

The Newberry Herald and News.

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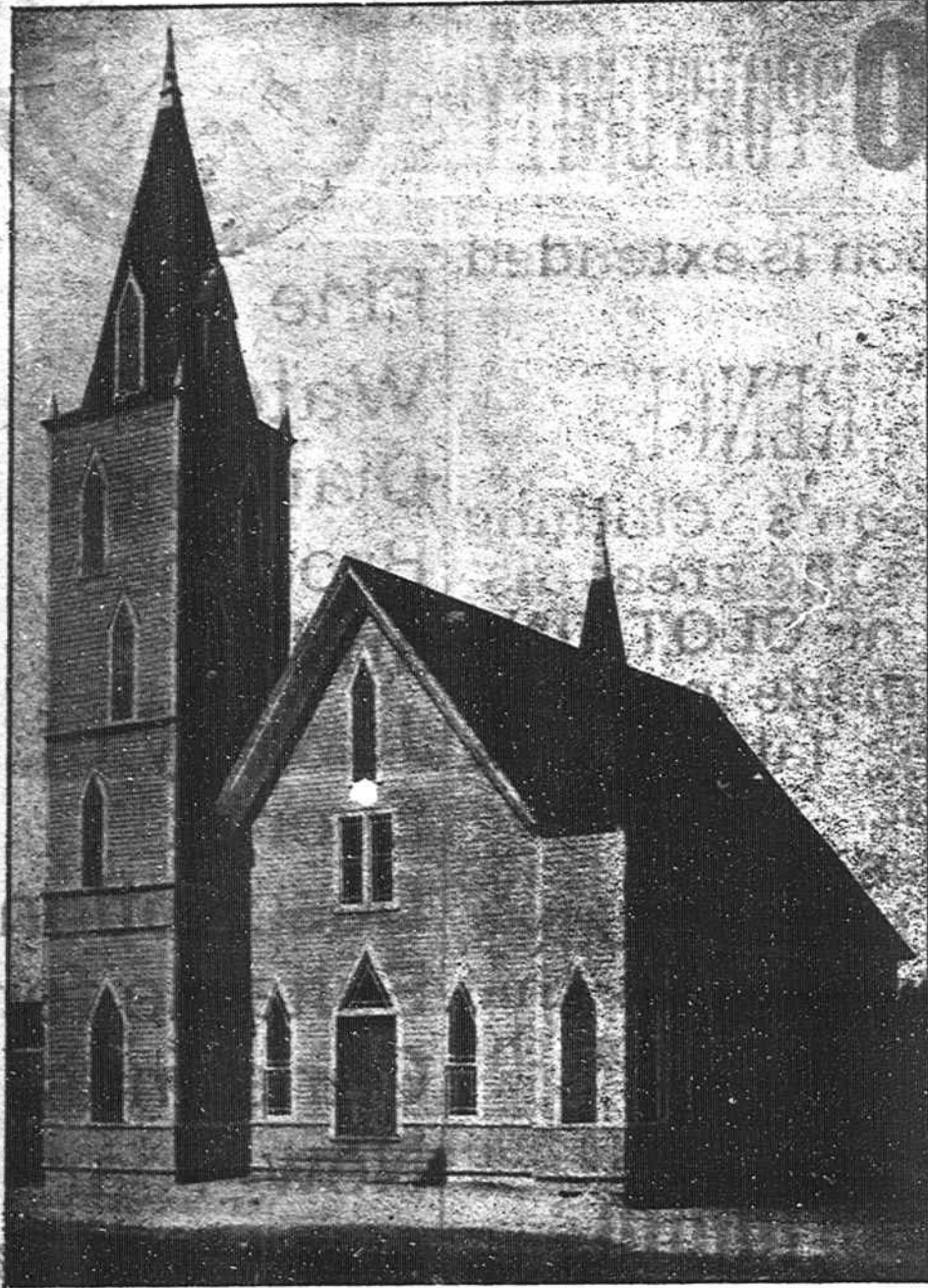
EXTRA.

FIRST SESSION HELD YESTERDAY.

CONFERENCE BEGINS ITS 117TH ANNUAL SESSION.

Day Largely Taken Up With Routine Matters—Officers Elected—The Various Committees Appointed.

The South Carolina Conference of the M. E. Church South convened in its one hundred and seventeenth annual session in Central Methodist Church at 10 o'clock yesterday morning.



O'NEALL STREET CHURCH.

The greater part of the day was taken up with routine business in perfecting the organization and in the examination of character. Bishop Duncan opened and closed the session with short and interesting talks.

Conference was opened with devotional exercises, including the sacrament of the Lord's supper administered by Presiding Bishop W. W. Duncan assisted by Revs. O. A. Darby, J. W. Humbert, W. C. Power, and C. W. Walker.

The roll was called, 168 clerical and 14 lay delegates answering to their names.

The election of officers resulted as follows:

Secretary—E. O. Watson.
Assistant Secretaries—W. L. Watt, A. E. Holler.
Statistical Secretary—S. H. Zimmerman.
Assistant Statistical Secretaries—M. B. Kelly, R. E. Turnipseed, J. N. Nolan.
Recording Secretary—A. J. Cauthen, Jr.

The hours of session were fixed from 9:30 a. m. to 1:30 p. m. The bar of Conference was fixed so as to include all pews in the main auditorium.

Examination of characters of pastors and Presiding Elders was then entered into. All were passed. The names of F. Auld, M. L. Banks, L. M. Hamer, L. C. Loyal, J. F. Smith, having died during the past year were referred to the Committee on Memorials.

The Presiding Elders, constituting a standing committee for nomination of committees and boards, reported the following nominations, which were adopted:

COMMITTEES.

Public Worship—R. A. Child, W. I. Herbert, G. E. Edwards, J. W. Chapman.
Admissions—Jno. O. Wilson, R. H. Jones, W. A. Pitts, R. L. Holroyd, T. C. O'Dell.
Conference Relations—A. B. Watson, J. W. Daniel, D. P. Boyd, W. B. Wharton, W. M. Duncan, J. R. Sojourner, A. J. Cauthen, W. H. Ariail, S. A. Nettles, J. H. Thacker.
Books and Periodicals—P. F.

Kilgo, R. M. Lofton, J. C. Counts, B. E. Nicolson, J. M. Whitmire, R. E. Stackhouse, M. W. Hook, J. C. Chandler, J. C. Otts, J. M. Knight.
Bible Class—J. C. Roper, J. R. Bullock, A. R. Phillips, J. McDonald, W. E. Wiggins, B. G. Collins, J. D. Frierson, J. W. Hamel, C. B. Burns, N. S. McLeod.
Temperance—J. K. McCain, J. L. Harley, G. R. Shaffer, J. L. Quinby, W. J. Rodgers, T. J. White, T. B. Reynolds, H. I. Judy, J. A. Smith, L. L. Bedenbaugh.
District Conference Journals—J.

THE COLUMBIA FEMALE COLLEGE.

BOARD WILL RECOMMEND ITS REMOVAL TO GREENWOOD.

Decision Reached Yesterday Afternoon—Matter To Come Before Conference at 12 O'clock Today.

The Board of Trustees of the Columbia Female College, at a meeting held yesterday afternoon, after careful consideration of all the offers before them, unanimously decided to recommend to Conference that the college be moved to Greenwood, Brookland, Sumter, Laurens, Greenwood, and Columbia, where the college is at present located, were the points discussed.

Brookland, just across the river from Columbia, through its representative, J. G. Guignard, made an offer of twenty five acres of land.

Sumter agreed to give any site within the city or near the city which the committee might choose. Laurens offered \$25,000 in cash, and one of three choice sites. Greenwood offered \$42,960 in guaranteed subscriptions.

As stated, the Board unanimously decided to recommend that Greenwood's proposition be accepted.

By special order this matter will come up before Conference at 12 o'clock today, and an animated discussion will most probably be provoked. There are many friends of the college who think that no better location for the college can be found than the present one in the city of Columbia. They hold that it is now centrally located, and that the students will receive advantages in the capital of the State which they can receive nowhere else. That the college is now in good condition and prosperous, and for these and many other reasons its removal would be a great mistake. There are others who are strongly in favor of the Board's recommendation, and who today will seek to make good their position.

This is one of the most important matters that will come before the present session of Conference. The agitation in favor of moving the college has been going on for some time and the cause has been vigorously championed and as vigorously opposed. The decision of Conference, which will be reached today, is being awaited with a good deal of interest by the Methodists throughout the State.

REV. G. E. EDWARDS.

Pastor of O'Neill Street Methodist Church, West End—A Successful Young Pastor.

Rev. Geo. E. Edwards, who came by appointment of the Bishop one year ago as pastor of the O'Neill Street Methodist church, is a native of Marion County and a son of D. S. and M. R. Edwards, and was born November 16, 1873. He is of Scotch-Irish descent. He grew to manhood on his father's farm and received his early education at Hopewell Academy in Marion County. Joined the church in 1888 and was converted in 1890 under the preaching of Rev. J. C. Chandler. He entered Wofford College in 1893, but after finishing the Sophomore class dropped out to teach school for two years which he did successfully in Lancaster and Marion Counties. He re-entered Wofford College in 1897 and graduated in 1899. After graduation he was elected principal of the Dothan school in his native county which he conducted successfully for two years. In January 1901 while teaching this school he was appointed junior preacher on Little Rock Circuit by Presiding Elder W. C. Power and licensed to preach by the Marion District Conference at Conway in May, 1901. At the conference in Columbia last December he was admitted on trial and assigned to work in Newberry. His work here has been quite successful and he is much beloved by his people in whose welfare he takes a deep and abiding interest. He is still unmarried but in the language of Presiding Elder Power "is groaning so to be."

ELOQUENCE AND THOUGHT COMBINED

IN THE ADDRESS OF DR. H. W. HAMILL LAST NIGHT.

The Sunday School the Solution of the Problem of the Growth and Development of the Church.

The public address before Conference last night was delivered by Dr. H. W. Hamill, of Nashville, Tenn. Dr. Hamill has made the Sunday Schools the object of his life work, and it was in their interest that he came to Newberry to speak last night. His address was a masterpiece. Thought and eloquence combined in one perfect whole. The moment the speaker began his audience was placed in full sympathy with him, and their close and undivided attention was held until the last word was spoken. It is not often that as scholarly and as interesting and instructive address is heard.

The exercises were opened with devotional services, conducted by Rev. J. S. Beaseley, with prayer by Dr. S. A. Weber.

The speaker of the evening was introduced by Rev. Mr. Beaseley.

Mr. Hamill began with the statement that he had always loved children. He claimed no credit for it, nor for the fact that this love increased with each year. If there was an epitaph he coveted more than any other it was that some



REV. G. E. EDWARDS.

friend would write upon his tomb these words: "He loved children." He gave as his theme "An Unsolved Problem." Its first factor was for the country of which he and his audience were a part. But he intended to narrow this factor down tonight to the Southland. There was no use to ask if his hearers loved it. They knew its history, its trials and its triumphs, its joys and its sorrows. But he was not going to talk of the old South, it was gone. The problems that now confront us are those of the future. Conditions have been changing. Whatever has been achieved in the past is a promise of greater achievements in the future. The past



REV. D. P. BOYD.

hundred years in the South's history gives promise of a brighter future to come. The New South, the South to come, promises under God, a greater growth than any ever achieved in the past. The speaker referred to the building of the isthmian canal and the rapid passing of the negro problem, and the great influence which these facts would have in this development.

He was a boy of 16 when he got his parole from Lee at Appomattox,

and if there ever was a set of merry men it was those who trod barefoot the snows and faced death from Manassas to Appomattox. He never saw them weep but once, and that was when they learned of their beloved commander's surrender. These boys in gray returned home, and they have made the South what it is, have built its mills, its railroads, and put it in the line of march which will carry it on until it becomes the world's favored section. And when the South becomes the favored section it will have the great population. It was on account of this great population that the South had to do with his thence.

The second factor in his problem was the Church. The South had always had a deeper and more sincere reverence for men of the cloth than probably any other section. Here were the Churches, Baptist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, he liked them all, but he wanted to whisper into the ears of the members of the South Carolina Conference, here we are also. Upon the foundation of America the Methodists, by numerical strength, prestige and power, did the religious pioneer work. The splendid generalship of the fathers of Methodism pushed them into the lead and they went from one side of the country to the other and conquered the territory in the name of Jesus Christ and of John Wesley as well.

But by standing still this leadership could not be maintained. On one occasion when the Presbyterian Church put its confessions of faith and its doctrines in a parallel column alongside the Methodist confessions and doctrines he thought the ghosts of John Wesley and of John Calvin were shaking hands.

His problem was how to retain the leadership which Methodism had ever held in this country.

The solution of the problems of the past would not solve the future. The Methodists have a history descending from their fathers that fills their hearts with pride. And they have a Sunday School polity of which they are not ashamed. It was one of the best if not the best. Mr. Hamill gave many instances going to prove this assertion. Looking at this Conference he was sure if he and they could get together and work in a manner that would best subserve the interests of Sunday School work, that great and good results would be accomplished. He had heard that not more than half of the Methodist preachers in South Carolina had observed children's day with appropriate exercises. But he refused to believe that any pastor of a Church, one of whose greatest objects was the bringing of the children within its folds, would refuse to give them a prominent place in the Church

and the greatest, was the teacher. As goes the teacher goes the State, and as goes the teacher of the Sunday School goes the Church. The great work is the teacher's work. The problem can't be solved without the help of the Sunday School teacher. He congratulated the South Carolina Conference upon the rapid strides which it had made in training its teachers and prayed that the good work would continue more and more with the passing of the years.

If the Conference were interested in missions, the best way to forward the cause was to get the chil-

normal order, to save the youth. So it is by the Sunday School that we must grow. The home is paying attention to all other sides of the child's life but does not pay enough attention to the religious side. So it could be seen how it was that God was compelled to raise up the Sunday School to supplement and round out the home. Here in South Carolina the Bible was used in the schools. But any little fellow, of home or foreign extraction, 6 by 9 in brain or heart could get up and propose a measure and drive the Bible out. Any State system can drive out the reading of the Bible, and rather than have it kicked about like a football between two opposing elevens he would rather keep it out altogether. He knew one place where it would not be kicked about and that place was

dren in the Church through the Sunday School. Did they want to help the Epworth League? It was the daughter of the Sunday School and a daughter could be in no better hands than under a mother's care. Did they want to increase the subscription lists of the Church papers? The only way to do it was through teaching the children to read Church literature, and the only way to do this was through the trained teachers.

In closing he paid an eloquent tribute to the teacher, he who trains the minds of the young, greater than the philosopher, the statesman, the soldier, the poet, greater than all these, "for as is the teacher, so is the nation."

After prayer, led by Rev. J. B. Campbell, for Rev. T. J. Herbert, who is seriously ill at his home, the congregation was dismissed with the benediction.

O'NEALL STREET METHODISTS.
Large Congregation—West End Organized in 1891—Handsome Church Building.

In 1891, during the incumbency of Rev. W. W. Daniel as pastor of the Methodist congregation in Newberry, a second Methodist congregation was organized in West End. In 1894, Rev. S. A. Nettles was appointed to serve this charge, which was known as the "Newberry City Mission." He was succeeded by Rev. W. B. Verdin in 1896. Mr. Verdin was succeeded by Rev. J. W. Speake, Mr. Speake by Rev. Mr. Lucas, and Mr. Lucas by the present pastor, Rev. G. E. Edwards.

Under the pastoral care of Rev. Mr. Edwards the West End congregation is in a most thriving condition. A few years ago, through the efforts of the faithful pastors and the congregation, with the liberal aid of the Newberry Cotton Mill, a handsome building was erected at a cost of \$2,500. This church is now known as the "O'Neill Street Methodist Church." With the congregation and the pastors working together as they have done in the past there is a bright future before it.



OFFICERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE W. F. M. S.