

METHODIST CONFERENCE TOMORROW

**Quadrennial General Session
Will Have Women Dele-
gates for First Time**

Los Angeles, Cal., May 3.—Nearly all of the delegates have arrived for the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, which is to begin its quadrennial session in this city tomorrow. The delegates number about 750 and represent the 3-

900,000 members of the church scattered throughout the world. For the first time in the 120 years' history of the church women will hold seats in the body as delegates. This revolution is the result of action taken at the session of the general conference held in Chicago four years ago. In addition to the delegates the conference has attracted thousands of visitors from all parts of the United States who are interested in the proceedings.

Several subjects that are to come up for discussion and action will render the general conference this year of far more than ordinary importance. Among these are the proposed unification of the publishing houses and consolidation of the benevolences. The subcommittee appointed four years ago to take into consideration the proposals to unify the publishing interests has prepared a report in which it proposes that the publishing interests of the church shall be consolidated into one corporation, which shall consist of one publishing house and three branch houses and five depositories. The publishing house and principal place of business shall be located in some central place convenient for production and distribution. The branch houses shall be at New York, Cincinnati and Chicago, and the depositories at Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Boston, Detroit and Kansas City.

The scheme for the consolidation of the benevolences includes the doing away with the one missionary society which now administers missions both at home and abroad, and the organization of separate home and foreign mission boards, and a third organization to have charge of education. These proposed consolidations involve a tremendous revolution, the outcome of which gives the church serious anxiety. Many believe them to be supremely wise and that they will result in greater efficiency and larger collections others fear the reverse. Re-adjustment of some kind, however, is deemed necessary and inevitable and the present conference is certain to see important changes in this direction.

Among the other important matters that will in all probability come before the conference is the adoption of some plan by which better provision can be made for aged ministers and the widows and orphans of deceased ministers, and a change in



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what is known as paragraph 248, relating to amusements and prohibiting members of the church from engaging in such amusements as dancing, card playing, theatergoing, etc. The rule has long been largely a dead letter and many believe that it should be removed from its present position and placed under the head of advices. A few declare themselves in favor of striking it out altogether. On the other hand, there are many who are opposed to any change in the paragraph. Discussion of these various questions will be followed with close and

interested attention not only on the part of the delegates, but on the part of the church at large. Of still more interest to the general public, however, will be the election of new bishops. Two active bishops have died since the last general conference and several others may be superannuated. The number of missionary bishops that will be chosen is problematical. The election of three new bishops for southern Asia has been recommended, and in addition, Bishop Moore, who has been in charge of the missions in eastern Asia during the last four years, advises that three missionary bishops be elected for that territory.

While whatever action that may be taken with reference to the missionary bishops will have some effect on the number of bishops, there is no doubt that at least three new bishops will be elected. Successors will be chosen for Bishop Hurst of Washington and Bishop Nind of Detroit, both recently passed away, and a third vacancy, caused by the coming retirement of Bishop Merrill of Chicago, must be filled.

There appears to be no lack of material for new bishops. Among those most prominently mentioned for the office are James R. Day, chancellor of Syracuse university; James W. Bashford, president of Ohio Wesleyan university; Joseph F. Berry, editor of the Epworth Herald, Chicago, and general secretary of the Epworth League; William F. McDowell of New York city, corresponding secretary of the board of education; Henry C. Jennings of Cincinnati, publishing agent of the Western Methodist Book Concern; Henry Spellmayer of Newark, N. J.; Luther B. Wilson of Wash-

ington, D. C.; H. A. Butcher, chancellor of Denver university; R. J. Cook, of Chattanooga, Tenn.; George F. Bovard of Los Angeles; J. W. E. Bowen of Atlanta, Ga.; and Thomas B. Neely of New York city, corresponding secretary of the Sunday School union and editor of the Sunday school periodicals.

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"McFadden's Flats," advertised as the "comedy that has made millions laugh," was at the opera house last night, and as a fun-producer it has few equals. For fine costumes, elaborate scenery, ludicrous situations, and last but not least, a bevy of pretty chorus girls, it is certainly a top-notch production.

Little Jerry Sullivan, well-known to Salemites as the little Wizard of Comedy, has the "Yellow Kid" role, and fills it to perfection. The musical quartet, Alexander brothers, three, and Brady, carry a number of novelties, and know how to use them. It is a rapid production, and everything goes with pleasing celerity.

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RED SEAL

Tr'd 2:06
Rec. 2:10

SIRE OF JOE SEAL 2:11 1/4.

Sired by Red Heart 2:19 1/4, the sire of Chain Shot 2:06 1/2

Red Seal 2:10, Etc.

Dam ALICE M. (trial) 2:25 by Mark Field (son of Geo. Wilkes), Dam of Red Seal 2:10 Al- sire of Daisy Fields 2:08 1/4, Mam- lawood 2:19 1/4. brino Field 2:11 1/4, etc.

Second dam DAY BELL by Advance, sire of Malraska 2:25, etc. Dam of Veritas 2:16 1/4, Vindex 2:29 1/4.

Third dam daughter of Tippe Salib, a thoroughbred.

Red Heart is by Fred Wilkes, out of Sweetheart, by Sultan; second dam Minnehaha, the dam of Beautiful Bells, etc. RED SEAL stands 15.1, compactly built, with great quality and a sure sire of great speed. He will make the season of 1904 at the

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