

METHODIST CHURCH LEADERS ASSEMBLE

Northwest Convention Opens With Night Gatherings.

NOTED WORKERS PRESENT

Great Confidence in Portland Attracts Men Who Direct International Affairs.

With about 200 out-of-town delegates present, besides nine internationally known leaders of the denomination from all parts of the world, the northwest convention of the Methodist Episcopal church opened its sessions here last night.

The conference is being held to give greater impetus to the various activities of the church, and is the second of a series of five conventions of this character to be held in the northwest. The first of these gatherings was held in Eugene last Tuesday and Wednesday following the grand central convention held in Detroit.

Dinner Inaugurates Sessions.

The sessions opened at 6 o'clock with a dinner at the hotel. Speakers gave a symposium of the Detroit convention. They included Rev. W. W. Youngson, Rev. S. A. Danford, Rev. D. H. Leach, Rev. E. E. Gilbert and Rev. R. N. Avelon. After the dinner two meetings were held at 7:30 o'clock and 8:30 o'clock.

The young folk and the Sunday school officers of the denomination attended the gathering at the White Temple, at which questions of Epworth league and Sunday school work were discussed.

General Secretaries Speak.

W. S. Boyard, general secretary of the board of Sunday schools, and Charles E. Guthrie, general secretary of the board of Epworth league, were the speakers at this meeting.

The rally at the First Methodist Episcopal church was for delegates and citizens generally. Thomas Elliott, spoke on "Devotional Life in the Home," Edward Laird, on "The Disarmament Conference and Missions," and E. D. Kohlsaat gave a stereoscopic address on "The Century to Date."

The internationally known leaders, most of whom arrived yesterday, to conduct the conference, include Bishop H. Lester Smith of India, Dr. Guthrie, Dr. Boyard, Rev. E. D. Kohlsaat, of Chicago, and the committee on conservation, and advance; Rev. C. E. Vermilya, of the department of frontiers; Rev. J. L. Laco, superintendent of missions in Utah; Dr. E. W. Bysshe, superintendent of work in France; Bishop William O. Shepard, of the northwestern and Alaska, and Dr. Clarence True Wilson of Washington.

Oregon Leaders Included.

In addition to these leaders, 15 local and state leaders are also on the program, making a total of 27 speakers. The Dalles, Salem and Portland districts are represented by the delegates at the gathering. Each church in these districts was requested to send its pastor, the presiding officer of each society in the church as delegates.

Today's session will be held in the municipal auditorium and will deal with subjects relating to church activities. The morning session will begin at 9:30 o'clock and will continue at 12:15 to 1:30 o'clock, an afternoon session at 2:30 o'clock and an evening session at 7:45, closing the convention.

Women to Serve Lunch.

The women of the church will serve lunch at noon, when a college and missionary program will be presented.

Bishop Shepard is program chairman and A. L. Howarth convention director. The entertainment committee is composed of Dr. W. W. Youngson, P. M. Jasper, P. L. Moore, D. L. Fields and Charles MacCaig.

BEND SCHOOL TERM CUT

Manual Training and Domestic Science Studies to Be Dropped.

BEND, Or., Jan. 19.—(Special.)—Dropping of manual training and domestic science from the high school curriculum are among the economies planned by the Bend school directors to save 10 per cent, slightly less than \$25,000, in expenses during the coming year.

Included in the contemplated economies are the dropping of two instructors, elimination of night school, doing away with school activities, the continuance of the department of music and of the office of school nurse, stopping the mid-year primary registration plan to keep from retaining additional teachers, shortening the school year from nine and one-half to nine months, and discontinuing maintenance of a one-room school in the outlying part of the district.

KIWANIS CLUB ORGANIZING

Charter Membership of Centralia Body Near Completion.

CENTRALIA, Wash., Jan. 19.—(Special.)—The Centralia Kiwanis club, under process of organization, expects to have its charter membership completed by next Wednesday, at which time a date will be set for presentation of a charter.

Yesterday's luncheon of the local club was an observance of the seventh anniversary of the founding of Kiwanis. Dick Taylor, Olympia attorney, was the principal speaker and outlined the growth of the organization from the formation of a luncheon club by 20 Detroit business men January 15, 1915, to the present time.

Today, Mr. Taylor said there are 638 Kiwanis clubs in the United States and Canada with a total membership of more than 57,000.

CREAGER HALTS BOOM

Postmaster Mention Laid to "Over-Enthusiastic Friends."

BROWNVILLE, Tex., Jan. 19.—R. B. Creager, republican state chairman, mentioned as a possible successor to Postmaster-General Hays, today responded to telegrams from friends over the state by asking them to "drop the matter."

Mention of his name, Mr. Creager said, was started by "overly enthusiastic friends."

NEW BILLS AT THE THEATERS

BY LEON CASS BAER.

That interesting and skillfully made play, "Bird of Paradise," is again in our midst, and a surprisingly large audience was in attendance last night at its opening at the Heilig.

This play, the best that Richard Walton Tully ever wrote, possesses an amazing power and vitality and craftsmanship. In the 11 seasons that it has been on the road it has increased remarkably the bank deposits of its author, and despite the uncertainty of this theatrical year, it is still doing a fine business and its drawing power seems undiminished.

"The Bird of Paradise," which is a love story set in Hawaii, is something more than a mere romance. It is a study in psychology, and it contains all the elements that have always appealed to 90 per cent of the public.

There is the adroit blend of humor and pathos, there are dramatic incidents, and there are picturesque and interesting characters.

The play, which is a story of the regeneration of one man and the disintegration of another through the love and influence of two women, one an English girl, and the other Luana, a princess of the old Hawaii, is developed straightforwardly, and increases in interest to a logical end. It is peopled with native Hawaiians, who play their ukuleles and sing the haunting sweet melodies of their race.

The scenic effects are wonderful. On one occasion a realistic rain storm breaks suddenly, and fades quickly into glowing sunshine. The native dances by grass-shirted belles, the religious dances and observances, and the colorful scenic settings are all faithfully depicted and memorable.

This company is one of the best that has brought us "The Bird of Paradise," since the vivid Lenore Ullrich brought us the first Luana. This year's Luana is Ann Rander, a charming young actress of Roumanian birth, whose coloring and mass of thick, dark curly hair fit her pictorially the part of a young girl of the likeliness of body and a certain grace and carriage which seem a part of the role, and to those who add a beautiful, rich-speaking voice.

There is a very fine beach comber in this company. He is Frederick Foxworth, who gives distinction to this role of the direct philosopher. His voice is sonorous and of a smooth, beautiful quality and his acting is the philosophical utterances and quotations in the past. Another very fine portrayal is that of Ellen Mahar by Diana Laid. Herbert Charles gives a good account of the role of Paul, and Douglas Cosgrove

That the Portland annual automobile show next week at the municipal auditorium, which will be the first show on the Pacific coast this year displaying new model automobiles, is being recognized as of northwest as well as of local importance has been indicated by the number of Signal firms from outside points which have sought display space at the big event.

Already a number of Signal firms have arrived with their displays, while others are expected tomorrow and Sunday.

Among the outside concerns which have already signed up for space are the Automotive Gear Works of Seattle, the Buick Motor Cars of Los Angeles, the company of Vancouver, Wash., N. R. Davenport of Salem; Douglas Electric company of Bend and the Motor West Portland company of Los Angeles.

A. E. Baird of the Bend organization is already in the city with an unusual auto camping outfit, his own invention, which he will display. A. J. Rickey of Seattle, who will be an exhibitor, has arrived in Portland with the equipment for his display. Mr. Rickey comes not only as an exhibitor but as representative of the Seattle Automotive Trades association, of which he is an officer.

Special arrangements to entertain the out-of-town visitors are being made. There will be a session of northwest automobile men Wednesday and a dinner Wednesday night for northwest dealers under the auspices of the Portland Automobile Dealers' association.

Tuesday, which has been designated as "Timers' day," will also be a big one