MINUTES

OF THE

FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

> THE

INDIANA CONFERENCE

OF THE

Wesleyan Methodist Connection of America,

HELD AT

Union Chapel, Rush Co., Ind., Sept. 2-7, 1890.

ELDER E. TETER, PRESIDENT.

ELDER W. H. KENNEDY, SECRETARY.

SYRACUSE, N. Y.:

WESLEYAN METHODIST PUBLISHING HOUSE,

ROLL OF MEMBERS OF THE INDIANA ANNUAL CONFERENCE FOR 1890.

ELDERS.

A. L. Blake, W. M. Lacey, J. W. Brown, D. C. Linville, L. H. Carter, G. Reber, B. L. Couch, G. B. Rodgers, J. J. Coleman, W. J. Seekins, A. F. Godwin. C. S. Smith, E. Guthrie, J. B. Shadle, J. Hester, W. Talbert. B. F. Hester, E. Teter, R. M. S. Hutchins, A. Worth, W. H. Kennedy, G. W. Zike.

UNSTATIONED.

W. Bartholemew,H. Beber,S. Getig,M. Moore,L. Shatford,B. H. Hines.

LICENTIATES.

C. A. Belhimer, W. G. Moon,
W. L. Fall, W. L. Northam,
D. Gordon, E. V. Potter.

SUPERANNUATES.

H. B. McCain, C. F. Wiggins, W. M. Welsh.

JOURNAL OF DAILY PROCEEDINGS.

FIRST DAY, SEPT. 2.

MORNING SESSION.

Conference convened at the call of the President, Elder E. Teter, at 8 A. M.

The opening religious services were led by W. M. Lacey, J. J. Coleman and G. W. Story.

The Conference and friends were addressed by the President.

The Secretary called the roll. It was corrected by the President.

A Committee on Conference Bar was elected.

Delegates presented their credentials and the following names were placed on the roll:—O. Bryant, A. Carter, J. F. Campbell, J. M. Cummins, A. Crowell, J. R. Gettys, D. K. Harris, W. R. Harris, A. Larimore, H. Matheny, I. Murphy, W. O. Morris, B. C. Marine, H. Picket, D. H. Reynolds, H. Rindfusz, J. Roberts, B. F. Starbuck, C. P. Shadle, N. Sylvester, A. Teter, E. Teter, I. Unger, D. Wood, I. Woodruff, A. F. Worth, J. W. Zike.

A Committee on Religious Services was elected:—Elders W. J. Seekins, J. J. Coleman and Sister Mattie Worth.

The time for the election of President and Secretary

was fixed to be the first in order after the opening services Wednesday afternoon.

The Committee to Fill Vacancies was elected as follows:—J. Hester, G. Reber, C. S. Smith.

The Committee on Conference Bar reported the corner seats and the three front body seats. Report adopted.

On motion the following persons were elected to constitute a Judiciary Committee:—J. W. Brown, B. F. Hester, W. J. Seekins, A. Teter, H. Picket, D. H. Reynolds.

On motion the following Committee on Pastoral Relations was elected:—W. M. Lacey, C. S. Smith, J. W. Brown, A. Teter, A. Carter, B. F. Starbuck.

On motion the Conference proceeded to the examination of character:—The name of A. L. Blake was referred to the Judiciary Committee. The character of B. H. Hines was passed and his name put on the Unstationed List. The names of J. W. Brown, J. J. Coleman, E. Guthrie, J. Hester, R. M. S. Hutchins, W. H. Kennedy, W. M. Lacey, G. Reber, C. S. Smith, J. B. Shadle, W. Talbert, E. Teter, G. W. Zike were called and characters passed.

On motion letters of standing were granted to W. H. Kennedy and J. J. Coleman.

The Committee on Religious Services reported time for opening Conference, 8 A. M. and 1.30 P. M.; closing, 10.20 A. M. and 4.30 P. M.; preaching the Word, 10.30 A. M. and 7.30 P. M.

Conference adjourned by limitation. Benediction by W. H. Kennedy.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference called to order by the President at 1.30 P. M. Devotions led by Λ . Teter.

Roll called and minutes read by the Secretary.

Rev. A. W. Hall, Connectional Agent, was presented to the Conference. His "inaugural" to the Conference enlisted feelings of unity and fellowship in the common cause.

On motion it was ordered that he have the time immediately following the election of Conference officers, to present the interests of the Connection. He was also voted a seat within the bar as honorary member of the Conference.

Rev. G. W. Story, Agent for Houghton Seminary, was introduced to the Conference and voted a seat as honorary member.

Examination of character was resumed:—The names of W. Bartholemew, H. Beber, J. Matheny, L. Shatford, W. L. Fall, D. Gordon, W. J. Moon, W. L. Northam, E. V. Potter, H. B. McCain, W. M. Welsh, C. F. Wiggins, A. Worth, W. J. Seekins, A. F. Godwin, B. L. Couch, L. H. Carter, S. Gettig, B. F. Hester were called and characters passed.

Rev. G. W. Story addressed the Conference concerning a system of finance. On motion a Committee was appointed to consider the matter and report. The Committee were W. J. Seekins, J. Hester and A. L. Carter.

On motion the vacancy in Committee on Itineracy and Elders' Orders was filled by the election of W. J. Seekins.

On motion Conference adjourned.

Benediction by W. J. Zike.

SECOND DAY, SEPT. 3.

MORNING SESSION.

Conference convened at the call of the President at 8 A. M.

Religious services by A. Carter.

Roll called and minutes read by the Secretary.

On motion W. J. Seekins was released from Committee on Finance and A. Worth voted a member in his stead.

W. H. Kennedy introduced a resolution, by way of a motion, that the Chairmen on Education, Sabbathschools, Moral Reform, Book Concern, Temperance and Missions be a Committee on the whole, and so represented and reported in Conference by a Chairman of their own selection, who shall report a summary of the whole to the Conference, and that this shall hereafter be the rule of the Conference, and substitute reports from each individual Chairman. Motion prevailed.

An animated expression on the impropriety of our people affiliating with secret societies in any way was engaged in by the Conference. On motion the Conference declared that it is contrary to the spirit of the Discipline and our principles for our preachers to officiate at any service with secret oath-bound organizations.

On motion Conference adjourned.

Prayer was offered by Sister Nixon.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference called to order by the President at $1.30 \, P. \, M.$ Religious services by D. H. Reynolds.

Roll called and minutes read by the Secretary.

Revs. N. T. Harmon and A. Myers, of the United Brethren Church, were introduced to the Conference.

The order of the day was called for, and on motion the Secretary was authorized to cast the ballot of the Conference for Elder E. Teter as President of the Conference for the ensuing year. The President appointed J. W. Brown as teller and the vote was cast. E. Teter was declared the President of the Conference for the coming year.

On motion the President was authorized to cast the vote of the Conference for Elder W. H. Kennedy as Secretary of the Conference the coming year. The vote was cast and he was declared duly elected.

Remarks were made by both officers, and prayer offered for the unity and prosperity of the Conference and the work in general.

On motion the Missionary Board was elected as follows:—J. W. Brown, J. Hester, W. J. Seekins, J. W. Zike, A. Teter.

On motion the time for Rev. A. W. Hall to make his report was changed to 2 P. M. Thursday.

On motion Rev. G. W. Story was given 3 P. M. Friday to report the interests of Houghton Seminary.

Resolution No. one of Conference reports for 1889 was readopted.

On motion Conference adjourned.

Benediction by A. F. Godwin.

THIRD DAY, SEPT. 4.

MORNING SESSION.

Conference convened at the call of the President at 8 A. M.

Devotions by C. A. Belhimer.

Roll called and minutes read by the Secretary.

The Judiciary Committee reported in the case of Elder A. L. Blake:—"We find evidences of indiscretion but no criminality. We accept his pledge that the indiscretions shall not be repeated and recommend his character pass."

On motion the roll was called to vote on the reception of the report of the Committee. The report was rejected by a vote of twenty-eight nays to seven yeas. The objection to the passage of the brother's character was stated to be that of his own verbal statement of a purpose not to live with his wife, he having no Scriptural ground for said separation. The brother was asked to give a reason, or his purpose for his action. He declined to give any explanation. The President ruled that the Conference has no right to officially recognize an elder as such who will separate from his wife for any other than a Bible cause.

On motion Conference adjourned. Benediction by W. M. Lacey.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference called to order by the President at 1.30 P. M. Devotions by J. W. Brown.

Roll called and minutes read by the Secretary.

On motion Elder G. B. Rodgers, of the Miami Conference, was received by letter and his name placed on the roll.

The unfinished business was called up. On motion it was ordered that the character of Elder A. L. Blake be suspended for one year, and his parchments be in the hands of the Conference for that time.

The order of the day being called for, Rev. A. W. Hall addressed the Conference in the interests of the Connection. A collection was taken to send the Wesleyan to the worthy poor; amount, \$15.62.

Invitations to the Conference to hold the next annual session were received from Amboy circuit and Boxley circuit. By vote it was decided to accept the invitation from Boxley circuit.

On motion the hour of 2 P. M. Friday was fixed to elect Conference Missionary Evangelist. Also the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society to report immediately following.

On motion Conference adjourned. Benediction by A. Worth.

FOURTH DAY, SEPT. 5.

MORNING SESSION.

Conference convened at the call of the President at 8 A. M.

Devotions were led by C. S. Heston.

Roll called and minutes read by the Secretary.

The Committee on Itineracy and Elders' Orders reported. (See Report No. 1.)

A resolution to the effect that pastors and circuits choose their own help during quarterly meetings was discussed. On motion a substitute was offered, providing for a continuance of the Conference Evangelists, an apportionment of salary to the evangelists and from the circuits, and a forfeit of right to service in case of failure to contribute the amount due. The substitute was adopted.

A Committee of five was elected to apportion salary and amount due from the circuits.

On motion the Conference united in asking the Conference Evangelists to devote at least one service each quarter, at each circuit, for the cause of missions.

On motion the Conference unanimously re-elected Elders A. Worth and E. Teter to serve as Conference Evangelists.

The President read to the Conference the articles submitted as substitutes for the Disciplinary articles on Regeneration and Entire Sanctification. By a unanimous vote, without any discussion, the substitutes were laid on the table.

On motion Conference adjourned. Benediction by E. V. Potter.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference called to order by the President at 1.30 P. M. Religious services by T. H. McMurtry.

Roll called and minutes read by the Secretary.

On motion W. L. Fall was elected to preach the opening sermon at the next annual session.

A resolution of support and co-operation was extended to the Connectional Agent and Editor. (See Resolution No. 1.)

Chairmen of subjects were appointed as follows:— Temperance, A. Worth; Education, J. J. Coleman; Sabbath-schools, G. Reber; Moral Reform, W. M. Lacey; Missions, J. W. Brown; Book Concern, A. F. Godwin; Statistics, B. L. Couch.

A collection was taken to defray the expenses of the Secretary's office.

The order of the day was called. Elders J. Hester and R. A. Carter were nominated for election as Conference Missionary Evangelist. The election resulted in favor of J. Hester.

The further order of the day was entered into and the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society reported through their Secretaries. They reported \$157.98 as being raised by them the past year.

A collection was taken to aid in further organizing their work; amount, \$10.25.

It being the order of the day Rev. G. W. Story addressed the Conference in the interests of Houghton Seminary. Subscriptions for \$36.00, and \$5.73 cash was raised.

The Committee on Apportionment of Evangelist's Sala-

ry reported as follows.	Salary for each \$400; circuits to
pay each:	
Albion, \$64	00 Marion, \$30 00
Amboy, 31	00 Mt. Etna, 32 00
Boxley, 70	00 N. C. & B. R., 61 00
Bryant, 42	00 Newport, 17 00
	00 Pleasant Grove, 30 00
	00 Plymouth, 65 00
Fairview, 36	00 Salamonia, 61 00
Hamlet, 26	00 Strawtown, 6 00
Larwill, 30	00 Thorntown, 4 00
Liberty, 51	00 Westfield, 25 00
On motion Conference	adjourned.
Benediction by L. H.	Carter.

FIFTH DAY, SEPT. 6.

MORNING SESSION.

Conference convened at the call of the President at 8 A. M.

Devotions by W. L. Northam.

Roll called and minutes read by the Secretary.

The Committee on Finance reported in favor of the plan presented by Rev. G. W. Story. The report was accepted.

On motion it was ordered that the Conference convene for its next annual session on August 25th, 1891, at 8 A. M., D. V.

By consent J. J. Coleman and J. Hester were appointed a Committee to raise means to defray the expense of printing the Conference Minutes.

The Chairman of the Committee on Reports made their report. It was adopted item by item.

The subjects of Education, Sabbath-schools, Moral Re-

form, Book Concern, Temperance and Missions were discussed and adopted. (See Report No 2.)

On motion Conference adjourned.

Benediction by J. Hester.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference called to order by the President at 1:30 p. m.. Devotions led by L. H. Carter.

Roll called and minutes read by the Secretary.

On motion a resolution of thanks was tendered thecitizens of Little Blue and vicinity for their kindness and hospitality in entertaining the Conference.

The Stationing Committee reported. (See Report-No. 3.)

The President answered the usual Disciplinary questions. (See Report No. 4.)

On motion it was voted to pay the Conference Missionary Evangelist \$400 the coming year, and on motion J. W. Zike was elected Financial Agent for the Conference Missionary Society.

The Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society reported (through Mrs. Ella Bundy) their organization, as an auxiliary, complete.

On motion it was ordered that the Secretary of the Conference correspond with other Secretaries, with a view to have the minutes of the various Conferences embraced in one publication.

On motion it was ordered that the report on Temperance be printed in the Wesleyan, and sent to the Voice of New York and Phalanx of Indianapolis for publication.

On motion it was ordered that the term Temperance be changed to Prohibition, as a heading for reports on the liquor traffic. The Committee on Statistics reported. (See Report No. 5.)

On motion the Conference adjourned, to meet, the Lord willing, at Liberty Church, Boxley circuit, Hamilton county, August 25th, 1891, at 8 A. M. Opening sermon August 24th, 8 P. M.

Benediction by W. H. Kennedy.

E. Teter, Pres. W. H. Kennedy, Sec'y.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

I.

ITINERACY AND ELDERS' ORDERS.

Your Committee on Itineracy and Elders' Orders make

the following report:

Brethren Daniel Yantz, McClelland Higgins and E. Petry were referred to your Committee, and on investigation were found to have been recommended to this body without the disciplinary requirements of an examination in English Grammar, Arithmetic, Geography and Natural Philosophy. We recommend they be referred back to their Quarterly Conferences for said disciplinary qualifications and examination.

We recommend brethren R. Jeffery, E. V. Potter, W. L. Fall, D. A. Gordon, J. C. Barnium, S. C. Heston, C. A. Belheimer, R. Carter, W. G. Moon, W. L. Northam, J. H. Zeller, R. Gift, J. W. Brooke, W. J. Hague, E. H. Siddell to continue in their traveling relation to the Conference, also to diligently pursue their studies as

given in our book of Discipline.

Further, we recommend the Committee on Itineracy and Elders' Orders to hold one theological institute during the year, time and place to be left to the Committee.

W. J. SEEKINS, GEORGE REBER, J. HESTER, A. TETER, G. W. ZIKE.

II.

EDUCATION.

We observe that in order to be efficient in any vocation in life there must be a sufficient knowledge to enable the

person to generally understand the calling in which he Knowledge comes by education, and is received through experience, observation or by special instruction given by others; and as the majority of minds are unable to penetrate unaided very deeply the sources of knowledge, we readily see the need of special instruction. We praise God for the privileges afforded the youth of our land to gain the rudiments of an education by our free school system, and we view with suspicion anything that tends to the overthrow of so noble an institution. However, we see that many things should be different in the plan of instruction, in order to accomplish the end designed, namely, the discipline or moral training of the scholar, and the instruction or imparting of information. Believing the Bible should be brought into the schools, and that the doctrines of the same be thoroughly set before the minds of the children in their vital meaning, necessary to this end the teacher should be deeply pious. Also, we believe that the destructive effects of alcohol and tobacco on the mental, moral and physical man should be set before the minds and consciences of the youth, having a text book prepared carefully and prescribed by law.

Our colleges and academies that dot our country for the culture of the mind are a God-given means to gain a knowledge of the sciences. However, there are some things to be deplored, the spiritual part of scholars being largely neglected in preference of the intellectual. We believe the spiritual interest of the scholar should have the first place in the mind of the educator. We notice the baleful influence of an educated ministry without the life and power of godliness. May God give us preachers, teachers, millers, merchants, mechanics and tanners with well developed minds, baptized with the Holy Ghost. Be it therefore resolved that we, the members of the Indiana Conference Wesleyan Methodist Church, are in favor of a broad and reformatory educa-

tion, and to this end let us support our schools.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We regard Sabbath-schools as of primal importance in the training of those who are to be the future burden bearers of the Church. When we make Christians in

sentiment of those who are under our care, the way is: open to lead them forward in the personal experience of We should endeavor to make it asthe grace of God. the grace of God. We should endeavor to make it as efficient as possible, for the work is too important to be carelessly done. The officers and teachers should be persons of religious experience and Bible students, and should never be satisfied with their work, no matter how flourishing the school may seem to be, unless they see their scholars brought to Christ. We believe it to be the duty of parents to regularly attend the school with. their children and to aid them in studying their lessons. It is obvious that all literature, to be effective in this great cause, must harmonize with the Bible. We believe all fictitious publications should be dispensed with. We earnestly advise all our schools to take our own publications, and humbly ask all our pastors to encourage all our schools in doing so.

MORAL REFORM.

We believe in the sanctity of the home, in proper filial regard for parents on the part of children, and in the equal and inalienable rights of all men, regardless of race or color. We enter our emphatic protest against all secret organizations of every name, or for whatever purpose formed. We also believe in the sacredness of the marriage relation, and that the lax divorce laws of the different States are not in harmony with the Word of God, which recognizes but one cause for divorce. also deprecate the alarming increase in the use of tobacco, and believe this poison to be a prolific source of hereditary influence to vice and crime. We also believe that the scientific, physical and moral effects of tobacco and all intoxicants should be taught in the public schools of the land, and we rejoice that such a law is now in existence on the statute books of the United States. demand the observation of the Christian Sabbath in the absolute cessation of all forms of business, and especially railroad traffic, and, further, we would discourage and condemn all Sabbath visiting, with all forms of Sabbath And we further demand that the avarice and covetousness of the age be rebuked by the ministry from every pulpit in our land.

BOOK CONCERN.

We are fully committed to a radical reform in the literature of the present age. We recognize in the publications issued by our Publishing House a standard of excellence, and we are thoroughly pledged to their support and dissemination.

PROHIBITION.

The Word of God being our only rule of faith and conduct we believe the following propositions are responsibilities resting on the Church:

1. No Church can consistently with the Gospel retain a member who manufactures or sells intoxicating liquors.

2. No Church can allow its members, by their votes, to endorse any license system for any sum of money, however large that sum may be, and be in harmony with the Gospel.

3. In view of this we declare that the prohibition of the liquor traffic, in both State and Nation, to be the

only true policy of government.

4. No Christian can dodge his responsibility as a

citizen by not voting when elections are ordered.

5. And, to act consistently with the above, we as Christians cannot vote with either of the dominant political parties of the day, but with that party that declares for prohibition for both State and Nation.

MISSIONS.

1. We recognize the importance of this work, from the fact that Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world and

preach the Gospel to every creature."

2. With hearts of gratitude we join our thanksgiving and praise with those of the entire Connection, and devoutly thank God that under his care and guidance we have a foreign missionary post established in Africa. We therefore recommend our foreign work to our people as worthy of our hearty support.

There is another feature of this important work that fills our hearts with thanksgiving to God, and we hail it as a new star of hope with us as a people, and that is the Woman's Local Missionary Society, and that we, as the members of the Indiana Conference, give our hearty support and encouragement. We also urge upon our people

the necessity of meeting the demands of our missionary work.

Signed in behalf of the Committee.

J. W. Brown, Cha'n.

III.

STATIONING COMMITTEE.

Amboy, C. S. Hester. Albion, L. H. Carter. Bryant, C. S. Smith. Boxley, G. W. Zike. Crums, to be supplied. Caley, to be supplied. Fairmount, John Coleman. Fairview, E. V. Potter. Hamlet, L. H. Carter. Hodson, to be supplied. Liberty, J. W. Brown. Larville, D. Gordon. Ligonier, Robert Carter. Mt. Etna, A. F. Godwin. Marion, C. A. Billheimer, New Castle and Blue River, W. J. Seekins. Newport, C. S. Smith. Plymouth, B. L. Couch. Pleasant Grove, W. M. Lacey. Salamonia, W. G. Moon. Sheridan, W. L. Northam. Strawtown, W. L. Fall. Thorntown, G. Reber. Westfield, W. L. Fall. Evangelists, E. Teter, A. Worth. Conference Missionary Evangelist, J. Hester. E. Teter, Cha'n.

IV.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN THE DISCIPLINE.

A L. Blake, J. W. Brown, L. H. Carter, B. L. Couch, J. J. Coleman, A. F. Godwin, E. Guthrie, J. Hester, B. F. Hester, R. M. S. Hutchins, W. H. Kennedy, W. M. Lacey, D. C. Linville, G. Reber, G. B. Rodgers, W. J. Seekins, C. S. Smith, J. B. Shadle, W. Talbert, E. Teter, A. Worth, G. W. Zike,

2. W. Bartholemew, H. Beber, S. Getig, J. Matheny, B. H. Hines, M. Moore, L. Shatford.

C. A. Belheimer, W. L. Fall, D. Gordon, C. S. Heston. W. G. Moon, W. L. Northam, E. V. Potter.

H. B. McCain, W. M. Welsh, C. F. Wiggins.

5. None.

6. N. T. Davis, L. L. Folger, G. M. Veach, J. W. Johnson, J. M. Perry.

G. B. Rodgers.

S. None.

9. \$4,574,00.

10. 1894.

11. 44, 257, 2034-2635.

12. Boxley circuit, August 25, 1891. 13.

See Report of Stationing Committee. E. Teter, Pres.

VI.

DEVOTIONAL SERVICES.

Meetings were held each day at 10.30 A. M. and 8 P. M. The evening services were preceded by prayer and song. Never in the annals of the Conference was there such visible manifestations of the power of Jesus to save and grace to overcome, also of the Holy Ghost to convict. Many were either pardoned of their transgressions or reclaimed, and a number were wholly sanctified. family of God seemed in a most happy and victorious condition, evinced by repeated shouts, praises and halle-On Wednesday evening there was a conscious outpouring of the Holy Ghost on all present, resulting in many visible manifestations. On Thursday evening the preaching had to be laid aside to attend to the seeking souls that thronged the altar, and so strong and pungent was conviction that the altar service continued

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during the entire night. To a merciful, loving, Heavenly

Father be all the glory.

The Love-feast Sabbath, 9 A. M., was a time of victory and rejoicing; only a part could find time to testify. The testimonies set forth Jesus as able not only to forgive, but to wholly sanctify and keep pure in this world. The Sacramental service at 3 P. M. was largely attended.

A large tabernacle was pitched near the commodious church, and both at times were insufficient to hold the crowd. Surely we have great reason to be devoutly thankful to a triune God for all his mercies and benefits. The obligation is on us as a people to press the work of salvation on both saved and unsaved, that all may come to the stature of a perfect man in Christ Jesus.

E. Teter, Pres. W. H. Kennedy, Sec'y.

RESOLUTION.

Resolved, That we, the members of the Indiana Annual Conference, are pleased and satisfied with the official work of our Agent, Rev. A. W. Hall, and also our Editor, Rev. N. Wardner, and extend to them our cooperation, sympathy and prayers.

Signed in behalf of the Conference.

E. Teter. Pres. W. H. Kennedy, Sec'y.