

ANNIVERSARY WAS OBSERVED

(Continued from Page 1.)

cent a lively interest among you, brethren, in the welfare of this conference, and we are fully assured of the fact that her success has been largely the result of your interest in her behalf. As we come to this report, we confidently trust that the churches will unite in responding to the call.

The board of trustees would suggest that the Sunday in October be observed in all our churches as Wyoming Seminary Day, and that a service be held at that time, the subject of Christian education be presented to our congregations and an effort made to secure students, and that a collection be taken for the seminary.

This indebtedness must be provided for. It is a fact. The members of the faculty have already labored to meet this work, and the trustees assure you that they are ready to do their share in lifting this burden, believing that the conference will not be far from wanting.

Crisis Has Arisen.

Rev. Dr. L. L. Sprague made an earnest appeal for assistance for the Wyoming seminary. He said that a crisis has arisen which brings this noble old institution rather than the danger line. The indebtedness is now more than \$35,000. Electric lights, steam heat and a new kitchen and dining room equipment have cost over \$20,000. The school is now in a fine condition. It is among the very best in appointment of the preparatory schools of the country.

"We don't have card-playing and dancing at Wyoming seminary," said Dr. Sprague. "We are thoroughly Methodist in our rules and shall prohibit these amusements until they are expunged from the Discipline."

Dr. Austin Griffin added his plea for co-operation from the entire conference in aiding the institution. He was followed by Rev. H. M. Cryden, who spoke in the same strain.

Rev. Thomas Harroun, who has been preaching for half a century, gave the historical sermon of the conference. The gentle, kindly face of the old man looked forth earnestly over the great congregation and a subtle sympathy went out toward him. The people had just been singing

"I'll soon be at home over there,
For the end of my journey I see."

and those who have never attended a Methodist conference do not know how Methodist ministers can sing. The quavering old voices, that have been brave and ringing, mingled like a minor chord, with the strong, cultivated, rich tones of the young men—and led perhaps by the remaining members of the famous Wyoming Trio, who will sing sweetly until their throats are hoarse, the silence of the one voice is a rift within the lute.

It Was an Event.

Mr. Harroun possesses, perhaps beyond the power of almost any other minister in the conference, the gift of beautiful thoughts expressed in beautiful language. Full of imagery, poetry and tenderness, his address marked an event in the conference. He spoke from Exodus, 14:15: "Speak unto the children of Israel and tell them to go forward."

"I have been fifty years in the way to heaven," said he. "I have had a great many ups and downs, but I am still in the way. Abraham Lincoln emancipated the black man. It is our work to emancipate black and white. It is a preferred life that we lead. Sometimes we must exchange songs for prayer. I like to ride off on a wave of halcyon days as well as anyone, but somebody must get the boat ready. Even the sun himself cannot alone make the flower bloom in your garden. It takes rain and snow, and light and dark, and cold and heat, and thunder and lightning. God makes men this way. He hardens them and puts them in a tough place. It makes them tough and they are able to endure."

In conclusion, the speaker said that he began his work in the ministry fifty-one years ago and four months ago. He entered this conference in 1869, and had been present at every session since. He added, naively: "I have had good appointments—mostly. I have never been changed but three times, except at the end of the law. Where the law is to end now I don't know. As he concluded with the words, "I hope you'll all be there," a scene typical of Methodism of the old time was witnessed. The entire congregation stood and gave the Chautauqua salute as the words "We'll be there" were sung, and emotion was evident on every face.

An Offering Made.

A voluntary silver offering was presented to the veteran clergyman, and the bishop supplemented the occasion by a few remarks, when he said that he himself had been fifty-seven years in active work, and began it in a "circuit" of twenty-two preaching places. "In going forward," he said, "we have lost something. We have lost the old-time love-feasts and the quarterly meeting."

He congratulated Mr. Harroun on the result of his service and the love and respect of the church. Those who worry and fret over appointments and salary are apt to drop out along the way.

Dr. James Morrow, representative of the American Bible society, then made a brief address. He spoke of the 150,000 foreign-speaking people in the Shenandoah valley, where he hopes to see a Methodist mission established. It is foreign missionary work on home soil. The Bible society's great mission was emphasized.

Rev. L. C. Murdock offered a resolution touching on this question in the Wyoming valley, where, he said, the Presbyterians had done much. It was adopted. The resolution is:

In view of the fact that there are 75,000 foreign-speaking people within the bounds of this conference, and

Resolved, That the conference urgently request the general missionary committee appropriate at least \$1,000 annually to the support of evangelistic work among them.

Bible Agent Harned, of the Lackawanna Bible society, spoke in favor of the resolution, and stated that he had placed seventy Bibles translated into Italian, in Scranton. Mr. Gill, representing the Methodist church insurance, made an address, urging more insurance on church property in this conference.

Action was taken on the memoir of Mrs. Lynch, who died on Tuesday, and was the widow of a member of this conference.

Dr. Webster followed on the subject of church insurance. Rev. G. H. Fren-

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tee read the report of church and parsonage insurance. The bishop made the presentation of \$100 in gold to Rev. Thomas Harroun, who, with emotion, returned his thanks. Dr. Morrow pronounced the benediction.

Semi-Centennial.

The afternoon session was devoted to the Historical society semi-centennial. The platform was filled with the oldest members of the conference. The first hymn was read by Rev. S. E. Walworth, of Canby, N. Y. Others taking part were: Rev. Joseph Madison, of Scranton; Rev. Thomas Harroun, of Sherbourne, N. Y.; Rev. G. W. Leach, of Tusquehanna; Dr. A. J. Van Cleft and Rev. Dr. Poole, of the Central New York conference; Dr. Harris, first presiding elder.

Rev. C. M. Sordam read the roll call of 1852, when there were eighteen churches in the Wyoming district. There are eighteen of the members of that conference still living. Revs. C. L. Rice, Walworth, Stevens, Van Cleft, Personous and Wheeler answered to their names. The minutes from which the roll was read comprised the year's records, and made but a small volume, less than the minutes of last year.

Rev. W. L. Thorpe gave a most interesting account of "Why Organize the Wyoming Conference."

The most affecting incident of an afternoon filled with sentiment was connected with the Wyoming Trio, whose names appeared on the programme—one black-lettered—"W. B. Westlake, absent but not forgotten."

It was a duet and not a trio that stood on the platform, for Rev. W. B. Westlake's voice ceased on earth three years ago. They had sung together for twenty-five years, and had helped more perhaps than most of the sermons. Today, the two, J. B. Sumner and J. C. Leacock, sang the hymn they sang last together as a trio, "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder." The voices seem not to weaken or grow harsh by the years, and there was a unanimous sentiment of approval when C. A. Benjamin rose to suggest that the surviving members of the famous Wyoming Trio receive the ardent thanks of the conference for the blessing they had been. One of the hymns written by Rev. Mr. Sumner is known the world over and has been translated into numerous tongues. It is, "I'm the Child of a King."

Mrs. Dale's Paper.

Mrs. Thomas H. Dale, of Scranton, gave the most interesting paper of the sessions on the subject, "The Work of Woman in Fifty Years Within Wyoming." It had necessitated an interminable task in research and selection. "These pages could be filled," said Mrs. Dale, "with facts stronger than fiction and fresher tales as charming as any romance, for fifty years ago the tinge of Revolutionary valor and enthusiasm had not entirely faded from the horizon; indeed, had been carried into the church, where perhaps there was quite as much need of bravery and sacrifice. We are proud and thankful to be able to trace back through this line of devoted Christian ancestors, our right to belong to the grand association of Daughters of the Revolution, and quite as proud and thankful of our indis-

putable claim to a place upon the roll of the Daughters of Methodism."

Mrs. Dale has a true claim to this title. She was born in a Methodist parsonage, baptized as an infant. Her mother was the daughter of John Combs, who so loved Methodism that he gave annually \$1,500 for church extension and education. Her father was a member of both Oneida and Wyoming conferences, many years a pastor, and presiding elder of four districts, professor of ancient languages in Casanova seminary, principal of Bethany seminary, editor of the Northern Advocate, member of the book committee and president of Willamette university, superintendent of education in the state of Washington. On the roll of Methodist ministers in her family are two uncles and ten cousins. Thus it is that no one is more fitted by birth, culture and talent to give a review of the subject assigned to our gifted townswoman of Scranton. Beautiful diction, and vivid in portraits of the past, Mrs. Dale's paper was heard with the utmost interest.

Moved in Wagons.

"We used to gather round mother's chair," said Mrs. Dale, "and listen to her personal experience from the time when, as a child, she could hear the cry of the panther near the house, down through the moving days. Once it was from the northern part of the conference to Wilkes-Barre in wagons. The family was moved by installments, for we were an old-fashioned minister's family. I remember asking my father, 'Why had he been telling me that in early times their salaries were increased so much per child, if that was the reason he had so many children?'"

Mrs. Ruddy, Mrs. Rounds, Mrs. G. M. Peck and Mrs. Nelson were mentioned as examples of earlier devotion to the cause. Among the missionaries sent out from this conference were: Mrs. Charles M. Judd, Mrs. S. L. Baldwin, daughter of Dr. Gorham, who was married in the old Adams avenue church; and Miss Mary Holbrook.

The first Woman's Foreign Missionary society in the conference was organized in 1870 at Binghamton, which was the home of Miss Fannie Sparks, the celebrated foreign missionary. In thirty years the Woman's Foreign Missionary society paid to missions \$65,617.92. The Home Missionary society was organized in 1883, in the conference presided over by Bishop Why. The name of Mrs. Priscilla Bennett, of Wilkes-Barre, was named among the noble women who have done so much for the missionary societies.

Rev. Charles L. Rice gave a clever poem on "Carbonate and Some of the Guests Fifty Years Ago," and then there was a hymn-medley, compiled by Dr. Hard from many familiar hymns. The contributions to historical archives were enumerated, and reports from the officers were heard.

Dr. Sprague's Paper.

Rev. Dr. Sprague gave a brilliant paper on "Why Wyoming Conference Has Won." The increase of numbers has been 216 per cent. in fifty years. Dr. Hard read a letter from President Roosevelt, in reply to one written regarding a prediction made by Dr. W. H. Olin, twenty years ago, in the New York legislature, when Dr. Olin sup-

ported Roosevelt for speaker of the house. The letter follows:

White House, March 26,
My Dear Dr. Hard: I thank you sincerely for your letter. I have always prized the memory of my association with Dr. Olin. His absolute high-mindedness and rugged fearlessness made me a better man because I knew him.
Faithfully yours,
Theodore Roosevelt.

The letter was placed in the archives, with many other treasures gathered by Dr. Hayes, Dr. Hard and others. The officers of the Historical society, who served last year, were re-elected. They are: President, Rev. Mauley S. Hard, D. D.; vice presidents, the presiding elders; corresponding secretary, Rev. A. W. Hayes, D. D.; recording secretary, Rev. C. M. Sordam; treasurer, Rev. H. H. Wilbur; librarian, Rev. L. L. Sprague, D. D.; archivist, Rev. W. L. Thorpe.

The evening session was devoted to the Freedman's Aid society. Rev. Dr. Wilbur P. Threlkell, of Cincinnati, gave a great address. Rev. H. C. McDermott, presided. A fine tribute was paid to Dr. J. H. Rice for placing the work on a new basis at Grant university. No one can take Dr. Rice's place and grief is felt at his transfer to Binghamton. The speaker asked the conference to endow a room in honor of Dr. Rice. Tomorrow will be Home Missionary Day.

CONFERENCE NOTES.

Rev. L. C. Murdock has been unanimously requested to return to Kingston for the sixth year. Rev. C. H. Neving was appointed collector for the Methodist Review and Rev. Thomas Livingston, collector for the "Gospel in All Lands."

There will be a new presiding elder of the Binghamton district this year. Dr. Floyd's term having expired. Rev. Dr. J. B. Sweet is prominently mentioned for this position.

Rev. Dr. Bickford, of Wilkes-Barre, created a ripple this morning by rising in his seat and making the protest: "I am not a doctor of divinity; only men of note are that."

There is to be a change at Asbury church, Green Ridge, and the number of clergymen who are willing and anxious to serve that desirable congregation is receiving daily accessions.

Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Dale arrived this morning and will spend several days at the conference. Both are recognized as among the most influential and active members of the Methodist church in the Wyoming conference, and are recognized for their interest and ability beyond its confines. Mr. and Mrs. Dale are staying at the Hotel Snyder.

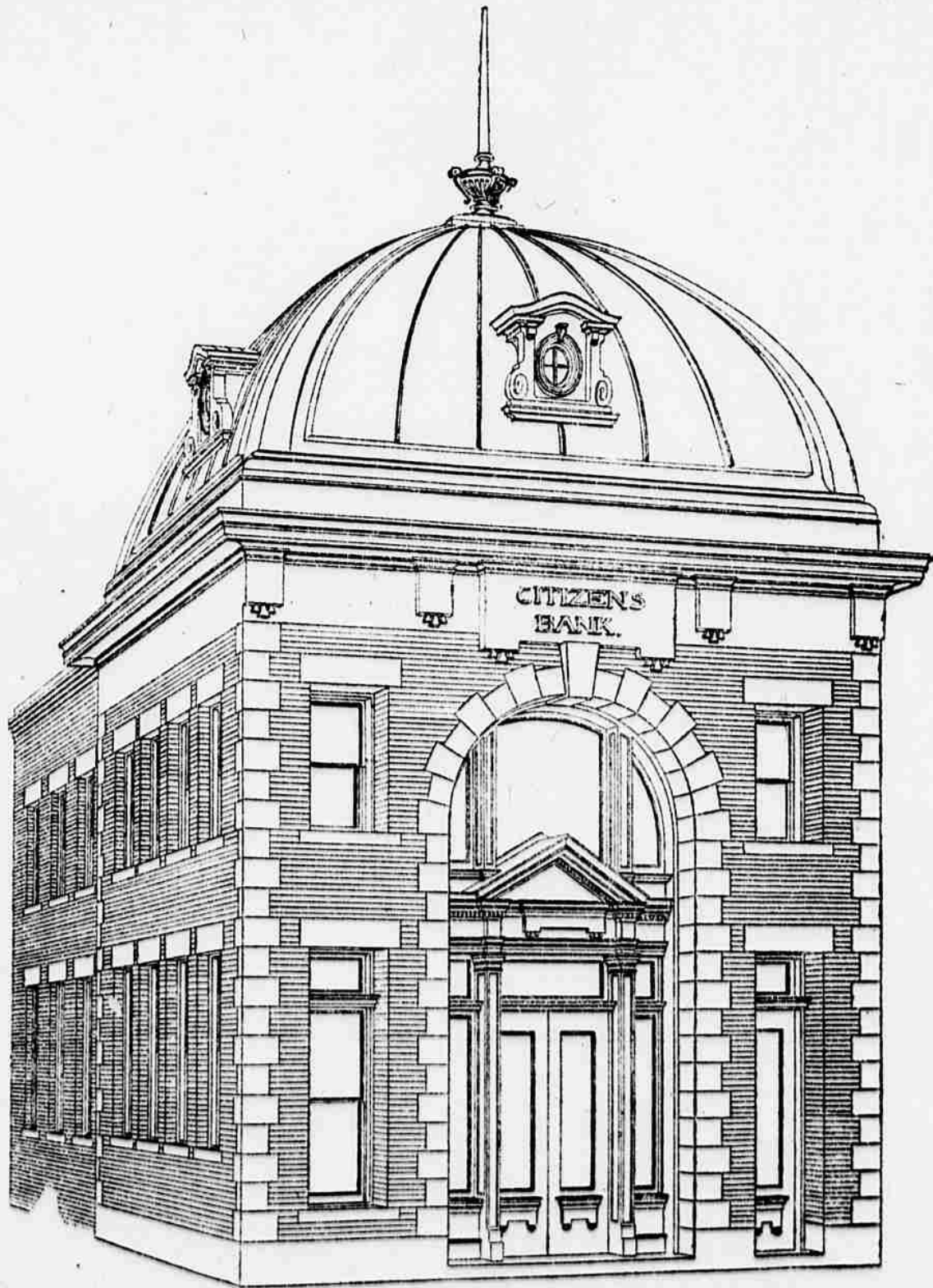
A series of lectures have been arranged for the remainder of the week by Dean Wright, of Boston. They are at 8 a. m. and 4 p. m. Just how many listeners the Dean will have in the morning at that early hour is problematical. The people of Watery do not rise in the small hours of the morning. Unlike Kipling's kangaroos, who can be in bed, they do not have to eat breakfast by gaslight.

HAS GONE TO BUFFALO.

Jacob Schaefer, school controller of the Tenth ward, who was foreman of the Lackawanna Iron and Steel company's car shops in this city, for the past thirty-five years or more, has gone to Buffalo to accept a similar position under the company.

Mr. Schaefer left this week for Buffalo, accompanied by a number of his old employees, and if he likes it there, will make his home in the Bison City and remove his family there. He has been a member of the board of control for a number of years.

BUILDING FOR THE OLYPHANT BANK.



Contracts have been awarded and the work started for the erection of a bank building for the Citizens' bank of Oliphant, after drawings by Langley & Blackwood, associated architects, of this city. The building is 25 feet by 50 feet, two stories, with basement, and will be entirely fireproof throughout.

The design for the principal facade is in the Italian renaissance. The materials are a combination of rich, dark brown pressed brick, with lime-stone trimmings. The front half of the building, or that part seen from the street is surmounted by an impressive copper dome. The banking room, fireproof vault, lavatories, etc., calls for an arrangement complete in every detail with artistic decorations and furnishings.

The basement affords well-lighted space for the heating apparatus, public lavatories, fireproof vault for storage of papers and janitor's store rooms. The second floor is divided into offices "en suites." The building will have every modern convenience and will surely stand as a monument, among banking institutions, in this section of the valley.



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