

The Scranton

THE BOOK CONCERN DISCUSSED

A Subject for Warm Debate at Methodist Conference.

PLEA FOR MINISTERS

Rev. Albert Rich Introduces a Resolution to Make the Division of Profits of the Book Concern with any Object Save That of the Support of Superannuated Ministers, a Violation of Sacred Trust—Committee on Elections Makes Report Regarding the Election of Bishops.

Chicago, May 14.—The general conference of the Methodist church today discussed the question of confining the profits of the book concern to the support of superannuated ministers. The question involved the withdrawing of subsidies from church publications that could not exist otherwise and the payment of conference expenses. The discussion was lengthy and at times spirited, but the matter was finally laid on the table by a rising vote. Discussion of the report of the committee on the revision of the constitution and the report of the committee on rules for the general conference elections took up most of the time of the conference after the morning recess.

Just before adjournment, Chairman Buckley, of the committee on episcopacy, read the report bearing on the effectiveness of the board of general superintendents. Every bishop at present acting was recommended to be continued in the present relations.

Bishop Fitzgerald presided at today's session. After the reading of the minutes, a motion made by Bishop Hurst that a commission be created by the general conference, consisting of one member from each general conference district, to select the 129 delegates to the ecumenical Methodist conference in London, was adopted. A little political was then injected into the proceedings by a resolution to allow delegates the privilege of vacant seats in their delegations for their friends. This was opposed on the ground that it gave too much opportunity for lobbying, and was finally defeated.

Rev. Albert R. Rich, of Dubois, Pa., introduced a resolution to make it a violation of a sacred trust to devote the profits of the book concern to any other object than the support of superannuated ministers. This was introduced to stop payment of the expenses of the general conference out of this fund and the subsidizing of non-paying official papers. Mr. Rich said, if necessary, an injunction should be served upon the general conference, to prevent these trusts funds, to prevent their diversion to any other channel than that for which they are intended. Dr. Eaton, of Troy, N. Y., agent of the Eastern Book concern, made a strong plea for the adoption of the resolution. "In my judgment," he said, "we have now more periodicals in the Methodist church."

The matter tabled. Dr. Lewis Curtis, of the western book concern, also favored the resolution. A motion by Dr. Buckley to lay the whole matter on the table resulted in a lengthy debate.

Dr. Buckley's motion to lay on the table finally prevailed by a large majority. The regular order of the day, the organic law of the church, was then considered. Article 1, being read for amendment or adoption. This article defines the powers and restrictions of the general conference. After some debate the resolution was referred for further consideration to the committee.

The report of the committee on elections, which was made public Saturday, recommending that the election of bishops be held under the two-thirds rule, was brought up and resulted in a spirited debate. Dr. J. M. Buckley, of New York, editor of the Christian Advocate, made a strong plea for the adoption of the report, which he said would tend to neutralize electioneering methods. The report was voted on section by section. The section providing for the election of editors of the several advocates was recommitted to the book committee for further action, the intention being, it is understood, to discontinue some of the subsidized publications for which editors are to be selected. The two-thirds rule on the election of bishops was then adopted by an overwhelming vote.

The time of the session was extended to hear Chairman Buckley's report, No. 2, of the committee on episcopacy, the report being on the effectiveness of the board of general superintendents. The report, which was adopted after a short debate, recommended that the whole list of present acting bishops be declared effective. The conference then adjourned for the day.

Temperance Resolutions.

Chicago, May 14.—The Methodist Episcopal general conference committee on temperance, of which Samuel Dickie, of Michigan, is chairman, and of which Congressman M. N. Johnson, of North Dakota, author and champion of the anti-liquor law, is a member, adopted resolutions today, which in the minds of a number of the committee are a direct slap at President McKinley, because of his acquiescence in the declaration of Attorney General Griggs, declaring the law ineffective. The resolutions are a portion of the report of a sub-committee into whose hands the task of preparing the committee's report to the general conference had been placed, and was adopted after a two hours' debate, in which the members alternately arraigned and championed Presi-

THE NAVAL BILL IS PASSED BY SENATE

FOUR DAYS DEVOTED TO ARMOR PLATE.

Secretary of the Navy is Directed as to the Price to Be Paid for Armor Plate, and is Also Instructed to Purchase Five Holland Torpedo Boats—The Free Home Bill Passed. Bills Considered by the House—A Boer Enthusiast.

Washington, May 14.—After a discussion lasting five full days the senate today passed the naval appropriation bill. Practically four days were devoted to the consideration of the armor plate proposition which was agreed to finally as reported by the committee, with the exception that the secretary of the navy is authorized to make contracts only for such armor as may be needed from time to time. The secretary of the navy is authorized to procure armor of the best quality at \$45 per ton, but if he is unable to obtain it at that price, he is then authorized to pay \$45 per ton for the armor for the battleships Maine, Ohio and Missouri and proceed to erect an armor factory to cost not to exceed \$4,000,000, of which amount made immediately available. The committee's proposition carried by a vote of 22 to 19.

The secretary of the navy is directed to purchase five Holland torpedo boats at a price not exceeding \$17,000 each. The amendment to the house bill was withdrawn by the committee, the navy department having declared against it. Just before adjournment Mr. Nelson, of Minnesota, called up the "free home" bill and it was passed without a word of debate.

A bill was passed to apply a portion of the proceeds of the sale of the public lands to the endowment, support and maintenance of schools or departments of mining and metallurgy in the several states and territories in connection with the colleges for the benefit of agricultural and the mechanic arts.

In the House. The house today passed the general deficiency appropriation bill and the military academy bill, the last of the supply bills will follow it tomorrow. The deficiency bill carried \$3,820,021, and was passed substantially without amendment. The general debate was devoted principally to political topics, the feature being a severe arraignment of the administration by Mr. De Armond (Mo.).

Mr. DeArmond charged the administration with cowardice for allowing an official utterance of sympathy to go out to the Boers struggling in South Africa to repeat the splendid story of the American revolution. He concluded by charging that there was either a secret understanding with Great Britain, or an American administration trucking to wealth and power had overlooked and forgotten the rights of humanity.

TAX DECISION. Supreme Court Announces Opinions Regarding Government Bonds.

Washington, May 14.—The Supreme court of the United States today announced opinions in the cases arising under the inheritance tax provision of the war revenue act and also in a case involving the applicability of the state inheritance tax law of New York to estates composed of government bonds. There were five decisions handed down by the court. The first, by Chief Justice White, is in regard to the federal law and one under the state law, but two of the former class applied, as did one of the latter class to the taxation of government bonds. The court held that neither under the state nor the national enactments were national bonds exempt from taxation. The validity of the general federal law was affirmed, but it was held to be purely applicable to legacies and not to the entire estates of deceased persons. The court holding that "the tax is on the passing of legacies or distributive shares of personalty, with a progressive rate on each, separately determined by the sum of such such legacies or distributive shares."

The decisions dealing with the federal law as a whole were handed down by Justice White and those relating to government bonds by Justice Shiras.

NEGRO CONFERENCE.

Questions That Will Come Up for Consideration. Topeka, Kas., May 14.—Prominent colored men from all parts of the state are in conference here today. Their purpose is to consider the following propositions: "First—Our relation to the state and national administrations." "Second—To discuss public questions." "Third—To consider plans for a permanent state organization." The conference expects to close tomorrow.

CHARLES H. COLE SENTENCED.

Boston Bank Wrecker to Be Imprisoned for Eight Years. Boston, May 14.—In the United States court this forenoon Charles H. Cole, former president of the Globe National bank of this city, who recently pleaded guilty on several counts to an indictment charging him with misappropriating the funds of the insolvent institution, was sentenced to serve eight years in Greenfield, Mass., jail.

Tin Workers Demand Increase.

Pittsburg, May 14.—The Tin Workers' International Protective association, composed of workmen not eligible to the amalgamated association in session here, decided today to demand an advance of 25 per cent. for all workers receiving less than \$1.50 a day and 30 per cent. advance for all who now get more than \$1.50 a day.

Philadelphia Secures the Money.

Philadelphia, May 14.—At a meeting this afternoon of the finance committee of the citizens' national Republican convention the announcement was made that all of the \$100,000 pledged by this city for the Republican convention had been raised.

McKinley Endorsed.

Jenkintown, Pa., May 14.—The Republican convention to select delegates to the national convention from the Seventh congressional district was held here today. The resolutions endorsed President McKinley and Congressman Wagner.

Needed Dividend.

Boston, May 14.—The receiver of the Massachusetts Benefit society today paid its first and annual dividend of 26 per cent.

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STRIKE AT BUFFALO.

RAILROAD OFFICIALS READY TO OPEN CONFERENCE—NO TRANSPORTATION.

New York, May 14.—Commissioner Francis B. Delehanty, of the state board of arbitration and mediation, received a letter today from Commissioner Webster, at Buffalo, asking him to arrange for a conference between the striking freight handlers of that city and the Erie and New York Central railroads.

The freight handlers requested that the conference should take place in New York and that transportation should be furnished them. Mr. Delehanty, after an interview with the superintendents of both roads states that the position taken by both roads is to the effect that they are ready to grant an interview now or at any time, either in New York or at Buffalo, but that transportation will not be furnished strikers; that the strikers may go back to work if they wish that their places be filled to them and after they go back to work, if they have any grievance, either real or fancied, transportation will be furnished to them and they will be granted an interview.

CAR STRIKE SETTLED.

The Men Will All Go to Work at St. Louis Today—The Union Recognized.

St. Louis, May 14.—There were important developments in the street car strike situation today. At a conference held between the officials of the Suburban Railway company and a committee of its employes an amicable adjustment was effected and the men will return to work tomorrow morning.

On just what basis the strike was settled could not be learned tonight, but it can be positively stated that the union received full recognition. The "lockout" is regarded as the settlement of the strike on the Suburban presages an adjustment of the difficulties between the Transit company and its 3,600 striking employes in the near future.

CIGAR GIRLS STRIKE.

A 17-Year-Old Striker Arrested in Philadelphia and Held to Bail.

Philadelphia, May 14.—The strike in the cigar trade in other cities spread to this city today, when about half of the five hundred employes of Hammer, Homan & Co., which also has a branch in New York, went on strike. The strikers, all of whom are girls, had out about fifty pickets to induce other girls not to go to work, and they were assisted by members of the three local bodies of the International Cigar makers' union, the grievance committee of which is conducting the strike. During the day the pickets became involved with the police and as a result about a dozen persons, including a seventeen-year-old girl striker, were arrested and held in jail for court.

Whitney, a popular young man of the city, yesterday afternoon, was lynched near Groveton, about twelve miles from here, today. The mob which disposed of Willis took him from Richmond county officers, who boarded a train for Atlanta soon after the murder was committed. The mob held Willis in the woods, near Groveton, during the night, awaiting identification. At 10 o'clock this morning he was fully identified, and was then swung from a tree. The rope broke in the first attempt and a second was made, which was successful. The body was then riddled with bullets, and a placard was placed upon it bearing a warning to other negroes. The coroner was notified and is now investigating. Alex. Whitney was on a crowd of other negroes, and Willis commenced firing from a pistol. The first shot struck Whitney in the head, causing almost instant death. Willis was swooned and later placed in the hands of the officers.

DECISION REVERSED.

Opinion Filed by Judge Acheson in the United States Circuit Court.

Philadelphia, May 14.—Judge Acheson filed an opinion in the United States Circuit Court of appeals this morning, reversing the decision of Judge Buffington in the Circuit court at Pittsburg, who had granted an injunction to the Dixon-Woods company, excluding Henry Reinhold and others from the making of an alleged infringement on a patented improvement in gas-stoves. The appellate court directs the dismissal of the bill of complaint. Judge Dallas filed an opinion in the same court reversing a decision which had been rendered in the Circuit court at Pittsburg in favor of the Hanover Fire Insurance company, of New York, against Thomas Bradford, and under which the insurance company was to recover \$22,100 from Bradford on the ground that the latter, while serving as agent for the company, had insured "potteries" while instructed not to do so. It was held that the insurance in question was contracted for by a man in Bradford's employ, and who signed Bradford's name without authority.

CORPORATIONS CHARTERED.

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Linemen Strike.

Weather Forecast.

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Wells Fields the Axe.

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WANAMAKER VINDICATED

ACTION IS TAKEN BY THE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE.

The Members Hold a Meeting and Condemn the Attempt to Intimidate Mr. Wanamaker—The Resolutions Passed—Mayor Ashbridge Called Upon to Disavow the Affair or Resign.

Philadelphia, May 14.—The sensation created last week by John Wanamaker's statement in which he charged Director of Public Safety English with threatening to furnish his personal influence to have the newspaper attacks against the city administration stopped, is still a topic of discussion. There is general talk of holding a public indignation meeting, but the matter has not yet taken definite shape. Considerable interest was centered today in the action taken by the board of managers of the Municipal league, an organization founded for the purpose of advocating municipal reform and good city government. The league is composed of many influential citizens. When the subject was brought before the meeting there was about fifteen minutes' debate, and at its conclusion the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, A charge has been made by Mr. John Wanamaker that the director of public safety of this city of Philadelphia on Tuesday, May 12, had threatened to use the personal influence of Mr. Wanamaker to stop the publication of the Municipal league, an organization founded for the purpose of advocating municipal reform and good city government. The league is composed of many influential citizens. When the subject was brought before the meeting there was about fifteen minutes' debate, and at its conclusion the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That a public officer is destructive of the constitutional guarantees of liberty of speech and freedom of the press, and the privilege of individual criticism for the official acts of public officials, and subversive of the fundamental rights of popular government and individual liberty; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the board of managers of the Municipal league of Philadelphia that unless the above attempt at intimidation was made by the director of public safety, and that in the exercise of his official duty and in obedience to his express orders, it is the plain duty of Mayor Ashbridge to disavow all connection with this outrage and to institute immediately an investigation into the conduct of the offending official; and in the event of the charges against him being substantiated to resign his office; and, he, if it be required.

NEGRO LYNCHED.

William Willis Who Shot Alex Whitney Is Hanged and Riddled with Bullets

Aurora, Ga., May 14.—William Willis, a negro, who shot and killed Alex Whitney, a popular young man of the city, yesterday afternoon, was lynched near Groveton, about twelve miles from here, today. The mob which disposed of Willis took him from Richmond county officers, who boarded a train for Atlanta soon after the murder was committed. The mob held Willis in the woods, near Groveton, during the night, awaiting identification. At 10 o'clock this morning he was fully identified, and was then swung from a tree. The rope broke in the first attempt and a second was made, which was successful. The body was then riddled with bullets, and a placard was placed upon it bearing a warning to other negroes. The coroner was notified and is now investigating. Alex Whitney was on a crowd of other negroes, and Willis commenced firing from a pistol. The first shot struck Whitney in the head, causing almost instant death. Willis was swooned and later placed in the hands of the officers.

STRIKE IN ALASKA.

May Interfere with Supplies for New Army Post at Valdes.

Seattle, Wash., May 14.—The transport Rosencrans has arrived from Port Valdes. Six discharged soldiers and Malley's crew, who were sent to the transport, were boarded by the crew of the Rosencrans and a cargo of supplies for the Valdes post. Captain Richardson says he found four feet of snow at Valdes. There is much fear about the construction of a railway from that point to the Yukon. The post is four and a half miles south of Valdes.

BUTTONWOOD STRIKE OVER.

All Departments of the Mine Now in Operation.

Pennsylvania Branch.

Over Three Thousand New Citizens.

Shooting in Kentucky.

Lumber Company Chartered.

Golden Jubilee.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today: FAIR AND WARM.

1 General-General Buller Forces the Biggarsburg Passes. Methodist General Conference Reports. Senate Passes the Naval Bill. Business Men's League Stands by Wanamaker.

DISCLOSED THE KICKER.

Eleven of the Lutz Jury Were Ribbons on Their Coat Lapels—May Be a Fatal Irregularity.

Three hundred and forty-three hours had passed at midnight last night since the Lutz jury, in Wilkes-Barre, retired and an agreement is apparently as far off as ever. On the way to dinner yesterday eleven of the jury wore small boys' blue "baby" ribbon on the lapel of their coats. The undecorated juror was the foreman, F. A. B. Koons. It is supposed the majority jurors took the method of telling the public who they were the obvious one of their number. It is known to a practical certainty that the division is eleven for conviction and one for acquittal. The "ribbon" incident was widely discussed, as may be believed, and among the lawyers there was a very general debate as to whether or not this action should be construed to be an irregularity of sufficient gravity to make grounds for a new trial in case the verdict was not acceptable to the defense.

The fact that it was a very apparent attempt to disclose to the public the identity of the obstinate juror, with the hope that his knowledge of the disclosure would tend to bring him around to the majority, was viewed by many as an error that might possibly interfere with the finding when it does come.

ODD FELLOWS AT HARRISBURG.

Grand Encampment Opens with 100 Members Present.

Harrisburg, May 14.—The grand encampment of the Odd Fellows of Pennsylvania met here this morning at Odd Fellows' hall, about 150 members being present. Grand Chief Patriarch Hughes presided. The report of Grand Scribe Nicholson showed a decrease in the membership of 253. The total amount paid for relief was \$68,000. The balance in the Grand encampment treasury is \$992. Seven new encampments were instituted, one reorganized and six surrendered their charters.

Grand Patriarch John A. Fleming, of Shippensburg, announced the following appointments: Grand marshal, R. W. Hockersmith, Shippensburg; grand sentinel, George W. Korte, York; printing, Theodore Yarnell, Robert Gorman, Philadelphia; John P. McClure, Selins Grove; state of order, Henry W. Bailey, William King, Philadelphia; Frederick Williams, Pittsburg. The grand patriarch also declared that the appointment of a district grand patriarch for every county in the state. A session of the Grand lodge was held this evening, at which the Grand lodge degree was conferred on a large number of candidates.

At the same time the drawing of seats for the sessions of the Grand lodge took place. The sessions of the Grand lodge and the Daughters of Rebekah will begin tomorrow morning.

AUSTRIA AND THE BOER WAR.

Mediation Out of the Question—Relations of Powers Undisturbed.

Budapest, May 14.—During the course, today, of his customary speech to the delegations, the Austro-Hungarian minister of foreign affairs, Count Goluchowski, declared that the confidence he had previously felt that the South African war would not dangerously affect the relations between the great powers had so far been fully realized. He added that he hoped hostilities would soon be terminated and mediation appeared to be out of the question unless both belligerents desired it.

DAY'S DEATH ROLL.

York, May 14.—Rev. H. E. Niles, D. D., pastor of the First Presbyterian church of York, died this afternoon. Dr. Niles was pastor of the First church since April, 1882. He was born Aug. 15, 1825, at South Haddam, Mass., graduated from Union college, Schenectady, N. Y., in 1844, and from Princeton theological seminary in 1848; was ordained by the Presbytery of Columbia and installed pastor of Valata. (Kinderhook N. Y., Oct. 24, 1848. He served churches at Anglica, N. Y.; North church, St. Louis, Mo.; and Albion, N. Y., from where he was called to York.

Cape May, N. J., May 14.—Dr. Coleman F. Learning, of Cape May, who has been a boan in this city and for eighteen years was connected with the local postoffice, part of the time as assistant postmaster. He served two terms as city treasurer. He leaves a wife and four children.

Linemen Strike.

Philadelphia, May 14.—Outside electrical linemen to the number of 150 struck today for an advance of 25 per cent. The men claim that the companies have lowered their wages. They ask \$2.75 for a day's overtime work and a half for overtime with double pay on Sunday and holiday work.

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GEN. BULLER ADVANCING

Turning of Biggarsberg Position a Bold Move.

London, May 13, 2.45 a. m.—General Buller's turning of the Biggarsberg position was effected by a bold movement. The Boers had evacuated Helpmakaar, but were making a stand Monday evening at Blesboppanne, seven miles from Durban. The correspondents on the spot regard this as a rear-guard action, intended to cover the retreat of the army.

RAPID MARCHES DAILY

Breaking Into Former British Territory at the Rate of Fifteen Miles Daily—An American Scout in the Squadron That Cut the Railway Beyond Kroomstad—Nothing Regarding Mafeking.

While Lord Roberts' infantry are concentrating at Kroomstad, where they will rest for a day or two, his horsemen have penetrated eighteen miles northward. In the squadron, which cut the railway fifteen miles beyond Kroomstad, was the American scout, Frederick Burnham. Two hundred Boers, who had hidden in the river jungle near Kroomstad to escape service, had surrendered to the British and taken the oath of allegiance.

According to a dispatch from Bennett Bushell to the Daily Telegraph, dated Thursday, May 10, Paul Botha and MacDonald, members of the Free State's volksraad, demanded that the chairman should call a meeting to sue for peace, as further resistance was suicidal, and proposed to make President Steyn a prisoner.

Nothing definite has been heard about the expected relief of Mafeking. The Cape Town correspondents continue to wire that relief is imminent, fixing Tuesday or Wednesday as probable dates. Inquiries at the war office are today of the news of the relief will be made public immediately upon its receipt. No word has come to hand at midnight.

East of Bloemfontein General Buller is advancing toward Ladybrand. His troops and those of General Brabant are stretched over a distance of thirty miles. The Boers are described as quite