

BISHOPS WILL FILL MIDWEST POSITION

Semi-Annual Conference to Resume Today.

DIVORCE FORUM TOPIC

Selection of Leader for South American Conference Looms as Important Issue.

The selection of a third Methodist book agent to take over the position left vacant by the death of Edwin R. Graham of New York and to work with Robert H. Hughes, formerly editor of the Pacific Christian Advocate and John R. Rase, now in charge, will be decided at the first business session of the board of bishops of the Methodist Episcopal church when it reconvenes this morning after the Sunday intermission of the semi-annual conference.

The question is one of opinion rather than actual rivalry so far as the board is concerned and has been appealed to the members from the decision of the board of control, which has declined to fill the vacancy. Although official action has not been taken, it is understood to be strongly in favor of appointment of a third member, as opposed to the stand taken by the board of control.

Assignments to Be Made.

The question of assigning bishops to preside over the fall conferences in the various areas will also come before the board today. It is probable that an assignment will have to be made for the December and January conferences in South America, as it is understood that Bishop W. F. Oldham is coming home on sick leave and will be unable to preside. Bishop Wilbur F. Thirkield of the Mexican area may be assigned, but if duties prevent, selection will be made from among the bishops of the United States. Bishop Homer C. Stuntz of Omaha has been mentioned for the place, as he has served four years as bishop of South America and is conversant with the language and work. Bishop Frank M. Bristol of Chattanooga has also served four years in South America and is a possible selection.

It is probable that few changes will be made in the fall conferences in the United States and the work will largely fall on each bishop to care for his own area except where emergencies arise.

Bishops Fill Pulpits.

The plan for the fall conferences will be presented today by Bishop Richardson of Atlanta, chairman of the committee in charge. A number of the bishops were absent from the city yesterday in other cities of the northwest. Those who appeared in Portland churches, and part of the number occupied outside pulpits for one service of the day. Bishop Hughes was assigned to Salem for the morning service and to the First church in Portland last night. Bishop Burns preached at the Mount Taber church in the afternoon. Bishop McConnell occupied the Sunnyside pulpit last night and held an open forum meeting at the Y. M. C. A. yesterday afternoon.

World Problems Considered.

The Y. M. C. A. meeting was largely a discussion of popular questions on labor matters, the Irish situation and divorce. The Irish troubles were brought up in a multiplicity of ways by members of the audience, but did not elicit a definite statement of position from Bishop McConnell. The settlement of the matter is a question of vital concern to the United States, he admitted, because of the source of friction between this country and England. Neither side has been free from serious blunders. Bishop McConnell said labor unions have been through the ordeal of the far as public attitude is concerned. "Labor has won for itself practically every advance it has gained in the last century and its success has been the key to its success," he added. "Wage reductions should not be attempted without first giving the workers an opportunity to be heard in the deliberations affecting them."

Europe Declared Benefited.

Bishop William Burt of Buffalo, bishop of Europe for many years and an authority on European affairs, spoke before and since the war, spoke to the Scandinavian church members of Portland at the Norwegian-Baptist church on Vancouver avenue. His address included a reminiscence of his experiences in the Scandinavian countries during his period of work in Europe, which brought him in touch with the church leaders in those countries.

Most of his address was upon the conditions in Europe brought about by the world war. In many respects beneficial changes have come to Europe, despite the terrible cost. Bishop Burt declared. The release from monarchical control, as especially noted in Austria, Germany, Hungary and Yugoslavia, will mean greater liberties to the individual and will have a far-reaching effect, especially when the recovery from the ravages of the war becomes more marked, he said. The Catholic church and Rome, especially in Austria and her former possessions, is a very important part in the establishment of the Protestant faith there, Bishop Burt concluded.

CHANGE IN SOUTH OBSERVED

Mountaineers Awakened to Education Possibilities, Says Bishop.

The world war may play a wonderful part in the awakening of the sturdy mountaineers of eastern Tennessee and in overcoming the race prejudice that has been the source of many difficulties in that section and other parts of the south, according to Bishop Frank M. Bristol of Chattanooga, whose area includes all of Tennessee and North Carolina and parts of Virginia and West Virginia. Tennessee has ever been a border state in politics, in slavery and its issues, and in matters of race and religion. It has been a battle ground at times where neighbor did not hesitate to fight against neighbor and brother against brother in defense of their belief, but it has never been a state that has been away for long under one predominant influence.

At present, although there are differences of political and religious beliefs, progress has been made in many ways. The relations between the Methodist church and the Methodist church south are friendly and cordial. The part played by the colored people in the war has earned them a greater position of respect, according to Bishop Bristol. The response of the poor people of the south, both among the negroes and the whites, to the centenary movement has been surprisingly generous and has carried with it a great deal of sacrifice, according to Bishop Bristol.

The mountains of eastern Tennessee which produced Sergeant York and which in a former time of stress sent a greater proportion of men into the Union army than any other section of the country are the home of a hardy race, filled with wonderful latent possibilities but still held in the grip of poverty and ignorance. They sent to the American army some of the most perfect physical specimens of men that it received, but one and all they were provincial, ignorant, uneducated, nevertheless filled with the dormant possibilities of a hardy race of Scotch ancestors who peopled the hills a century ago, Bishop Bristol declared.

The war meant an awakening to thousands of boys from the Tennessee mountains. They have found it possible to return to the ways of living that have been followed for generations. They are demanding a chance for education, not alone for themselves but for their younger brothers and sisters. Bishop Bristol has brought about many wonderful changes among the people, whose energies and capabilities have been untapped by the corrupting influence of the outside world.

Occasionally there has come from the hills an uncouth youth who called for an education. He has returned from his inner exile to become a minister of the John Wesley type. From like parentage have sprung such men as Lincoln. The true force of the mountain people has been demonstrated many times but the problem has been to awaken more than a scattering few to the desire to come forth into the world and battle for their ideals. The present movement which the return of the soldiers has brought about may be an auspicious one, in the opinion of Bishop Bristol, for it reaches into thousands of homes and works from the inside rather than from the outside, could ever hope to do. The bishop feels that it may be the beginning of the regeneration of a wonderful race of men.

Throughout the remaining two days of the board of bishops' conference here a number of important addresses and luncheon speeches will be made in addition to the regular business. Efforts will be made to adjourn the session by noon tomorrow. It will take a trip over the Columbia highway this afternoon.

The speech of Bishop Stuntz at the auditorium Tuesday night to the chief public event remaining during the conference here. Free tickets have been distributed at the churches. All remaining seats will be made open to the general public without charge at 8 o'clock.

Bishop Stuntz will discuss world problems and will speak from a fund of knowledge gained from actual experience in different parts of the world. He has served as Bishop of South America and has served in church work in India and other parts of the world. At present he is bishop of the Omaha area. He is scheduled to speak at the annual meeting of the Portland Chamber of Commerce at noon today. Next Thursday he will be assembly speaker at the University of Oregon.

Bishop Jones of New Orleans has announced his intention of remaining over until Wednesday night to speak at the First Methodist church. A number of the bishops including Bishops Stuntz, Jones, Mead and Sheehan will be in the city. Dr. E. C. Hickman, president of Kimball college of theology, at Salem, Wednesday morning.

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"Paying one's debts to the individual, to the community and to humanity is the privilege and obligation of all," said Bishop Stuntz. "No man has a right to enjoy life's temporal pleasures to the embarrassment of his fellow man. He should pay as he goes, and no man who has had the advantage of advanced civilization and education has the right to live unto himself alone, but should disseminate his power and purposes and through others, Paul, when struck on the Damascus road, in his possession of documents authorizing him to persecute and annihilate the Christian, but after having his spiritual eyes opened and having heard the call of God to preach the gospel of righteousness to every man, he was now doing his utmost most to carry out the great divine plan as each of us should do."

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ADVANCE TO GOD HELD SLOW

World Declared in Need of More Blind Belief.

"Seeing is believing," is not half the truth; "The blessedness of blind belief," is the greater half," said Rev. Elbert E. Flint, pastor of Atkinson Memorial Congregational church, speaking on the theme of "Blessedness of Blind Belief," yesterday morning.

"Thomas, when he saw the morning brow of Jesus and the wounds in his hand, whether he knew or whether he did not, he believed. He said, 'My Lord and my God.'"

"The great hour has come to the world. Doubt has been swallowed up in light. The valley pole and the wire have connected; the hour of high noon has come. But the highest things of life are not reached by wire or light, or telephone, or microscope. The universe is supported in its place by unseen laws and forces. It is not built on concrete or granite piers. These things it was when Jesus said, 'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.' Edison, with his test questions for 'Who is Who,' would doubtless have distinguished 100 percent of the 12 apostles and would give first ranking to a like number of the Prussian military of only recent date."

"The world is ready for another great and mighty up-lift and re-birth that will give to mankind, whether he produces with his hands or his mind, whether he rules or whether he serves a new mind and a new purpose that will make this world of mechanical construction a dynamo of spiritual creation."

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Week's Outing in Camp at Fort Stevens Is Closed.

With faces as brown as the packs on their backs, the 140 cadets of Hill Military academy who have been in camp at Fort Stevens for the last week, arrived home at 6 o'clock last night. The trip from the fort to Portland was made in the United States government boat Eagle No. 38. Members of the faculty and officers accompanied the boys on the home trip.

The cadets were happy and hungry, they said, but had "the time of their lives." All arrived in good condition and marched from the foot of Jefferson street to the academy, 321 Marshall street, Major Thomas G. Catbro, U. S. Army, in charge of the military features of the expedition. Sham battles, target practice, a two-mile hike each day and taking of the morning camp were the order of each morning kept the boys fully occupied.

MILLION DOLLARS SOUGHT.

With this in view, Bishop Thirkield is now approaching American interests to finance a system of schools and hospitals under his supervision throughout the entire country. The bishop is entering the field on a large scale project to obtain at least \$1,000,000 if not more with which to launch his project. Although definite pledges of funds have not yet been obtained, Bishop Thirkield is confident that he was highly confident of raising the sum needed to start the work.

He plans to establish industrial schools for the most part where trained teachers from the agricultural colleges of the United States will instruct the Mexican youths in animal and plant husbandry and other courses which will help them build up their farms, their cattle and other domesticated animals, as well as gain a general education that will be extended later on to other parts of the country. The plan has been in operation in a Methodist school in India since the great famine of 1896 and has shown remarkable results, according to Bishop Stuntz.

ARMY PLAN IS COPIED.

The plan of hospitals would be built on the style of the American army cantonment hospital at small expense, but admirably fitted to the needs of Mexico. They would attempt to provide protection against the sickness and disease of the country and educate the people from their present squalor that has made disease a scourge among the lower classes.

The proposed move meets the approval of Bishop Stuntz who looks upon education as the one thing which will overcome conditions that have made possible the miracle and revolution that has marked the past history of Mexico. They would attempt to provide protection against the sickness and disease of the country and educate the people from their present squalor that has made disease a scourge among the lower classes.

CHEHALIS SCHOOL ELECTS.

CHEHALIS, Wash., May 15.—(Special.)—Harold St. John has been elected president of the student body of the Chehalis high school, winning out of a field of four candidates. He is a son of A. C. St. John, Chehalis auto dealer. Young St. John has been one of the school's most successful athletes the past year, being a star member of the football and basketball teams.

POSTMASTER IS NOMINATED.

THE OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, D. C., May 15.—(Special.)—Visitation services were held by the Oddfellows and Rebekah, in the Knights of Pythias hall at Kalamo, Friday night. Speeches by a number of prominent members were heard, after which a delightful lunch was served to about 250 guests. Visitors came from Vancouver, Bellingham, Woodland, La Center, Ridgefield, Maner and Louisville.

ODDFELLOWS HOLD SERVICES.

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