
Foreign Mission loan	1,623.32
Superannuated Minister's Aid Society, loan	1,724.83

NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION.

Syracuse Savings Bank loan	10,208.33
Rev. E. Teter loan account of 1912-1913	3,500.00
	\$20,402.21
Net assets June 1, 1915	\$57,163.77
Net assets June 1, 1911	52,708.07
	\$4,455.70

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT.

Total Earnings.

Wesleyan subscriptions	\$18,389.00
Books and miscellaneous supplies.....	17,988.56
Sabbath School supplies	31,392.37
Job printing	23,096.20
Advertising	148.67
Rents	9,282.25
Bank interest	96.67
Cash over	7.74
Miscellaneous items	96.05
Gain	12.50
Commission	3.58
Total earning for the four years.....	\$100,513.59

Salaries and Expense

Agent's salary	\$3,637.25
Editorial room salaries	7,685.59
Mechanical Department salaries	26,965.48
Office and sales room salaries	2,767.59
Postage for mdse, and general purposes	1,356.40
Postage Wesleyan Methodist	1,293.39
Postage Banner	532.16
Postage Sabbath School supplies	382.65
Postage Primary Class Paper	43.78
Freight, cartage and express	1,127.83
Agent's traveling expense	486.03
Office and sales room expense	1,328.19
Editorial room expense	568.74
General expense (gas engine, linotype, metal, etc.)	2,305.34

GENERAL CONFERENCE MINUTES.

Building maintenance and repairs.....	5,351.24
Lighting and water	1,555.55
Taxes	2,246.12
Insurance	885.33
Fuel, gas and electrical power	5,049.67
Exchange and commission	112.50
Discount to customers	140.51
Annuity and interest	4,176.29
Books and Sabbath School supplies....	14,778.63
Miscellaneous supplies	946.29
Book binding	1,000.68
Inks, cuts and electros	811.52
Paper	10,444.19
Loss and gain	41.35
Editorial traveling expense	132.68
Editorial Piece work	330.26
Board meeting expense	1,332.34
Legal fees	2.25
Gas engine expense	33.55
Cash short .....	.80
F. A. Butterfield moving expense	330.35
Relocation of Publishing House	64.25
Press room expense	63.68
Depreciation of Gas Engine	26.00
Depreciation of furniture and fixtures ..	41.60
General expense	83.06
	<hr/>
Total salaries and expenses	\$100,460.01
	<hr/>
Gain for the four years	\$53.58

J. S. Willett, Treasurer.

Report No. 11.

EDITOR'S REPORT TO THE GENERAL
CONFERENCE.

During the quadrennium now closing the Connection suffered the loss of one of its staunchest defenders and supporters in the person of its Connectional Editor, the late Rev. A. T. Jennings, who had served continuously in

NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION.

that capacity for about a quarter of a century. During this time he had brought the work of the office to which he had been called by the Church to a high state of efficiency, winning for himself and the Church he represented the respect and confidence of those without, as well as of those within the Church.

The announcement of his resignation brought a shock to the entire Church, bringing with it the keenest sorrow as well as grave solicitude for the work he was compelled to lay aside. To me this seemed to be an irreparable calamity, for it meant the loss of one whom I had loved and respected for many years, and held in the highest honor, and with my brethren, my heart was full of sorrow. But when no other choice was possible, we reverently bowed to the will of God. When asked by the Book Committee to take up the work laid down by our brother it at first appeared an impossible undertaking, but when after prayerful consideration it appeared to be the will of God I resolved by the help of God to be no less devoted to the cause he loved, and with renewed consecration have sought to carry forward the standard placed in my hands when our beloved brother fainted and fell beneath the heavy burden he so long and faithfully had borne.

Coming directly from active pastoral labors it was not an easy task to adjust myself to the duties of the office and to classify and arrange the work. I found it necessary to continue the work for a time in much the same way as it had been planned by Brother Jennings, but have gradually brought about such changes as would more fully meet the requirements and needs of the Connection. The financial crisis through which the Church has been passing has called for the use of more space in the Wesleyan Methodist for the purpose of presenting these needs as well as the plans and methods which will insure a more perfect financial system throughout the Church. This class of matter has at times seriously encroached upon departments of vital importance, but I have felt that the results obtained have been my justification for so doing, and I am sure that we all are pleased to see that the free and liberal use of the columns of the Church paper by the Agent, the chairman of the Budget Commission, and others in presenting the financial needs of the Church has met with suc-

GENERAL CONFERENCE MINUTES.

cess and has had much to do with the improved financial situation.

It is gratifying to be able to report a good degree of progress in the development of the literature of the Church. For more than a year we have been issuing the Primary Class Paper from our own presses. This paper has been a financial success from the beginning, the increase in the circulation since last June amounting to 1,600 copies per week. The increase in the other publications has also been marked. This increase in the case of the Wesleyan Methodist has been substantial and indicates a healthful growth. The increased weekly circulation of the Banner for the past year amounts to 500 copies. The same healthful gain is also true of the Sunday School quarterlies, which amounts to 700 copies for the Teachers, 2,000 for the Scholars, 2,000 for the Junior Quarterly, and 600 for the Little Folks Cards, making a total increase of 33,600 pieces per quarter. That this substantial increase has come during one of the most trying periods of our history and at a time of great business depression throughout the country, indicates that the growth is healthful and permanent. Neither the spiritual tone of the publications nor the position of the Church on the various reforms for which we stand has been compromised to secure these gains.

The Editorial and Business Departments are necessarily closely allied, and the full co-operation and most cordial relations are necessary to the greatest success of either. In the short period of our association I have found the Agent to be considerate and helpful, and to his careful business management and courteous treatment of our patrons is due a large measure of the success which is coming to the publishing interests of our Church. It is a pleasure to be associated with men and women of the fine Christian character which, almost without exception, have composed the force of the business and mechanical departments since our coming to Syracuse.

In conclusion I desire to express my gratitude to the God of all grace who has been with us through all the trying places and has prospered the work of our hands. Though the work was accepted with great reluctance and has been continued with great sacrifice in some directions, yet it has not been without great spiritual profit and pleasure. The Lord has seen fit to hear prayer and greatly

NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION.

strengthen my physical powers for the past several months, so that the present finds me in the best of health and enjoying a rich experience in the deep things of God and the presence of the abiding Comforter. I have been painfully conscious of my limitations, and no one has regretted them more than myself. I have sought to render faithful service to the Church of my choice in a most trying and perplexing period of her history. How far the expectations and hope of the Church have been met I leave for others to judge. The office came to me unsought, and I am not now solicitous for official position, and if this honorable body deems it wise to place the editorial work in the hands of others, or to change the nature of the work entrusted to my care, or to dispense with my services altogether, I shall still be grateful to serve the Lord and the Church in the humblest capacity.

Acknowledging the co-operation and helpfulness of all who have so faithfully assisted in the past, and who deserve credit for their share of any success that may have crowned our efforts, I respectfully submit this report.

F. A. Butterfield, Connectional Editor.

Report No. 12.

REPORT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL SECRETARY TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

Upon my election to the office of Connectional Sunday School Secretary to complete the unexpired term of our lamented brother, the Rev. A. T. Jennings, I sought to discharge the duties of the office as fully as possible in connection with my numerous other duties. I regret my inability to do more and better work in this department, as the duties of the Editorial office and the general business of the Church which has demanded careful consideration and attention, has made it impossible to give the time and care to the general Sunday School work that its importance demands. However, it gives me great satisfaction to be able to report a healthy growth and development of the Sunday School interests throughout the Church in most of the conferences. In some of the conferences the work is being splendidly cared for by the conference Sunday School

GENERAL CONFERENCE MINUTES.

Boards and the Conference Sunday School Secretaries, in others there is much room for improvement. It would be well if the Connectional Sunday School Secretary could give his entire time to the development of the Sunday School work, being as it is one of the most fertile fields for missionary and evangelistic activities, as well as being one of the best means available for insuring increased financial returns through the more general use of our supplies. Steps have been taken to more carefully organize and systematize the work of this department, but much remains to be done in developing these plans and putting measures into operation which will insure more aggressive activity in all departments of our Sunday School work.

F. A. Butterfield, Connectional Sunday School Secretary.

Report No. 13.

COMMITTEE ON DISTRICTING THE CONNECTION.

We, your Committee, to whom was referred the duty of districting the Connection, with the intention of facilitating the election of the Book Committee, submit the following report:

We recommend that Ohio, South Ohio and Tennessee have one lay representative; Michigan and North Michigan one ministerial member; Lockport, one ministerial member. Canada, Champlain and Rochester, one ministerial and one lay representative; Allegheny, one lay member; Kansas, Oklahoma and Willamette, one minister; Indiana and Illinois, one minister and one lay member; Iowa, Wisconsin and Dakota, one lay member; North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, North Georgia and Alabama, one ministerial and one lay member.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. D. Carpenter, Chairman,
Arthur W. Smith, Secretary,
E. L. Henderson,
C. V. Black,
D. L. Shidler,
E. G. Dietrich,
Committee.

NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION.

Report No. 14.

COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCE RECORDS.

We, your Committee on Conference Records, wish to submit the following report:

We report the records of Kansas, Iowa, Canada and Lockport and Oklahoma conferences not on hand. We recommend that the General Conference give instruction as to obtaining the lacking data for the statistical report caused by the absence of these books.

Allegheny Conference Record:—Clean and neat; well written; headed, but not indexed.

Alabama Conference:—Quite well written; few blots; not indexed.

Africa Mission Conference:—Well written; clean and neat; not indexed.

Central New York and Pennsylvania Conference:—Very well written; clean and presents a good appearance; in place of index work in margin, capital letters are used in writing in the main body to indicate the same thing the index work would.

Champlain Conference:—Quite well written; partly indexed, printed statistics pinned in.

Dakota Conference:—Well written; clean; well headed, but not indexed.

Georgia Conference:—Well written; neat and clean; indexed throughout.

Illinois Conference:—Well written; clean and well kept, except one set of statistics not tabulated.

Indiana Conference:—Well written, except a few errors in typewriting in the year 1914; clean, but not indexed.

Michigan Conference:—Well written; clean and well kept; indexed throughout.

North Carolina:—Well written; partly indexed; clean, except few blots.

North Michigan Conference:—Complete; well written; headed, but not indexed; few blots.

North Georgia Conference:—Clean; quite carefully kept; 1914 record lacking; crowded.

Ohio Conference:—Clean and neat; well indexed throughout.

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South Carolina Conference:—Well written; not indexed; clean and well kept, except a few blots.

South Ohio Conference:—Not indexed; some blots; no margin in the year 1912.

Tennessee Conference:—Not indexed; fairly well kept and written; some blots.

Willamette Conference:—Fairly well written; not indexed; not neatly kept.

Wisconsin Conference:—Fairly well written; indexed, except last year; Too many abbreviations; clean, except a few blots.

General Conference Record:—Neatly written; clean and thoroughly kept; indexed.

Signed,

J. Lawrence,
S. W. Wright,
O. H. P. Woolbright,
Wesley Markee,
Emma Fall.

The Records of the Kansas Conference coming in late necessitates a supplementary report. The four years minutes came before us in printed form and neatly bound. However this does not comply with the rulings of the Conference.

J. Lawrence,
Emma Fall,
O. H. P. Woolbright,
S. W. Wright,
Wesley Markee.

Report No. 15.

MEMORIAL FOR BROTHER JENNINGS.

Rev. Arthur T. Jennings passed from a life of zealous toil in service for God in the Wesleyan Methodist Church, March 20, 1914, in the 56th year of his age. He was born in Yates County, N. Y., July 21, 1858, and continued a citizen of his native state all his life. Converted at an early age, and entering the ministry of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, he began his public activities as pastor of the On-

NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION.

tario charge, Rochester Conference, at the age of 20. He was later called to the pastorate of the Seneca Falls Church, which he served until called to the editorship of our Church literature in October, 1891. He was re-elected editor at the various General Conferences, and so continued editor for twenty-one years.

In March, 1913, he was compelled to resign on account of failing health. After a year of intense suffering, from which medical aid could give him only temporary relief, the end came, and he was called to his heavenly home.

His re-election at so many successive sessions of the General Conference as editor of our denominational paper indicates how large a place he held in the affections of the Church.

Brother Jennings was a writer of rare ability. He had the faculty of saying what he desired, clearly, concisely, and with a dignity of utterance, and courteous regard for the opinions of others, that placed his writings in the sphere of the utmost sincerity. His supreme aim was to build up the Church in spirituality, his central theme being "Holiness unto the Lord." He was one of the ablest expositors of this great central doctrine of redemption, and as a preacher was fearless, radical and thorough, yet kind, humble, brotherly, and very considerate for the feelings and interests of others. His ability as a preacher made the demands for his services very great. He filled engagements repeatedly in all our great Camp-meetings, preaching and conducting Bible readings upon the essential phases of Christian life and doctrine. In addition to this work, and his work as editor, he visited various conference sessions as Connectional representative and was greatly appreciated as a man "set for the defense of the Gospel." In addition to these labors he held important offices in the Church in connection with its business management, being a member of the Book Committee for many years. In these relations he maintained the same wisdom and conscientiousness that characterized his activities in other spheres.

It is true that though God buries his workmen, his work moves on. Therefore, be it resolved by this General Conference, at which his presence and wise counsels are missed the first time for so many years, that we record our appreciation of his noble Christian character, of his great service for the Church of his choice, mourn with his family his

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early death, and that we renewedly devote ourselves to Christ for the continued prosperity of the cause for which, for Jesus' sake, he gave his life.

H. W. McDowell,
P. B. Campbell,
J. S. Luckey.

Report No. 16.

COMMITTEE ON BOOK CONCERN.

Your Committee on Book Concern, beg leave to submit the following report:

With the deepest sense of gratitude to God and thanking for the co-operation of our devoted people, we recognize and record the splendid advancement all along the line in this department of our denominational activities.

The effort to liquidate the liability against the Publishing Association, known as the Besse Note and interest to the amount of \$6,464.00 by the Seventy Years Ago Fund plan, has proven so highly successful that the whole amount is now fully met.

Through the generosity of Cordelia Basset a new linotype machine has been installed as an addition to the composing room equipment, greatly facilitating the work of this department. With the addition of \$400.00 from the general fund, her gift covered the cost of this machine.

The annual financial loss in the publication of the Wesleyan Methodist, so long a crushing burden to the Publishing Association, has been reduced to the vanishing point, and this notwithstanding the fact that the paper has been considerably improved as to quality of paper used, and also in mechanical make-up.

Our Primary Class Paper, formerly purchased from the Free Methodist Publishing Association, is now being published at our own plant at a substantial profit to our Association.

There has been a marked increase in the sales of our Sunday-School supplies. We also note a most gratifying advance in our job printing activities.

For the purpose of supporting the substantial grounds for encouragement given in this report, we call your atten-

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tion to official figures given in the reports of the last year of the quadrennium ending in the year 1911 and in the last year of the quadrennium ending in the year 1915:

In the year 1911 the loss in the publication of the Wesleyan Methodist was about \$2,000.00. In the year 1915 it was only \$37.81. In 1911 the sale of Sunday School supplies amounted to \$6,624.75. In 1915 the amount was \$8,830.69. An increase of \$2,205.94. In 1911 the total amount of job printing was \$2,981.49. In 1915 the sum of \$9,793.96 is reported for this work, being an increase of \$6,812.47. In 1911 the business loss was reported at \$1,458.17. In 1915 the business gain reported is \$2,217.60, a practical advance of \$3,675.77.

This excellent financial showing in our Publishing Association is but an index to future possibilities. This standard can be maintained and even greater success realized if our pastors and people can be brought to a full realization of the fact that the Publishing Association does not belong to the Agent nor to the Book Committee, but to every loyal Wesleyan Methodist in the Connection. This is not to be construed as an appeal to the benevolent element in our people, but as a simple expression of the ethics of business honor and fairness. To a reasonable extent we may demand that the prices quoted on the products of our Publishing House shall compare favorably with the prices of other publishers. Conformity to the principles of fair competition will help us, and also prove beneficial to the life of our publishing business. But when this is readily granted, there still rests upon us a solemn obligation to patronize our own House in preference to others even when it may cost us a little more. The surest way to get what we want at the smallest price possible is to be so liberal in our patronage of our Publishing House that a gradual decrease in the margin of profit shall be made possible.

We commend the Wesleyan Methodist and our Sabbath School publications for their biblical and Wesleyan soundness in doctrines and reforms.

Respectfully submitted,

Chas. Sicard, Chairman;
J. S. Willett,
I. F. McLeister,
C. H. Boggs,
George Rager.

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Report No. 17.

BOUNDARIES.

In the matter of a petition presented to this conference (and referred to this committee), from that part of the Ohio Conference formerly known as the Miami Conference, accompanied also by a memorial and evidence, oral and written, your committee beg leave to report as follows:

1. We fail to find in the evidence produced, proof of the charges against the officers and management of the Ohio Conference.

2. Hence we recommend to all parties in the Ohio Conference that they continue in their present relations and to their utmost ability, labor in love and unity of mind and heart for salvation of souls and the redemption of the world..

3. We recommend that Section 39, paragraph 331, page 212, of the Discipline be changed so that the words, "also the states of West Virginia" shall read, "also the states of West Virginia and Kentucky, and the West Virginia Mission."

4. We recommend that in section 39, paragraph 328, page 212, the words, "The Central Ohio Mission in West Virginia," be stricken out.

5. We recommend that in section 39, paragraph 313, page 209, the words, "and West Virginia Mission" be added to the end of paragraph 313.

E. A. Boyd, Chairman;
J. E. Smiley, Secretary;
P. B. Campbell,
I. F. McLiester,
N. M. Bales.

Report No. 18.

EDUCATION.

Our children are a heritage from God. Their destiny in two worlds is largely with us. This brings to us privileges and responsibilities which are infinite in their extent and possibility.

That our children should be educated and that they will be educated is a question which is fully settled. The kind of training they shall have and the influences that shall

NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION.

surround them during the formative period of life we must determine. The importance and gravity of this problem cannot be too strongly emphasized. The many influences which combine in the formation of one's character comes from various sources but none are more potent than those which come from the school and the school life. This is especially the case when the youth must leave home with its restraints and safeguards in order to avail himself of the benefits of the school. We are, therefore, under the strongest obligations to place our children in those institutions of learning where the influences which make for character are the best.

What shall we say of the schools about us? We are not unmindful of the fact that our public school system has long been the boast of the American people and that we point with pride to the large number of colleges and universities throughout the land. We are well aware that these institutions have an almost perfect equipment and offer splendid opportunities for intellectual training.

But in most of these schools, in the high schools, the colleges and universities, and even in some denominational schools, are conditions which are a menace to those who attend. Destructive criticism and atheistic evolution seek to explain away everything that requires a belief in the supernatural. Man's pride and self-conceit make it difficult for him to acknowledge his own sinfulness and the need of the atonement. The more he develops his intellect alone the more he seeks to develop a philosophy of religion or a system of ethics which provides for the elevation of his moral nature without the atonement and the new birth—the two things which his pride and conceit make it most difficult for him to accept.

It is a well known fact that dancing and card playing and theater going are so prevalent in many schools that a student who does not indulge in the practices is almost entirely excluded from society and is often subjected to severe persecution.

We are pleased to note a decrease in the use of liquors in the schools but the drink habit is still so prevalent as to cause the ruin of many young men and young women, while the tobacco habit which is scarcely less destructive continues without protest.

The matter of Sabbath observance is another factor to be considered. In the average student life Sunday is a

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holiday or a day for study. Last winter the students of a famous university petitioned that the library be opened on Sunday and gave as the reason for their request that when classes met on Monday it was absolutely necessary to prepare lessons on Sunday. This Sunday studying is so prevalent that many Christian students are gradually drawn into it and come to look upon it as something that cannot be avoided. Add to these the menace of the secret fraternity and the excesses in athletics and the array is formidable.

We are therefore driven to the conclusion that if we would hold our children to the fundamentals of the Christian religion and have them know the saving power of God we must provide for them the very best opportunity for intellectual development combined with the very best opportunity for spiritual development. This means our own schools with faculties every member of which has the best intellectual equipment coupled with that humility of mind and heart that gladly acknowledges Jesus Christ as King of Kings and Lord of Lords,—that believes without a single qualification that “there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved,” and “that he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him.”

To properly equip and maintain our schools means money. Sufficient money can be secured only by the toil and sacrifice and liberality of our people. Can we afford to endure the toil and make the sacrifice? Weigh over against it the success of our ministers and missionaries at home and abroad; weigh over against it the success of our young people who enter the common walks of life; weigh over against it the eternal destiny of our children, and our most costly sacrifice is nothing.

We therefore, as a conference resolve that the importance of our educational work stands on a par with the other departments of the church work, that all departments must succeed or fail together and that we will and do pledge to this arm of our work our most loyal and hearty support.

H. W. McDowell,
J. S. Luckey,
S. W. Bond,
J. O. Baker,
Mary P. Manwell,
Carl C. Conrad.

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Report No. 19.

STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR GENERAL AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE MINUTES.

We, your committee, recommend that the standard of excellence for our annual and General Conference Records be as follows:

- 1st. Cleanliness.
- 2nd. Penmanship or typewriting shall be clear and plain.
- 3d. Proper marginal indexing.
- 4th. Proper paragraphing and headings.
- 5th. Statistics of the four years' work summarized.

Perfection for this standard shall be 100 per cent, divided equally between the five points. The committee shall grade the records according to this standard.

We recommend the books used be not less than 600 pages and well bound.

Signed by the committee,

Joe Lawrence,
O. H. P. Woolbright,
Emma Fall,
Wesley Markee.

Report No. 20.

UNIFORM STATISTICAL BLANK.

Pastor's Labors. Item I.

Time employed (months)
Appointments
No. of Church Societies

Periodicals. Item II.

Wesleyan Methodists taken
Wesleyan Lesson Helps taken:
 Sunday School Banner
 Primary Class Paper
 Teacher's Quarterly
 Scholar's Quarterly
 Junior Quarterly
Our Little Folks Cards

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Membership. Item III.

Received
Expelled
Discontinued
Died
Granted Letters
Number reported last year .....	.....
Number at beginning of year .....	.....
Present number .....	.....
Loss	or Gain
Associate Members .....	.....
Baptized .....	.....
Unstationed Elders .....	.....
Licentiates .....	.....
Membership Tithing .....	.....

Sabbath Schools. Item IV.

1. No. of Sabbath Schools .....	.....
2. No. of Officers, not Teachers or Scholars .....	.....
3. No. of Teachers .....	.....
4. No. of Scholars in Home Dept... ..	.....
5. No. of Scholars in Cradle Roll... ..	.....
6. No. of Scholars in Main School ..	.....
7. Total No. in Sabbath School ....	.....
8. Average Attendance .....	.....
9. No. of Scholars Converted .....	.....
10. No. of Scholars Joining Church ..	.....
11. No. of Departmental Supts.....	.....
12. No. in Teacher's Training Course ..	.....
13. No. of Scholars in Adult Bible Classes .....	.....
14. No. of Books in Library .....	.....

Church Property. Item V.

No. of Church Buildings .....	.....
Value of Buildings	\$.....
Amount of Indebtedness	\$.....
No. of Parsonages .....	.....
Value of Parsonages	\$.....
Amount of Indebtedness	\$.....
Cash or other values on hand	\$.....

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Amount Contributed. Item VI.

For Pastors:

Salary	\$.....
Parsonage Rent	\$.....
Fees—Marriage and Funeral	\$.....
Gifts	\$.....
<hr/>	
Total Pastors' Receipts	\$.....

Amount Contributed. Item VII.

For Churches:

Conference President's Salary	\$.....
Evangelistic Help	\$.....
Sabbath School Expense	\$.....
Building and Repairs	\$.....
Incidental Expenses	\$.....
<hr/>	
Total for Churches	\$.....

Amount Contributed. Item VIII.

For benevolences:

Undivided Budget	\$.....
Missions	\$.....
Education	\$.....
Conference Work	\$.....
Superannuated Ministers' Fund	\$.....
Other Benevolent Objects	\$.....
<hr/>	
Total for Benevolences	\$.....

Totals. Item IX.

Total for Pastors	\$.....
Total for Churches	\$.....
Total for Benevolences	\$.....
<hr/>	
Total for All Purposes	\$.....

Budget. Item X.

	Assigned	Raised
Undivided Budget	\$.....	\$.....
Missions	\$.....	\$.....
Education	\$.....	\$.....
Conference	\$.....	\$.....
<hr/>		
Total	\$.....	\$.....

This Budget Report agrees with my books.

....., Conf. Treas.

Table of Information, Showing Sources and Distribution of Benevolences. Item XI.

	Sabbath School		Y. M. W. B.		W. H. & F. M. S.		Other Sources		Total	
Undivided Budget										
Missions Undivided										
Home Missions										
Foreign Missions										
Specially for Africa										
Specially for India										
Education										
Conference Fund Undivided ...										
Conference Missions										
Conference Incidental Fund ...										
Church Extension										
Superannuated Ministers' Fund										
Other Benevolent Objects										
.....										
Total										

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(The "Notes" on the two following pages are a part of Report No. 20.)

NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION.

NOTES.

Each Pastor shall fill out neatly and accurately two copies of this report before coming to Conference. One he shall keep for his own use. The other he shall present to the Committee without fail before the close of the second day of the Conference. It is advised that a temporary copy be made out at first with lead pencil, so that erasures may easily be made. When the work is correct, make the two permanent copies in ink.

Item I. "Appointments" means the number of regular preaching places on the circuit, while "Number of Church Societies" means the number of distinctly organized Wesleyan Methodist Churches on the circuit.

Item II. Be sure to ascertain accurately the number of Wesleyan Methodists taken on the circuit, as well as the number of Wesleyan Lesson Helps used.

Item III Some Pastors have difficulty in making their reports of membership balance, and this trouble is usually caused by the fact that there was a mistake in the number reported for the previous year. To avoid this difficulty a new line has been inserted giving the number at beginning of year. If possible, this number should correspond with the number reported last year; but if this cannot be done, give the facts. The Loss or Gain is the difference between the Present Number and the Number at Beginning of Year, and this Loss or Gain should balance with the numbers Received, Expelled, Discontinued, Died, and Granted Letters. If there has been a gain, cross out the word "Loss;" if there has been a loss, cross out the word "Gain."

Item IV. "Number of Officers not Teachers or Scholars" includes just those officers who are neither Teachers nor Scholars. If some person is both officer and teacher, count him as a teacher but not as an officer. If some person is both officer and scholar, count him as a scholar but not as an officer. If one person, not a teacher or a scholar, fills two or more offices, count him as only one officer. "Number of Scholars in the Main School" should include every person enrolled in any class except the Home Department and the Cradle Roll. Unless these rules are carried out, the "Total Number in Sabbath School" will not be correct. To find the "Total Number in Sabbath School" add together lines 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. "Number of Scholars Converted" does not mean the number who are Christians, having been converted some time, but the number converted during the past year. "Number of Scholars Joining Church" means the number who have joined during the past year. "Number of Departmental Superintendents" includes the Superintendents of special Departments such as Home Department, Cradle Roll, Mission Department, Temperance Department, Primary Department, etc., but excludes the Main Superintendent. These officers are included in lines 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6; but line 11 is for special information. "Number of Scholars in Adult Bible Classes" includes all scholars of the Main School who are enrolled in adult Bible Classes. These scholars are included in line 6; but line 13 is for special information.

Item V. In giving the value of buildings and parsonage, would it not be wise to have the trustees appraise the property at its present value and not repeat the old figures year after year?

Item VI. "Salary" should not include anything for Parsonage Rent. If the Circuit furnishes a Parsonage, the rent should be estimated according to the local conditions.

Item VII. All pastors of conferences that do not pay the Conference President a salary may leave the first line blank. "Evangelistic Help" should include all that the circuit pays for Evangelistic Help, Quarterly Meeting Help, or outside Pulpit Supply of any kind except any part that has been paid for President's salary. "Sabbath School Expenses" includes all the Sabbath Schools pay for their own expenses, but does not include anything the schools pay for outside objects, such as Missions, Education, Sabbath School Ex-

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tension, etc. Any thing of this kind should be included under "Benevolences."

Item VIII. "Benevolences" should include all that is contributed for any other purpose than Pastor or Local Church. In each line should be placed all that is contributed for that object from all sources combined. Therefore this Item includes all that is contributed to these various objects by the Sabbath School; by the Y. M. W. B.; by the W. H. & F. M. S.; and by all other sources. This item also includes all that is contributed to these objects whether it will count on the Budget or not, therefore it includes principal on notes paid during the current year as well as interest, also clothing, produce, books, or anything else that is given as a benevolence. However a very conservative estimate should be made on all that is not cash.

Under "Undivided Budget" include all cash that is contributed from any source and sent to the Conference Treasurer as Undivided Budget. Under "Missions" include all that is contributed from any source for Home and Foreign Missions. This of course includes all that is given for Missions in general, and all that is given specially for Africa or India. It does not include anything included under "Undivided Budget" or "Conference Work." Under "Education" include all that is contributed from any source for Education, not included in "Undivided Budget." Under "Conference Work" include all that is contributed from any source for any branch of Conference work except "Superannuated Ministers' Fund," not included in "Undivided Budget." Conference Missions should be included with "Conference Work," not under "Missions." Under "Superannuated Ministers' Fund" include all for that special object. Under "Other Benevolent Objects" include all that is contributed from any source for any benevolent object other than the objects already mentioned.

Item IX. Bring together the totals of Items VI, VII, and VIII.

Item X. The Budget Item must not be filled out till the Pastor reaches conference and consults the Conference Treasurer. It will then include the parts from Item VIII which can be counted towards the budget, and which the Pastor has paid to the Conference Treasurer in cash or for which he can show or has sent the Conference Treasurer a receipt. All money paid for current expenses of the Educational work or for the current expenses of the Missionary work, either home or foreign, and pledges and interest (but not principal) paid for these purposes, and all money paid by the Sabbath School, the Y. M. W. B., or the W. H. & F. M. S. for these purposes may count toward the budget. Before the report is finally handed in, it must receive the signature of the Conference Treasurer indicating that the Budget Item is correct according to his books.

Item XI. This table of information includes exactly the amounts of Item VIII properly distributed, with the sources indicated. The dotted lines indicate the distribution and the columns indicate the source. "Other sources" include everything not contributed by the Sabbath School, by the Y. M. W. B., or by the W. H. & F. M. S. "Undivided Budget" and "Education" are explained in Item VIII. Under "Missions Undivided" include all that is contributed for Connectional Missions, without specifying whether it is for Home or Foreign Missions. Under "Home Missions" include all that is given specially for that object. Under "Foreign Missions" include all that is contributed for Foreign Missions, without specifying whether it is for Africa or India. Under "Specially for Africa" and "Specially for India" include all that is given expressly for these objects. Under "Conference Fund Undivided" include all that is contributed for Conference Work, without specifying to what branch of Conference Work it is given. Under "Conference Missions," "Conference Incidental Fund," "Church Extension," and "Superannuated Ministers' Fund" include all that is expressly given for these objects. Under "Other Benevolent Objects" include all benevolences that are contributed for any other purpose than those mentioned.

To test the correctness of the report, find the sum of the horizontal totals in Item XI and also the sum of the vertical totals. These sums should be equal, and each should be equal to the total of Item VIII.

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Report No. 21.

ON THANKS.

Your Committee on Thanks beg leave to submit the following report:

In his instructions to the Ephesians Paul included thanksgiving as a privilege and duty in these words: "Giving thanks always for all things, unto God and the Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Among the "all things" of this Scripture we have the following special reasons for giving thanks:

1st. We should thank God for the evidences of His favor as seen in the growth of all branches of our work. This growth has not been reached, but by diligent effort and by faithful, prayerful administration on the part of those to whom the work has been committed, accompanied by the hearty cooperation of the people. For this we give thanks.

2nd. Because of the present war ocean travel has become especially dangerous. We are thankful to the God of the Seas for the safe voyages of the outgoing and homecoming missionaries to and from far away Africa and India.

3d. We believe the present bloody strife on European soil is the crime of all ages. With most ardent hearts let us thank God that our nation up to the present time has not been drawn into the strife, and let us add prayer to praise, to the end that the chief executives of our country may be divinely directed through this perilous period.

4th. As a Church we have great reason to be thankful for the long and successful services of our Missionary Secretary, Rev. E. Teter. From the beginning of his labors as Secretary until now the problems have been many and often difficult of solution and the immediate future will bring increasing perplexities while we express thanksgiving for the past let us pray that heavenly wisdom and physical strength may be given our brother in days to come.

5th. The duties of the Secretary of the General Conference are by no means light, and are not always fully appreciated. Our retiring Secretary, Rev. J. J. Coleman has rendered faithful and acceptable service for three consecutive terms and retires at his own request. For his services we hereby express our heartfelt gratitude and bid him God speed in his future labors.

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6th. Those who have never planned for the entertainment of a large company of people cannot fully understand the responsibilities of the work. The invitation to hold this session of the General Conference at Houghton came from the Eastern conferences. Your committee believes that greater interest in our educational work will result from meeting at this seat of learning. The plans for the entertainment as outlined in the Wesleyan Methodist and carried out by the local committee must commend themselves to every one present. To the Eastern conferences, the missionary societies, the people in the local church and the community, to the college authorities and to any and all others who have shown us such kindness and so hospitably entertained us, we return our most heartfelt thanks.

May you abound more and more in good works and may the blessing of the Lord which maketh rich and addeth no sorrow with it, be upon you all.

S. A. Manwell,
P. B. Campbell,
I. A. Lewis,
Mrs. O. J. Davis,
R. C. Smith,

Committee.

Report No. 22.

SOCIETIES OF THE WORLD.

The interests of mankind are as varied as are their different positions and environments in life. For mutual and individual benefit various societies or organizations are formed. These may be for a financial, social, intellectual or spiritual gain or purpose. The efficiency of the organization to meet the required end lies in the ability of the organizer to understand the need and to provide means of promotion. It will be readily seen that so long as these are operated by finite beings they will of necessity be imperfect in their construction and propagation. These things being true and also the undeniable fact that there is a great conflict going on in the world between the forces of good and evil, it follows that finite minds need assistance from the Infinite. And just to the extent that the Infinite is left out, the organization is defective and imperfect.

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But where may we secure this needed help? The Bible is our rule of conduct. It is the inspired Word of God. It is "given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." Hence, any society that does not harmonize with the Word of God is not founded on a safe basis and cannot lead in the right direction, and if not right it must be wrong for there is no neutral ground. Jesus said, "He that is not for me is against me," and "Ye cannot serve God and mammon." Again we are to do all things to the "glory of God." Then no person can with safety affiliate with a society which does not in all its workings honor the Christ of the Bible.

It is a trick of the Devil to mix enough truth with error to cover up his wicked plan and deceive the people. "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." So the child of God cannot trample on the devil's territory and not partake of his infections. For this reason, though there may be organizations that are beneficial from a financial or intellectual standpoint, we cannot endorse them because of that part which does not measure up to the righteousness of the Bible.

Organization is right and proper and no movement can be successfully carried out without system. The Church has a place in the business, social, and political world. And this is to be a living example of civil righteousness in both word and precept. Jesus said, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good WORKS and glorify your Father which is in heaven," again "Ye are the light of the world." We cannot hold ourselves aloof from society and fulfill our mission. But we can and must keep from affiliating with or giving sanction to that which deflects from the paths of righteousness. That politics are corrupt and that political schemes are manipulated in order to benefit individuals or corporations is demonstrated by the history of the past. But as Christian citizens it becomes our duty to cast our influence and our vote on the side of right knowing that we are "our brother's keeper" and that we shall soon be called upon to give an account of our stewardship. It cannot be denied that the **secret Empire** is opposed to light and justice and that there is that about it which does not tend to glorify God and emulate the re-

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ligion of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is evident that the position we take regarding secret societies is based upon common justice and Bible teachings. Satan is entrenched in these semi-religious institutions to decoy men into his net where he binds his cords of deception and strategy about them until they sink into a Christless grave and wail with the damned in hell.

We therefore renewedly pledge allegiance to the Christ of the Bible and the sacred doctrines of salvation from sin through the "Blood of everlasting covenant," and lift a warning voice against sympathy with, or membership in the societies of the world.

P. A. Miller, Chairman,
E. W. Jones,
Wm. Pinkney,
J. L. Rigsby,
Committee.

Report No. 23.

COURSE OF STUDY.

First Year.

1. Bible.
2. Theological Compend—Binney.
3. Wesleyan Methodist Discipline.
4. Rules of Order—Roberts.
5. English—Lockwood and Emerson.
6. Love Enthroned—Steele.

Reading Course.

1. Life of Christ—Stalker.
2. Wesley's Sermons (Vol. I.)—I-XXXIII.
3. Catechism—Jennings.
4. American Wesleyan Missions—Clarke.
5. Plain Account of Christian Perfection—Wesley.
6. General History—Myers.

Second Year.

1. Bible.
2. Theology—Miley.
3. Philosophy of the Plan of Salvation—Walker.
4. English—Lockwood and Emerson.
5. Homiletics—Kern
6. Teacher Training Course—Hurlbut.

NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION.

Reading Course.

1. Wesley's Sermons (Vol. I.) XXXIV-LVIII.
2. Perfect Love—Wood.
3. Life of St. Paul—Stalker.
4. How to Conduct a Sunday School—Lawrence.
5. English History—Montgomery.
6. Life of William Taylor.

Third Year.

1. Bible.
2. Theology—Miley.
3. Church History (First Half)—Fisher.
4. Law of Love and Love as a Law—Mark Hopkins.
5. Christian Evidences—McIlvaine.
6. Leaders of Israel—Robbins.

Reading Course.

1. History of Wesleyan Methodism—Jennings.
2. Life of Wesley—Telford.
3. Life of Livingstone—Matthew.
4. Reformation (One Vol.)—Seebohm.
5. American History—Montgomery.
6. History of Methodism—Stevens.

Fourth Year.

1. Bible.
2. Theology—Miley.
3. Church History (Last Half)—Fisher.
4. Psychology—Halleck.
5. Bible Geography—Hurlbut.
6. Grounds of Christian and Theistic Belief—Fisher.

Reading Course.

1. Better Way of Church Finance—Kendall.
2. Revival and Pastor—Peck.
3. Theology of Holiness—Clark.
4. Life of Judson.
5. Spurgeon's Addresses to Students.
6. The Pastorate—Kidder.

T. P. Baker, Chairman;
W. L. Thompson, Secretary;
C. L. Williams,
J. S. Luckey,
C. H. Dow,
E. L. Henderson.

GENERAL CONFERENCE MINUTES.

Report No. 24.

SUMMARY OF TREASURER'S REPORT OF
W. H. & F. M. SOCIETY.

Summary No. 1.

Cash on hand in—	
General Fund	\$388.78
Medical Fund	126.18
Foreign Fund	390.44
India Fund	48.00
Africa	189.20
Masumbo House	6.00
Medical Dispensary	250.00
Miscellaneous	10.95
	<hr/>
Total	\$1409.55
Home—Deficit	48.43
	<hr/>
Cash Balance	\$1,361.12

Summary No. 2.

Total cash on hand in all funds at the last report	\$1,076.14
Received from all sources, for all purposes, during the quadrennium	\$11,034.25
	<hr/>
Total	\$12,110.39
Total disbursements for all purposes during the quadrennium	\$10,749.27
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Total cash on hand	\$1,361.12

Clara Wilson, Treasurer.

Summary of the Statistical Report.

No. of Conference Societies	16
No. of Local Societies	179
Increase	40
No. of Active Members	3,098
No. of Honorary Members	319
Total Membership	3,417

NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION.

No. Members of the Y. M. W. B.	7,539
Receipts from Y. M. W. B.	\$20,765.65
No. Members of Limba Workers' Band	85
Receipts from L. W. B.	\$1,980.96
Receipts from Local Societies	\$17,163.29
Disbursed from Local Work	\$4,553.04
Total Receipts from Local W. H. & F. M. S.....	\$42,282.78

Disbursements:—

Home Missions	\$9,195.33
Foreign Missions	\$7,399.35
Cash on hand in Local Societies	\$575.78

Mrs. E. A. Boyd,
Miss Imo Jones,
Committee.

Report No. 25.

STATISTICS.

(See Report in Back of these Minutes.)

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolution No. 1.

The Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society memorialize the General Conference to amend the constitution of our local Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Societies as follows:

Amend Section 4, Article 3, Page 89, by striking out the entire section.

Amend Section 1, Article 6, Page 89, by inserting after the word "Societies" the following words, "Shall be members of the local society electing, and"

Resolution No. 2.

In view of the needs of our publishing interests and the many duties imposed upon our Connectional Agent and Treasurer, and in view of the arduous and important duties

GENERAL CONFERENCE MINUTES.

of the Connectional Editor, I move that it is the sense of this General Conference that they should not respond to calls for outside work, unless they can do so without endangering the interest of these departments

It is also the sense of this conference that the Agent and Editor should advise with the other members of the Executive Board on matters of the above character.

Resolution No. 3.

Resolved, That the Book Committee be instructed to consider the preparation of a denominational year book in as condensed a form as possible and containing the following items:

1. The conference rolls and lists of officers, with post office addresses.
2. The reports on pastoral relations in as condensed a form as possible.
3. A general statistical report, compiled from the statistical reports of the conferences.
4. A summary of the reports on pastoral relations giving totals of "Elders on Conference Roll," "Stationed List," etc.
5. Tabulated information regarding the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society.
6. Tabulated information as to our mission fields, workers, schools and membership.
7. Such other items as may be of general interest and can be inserted without materially adding to the size of book and expense of publication.

Resolution No. 4

Not less than sixty days previous to the sitting of the General Conference, the Secretary of the General Conference shall notify the secretaries of the Annual Conferences to prepare their quadrennial summary for the General Conference.

Report No. 25.---Statistics.

	Time Employed		Appointments	Churches	Received	Expelled	Discontinued	Died	Letters	Present Numbers	Associate Members	Baptized	Unstated Elders	Licentiate	Wesleyans	Banners	Lesson Helps	Schools	Superintendents	Teachers	Scholars	Books in Library	Meeting Houses	Value	Parsonages	Value of	Pastor's Salary	Rent	Donations					
	Years	Months																																
Alabama	12	7	7	7	136	21	25	13	26	356	204	72	1	54	915	763	6	10	25	354	69	832	185	6	4400	00	14	15900	00	2333				
Albany	106	6	50	46	606	3	223	71	156	1256	261	261	39	306	615	3082	47	47	194	3447	637	43	5	\$3660	00	3	\$2380	13	\$170	50				
Rockster	102	6	45	41	363	1	151	98	170	1132	52	218	22	250	553	1652	38	39	148	1580	1012	29	29	63851	00	12	\$13090	00	4695	00				
Channahon	78	6	50	32	250	5	172	87	88	1035	38	134	2	237	377	1330	33	38	125	1195	1242	34	34	41600	00	19	18200	00	29444	34	3670	02		
Dakota	14	5	5	5	60	10	10	2	9	210	6	29	4	32	45	258	5	5	21	215	1242	34	34	1300	00	5	3150	00	23300	63	3307	72		
Georgia	39	9	37	36	412	43	99	32	51	679	1	153	2	19	85	585	20	20	48	709	30	28	5	10300	00	6	2650	00	4288	30	1055	00		
Illino	16	8	8	8	43	4	26	8	22	239	8	8	2	50	262	351	9	15	44	428	32	32	2	10000	00	5	8000	00	6815	09	212	65		
Indiana	134	4	101	100	1667	4	664	159	326	4015	354	748	4	95	722	1916	8704	93	98	451	5469	85	82	110250	00	25	25350	00	42959	25	8447	88		
Lockport	75	4	35	30	320	1	124	51	111	808	53	186	3	20	274	596	1440	25	27	121	1654	666	23	23	39000	00	17	19000	00	28634	12	6116	62	
Knox	89	4	33	33	707	4	103	70	125	1564	16	274	5	36	240	444	1139	32	31	129	1283	191	21	21	22900	00	16	16100	00	29757	80	2994	15	
Michigan	67	5	44	43	375	4	103	70	125	1564	16	274	2	22	261	671	9571	43	41	192	2520	2047	43	43	76510	00	21	29160	00	3468	17	5002	42	
North Carolina	77	7	50	48	421	90	431	32	88	2002	2	488	8	40	192	214	9571	43	41	192	2520	2047	43	43	37100	00	8	6038	25	28221	02	3803	39	
North Michigan	20	20	8	90	8	37	6	15	319	2	2	24	2	4	40	192	214	9571	43	41	192	2520	2047	43	43	37100	00	8	6038	25	28221	02		
South Ohio	47	40	35	338	3	139	25	102	688	16	172	2	4	24	157	427	1357	26	26	97	1209	233	28	28	4800	00	15	500	00	18221	02	163	00	
Ohio	29	4	14	14	216	38	75	21	6	634	37	40	1	13	7	7	1357	26	26	97	1209	233	28	28	4800	00	15	1262	27	10082	31	1486	07	
South Carolina	33	6	12	20	280	6	49	32	44	811	26	26	1	4	106	243	688	14	20	39	448	468	14	14	26450	00	5	3300	00	7211	24	606	00	
Wisconsin	53	4	37	33	973	117	234	43	216	1440	60	331	1	37	174	105	2671	32	30	132	1327	40	30	30	18600	00	4	6100	00	8849	43	1301	70	
Williams	12	4	12	16	20	20	20	7	6	234	2	54	1	7	51	79	327	8	8	12	258	40	30	30	24823	00	2	1700	00	12830	67	341	25	
Tennessee	15	6	1	2	20	25	30	8	7	252	2	26	3	3	44	68	154	4	4	4	12	332	8	8	8000	00	3	3000	00	3258	60	372	00	
Iowa	99	8	8	5	120	25	51	33	77	682	15	125	6	20	121	223	1010	18	18	69	832	185	19	19	1300	00	1	2200	00	751	69	500	00	
Canada	1	1	20	22	216	7	51	33	77	262	1	1	11	47	47	30	174	4	4	6	213	17	6	6	4400	00	2	15900	00	14914	06	2749	97	
Total	1101	8	627	590	9440	269	3014	841	1865	19678	8888	3553	44	448	3474	7271	40938	416	557	2129	26686	7140	490	626796	00	203	\$210140	52	\$317888	81	\$36600	56	\$43030	8

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