

Western Methodist Recorder.

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NOTES.

We have to crave our readers' pardon for the lateness of the February issue. Do the best we could it seemed as though everything was against us. First it was the photos for this special number, and then the delay in forwarding the engraving, followed by one thing and another until we were well nigh distracted. The number, however, is now in the hands of our subscribers, and we trust will of itself make amends for the unavoidable delay in its issue.

The March number follows closely, expressing the determination of the editorial staff to endeavor to secure the issue of the Recorder by the first of each month, or as nearly as at all possible. Our readers will forgive the evident incompleteness of this number, and we promise from this out something of our old-time perfection.



We are nearing the end of another conference year, and already the work on the various circuits and missions is shaping for the close. Would it not be well if the Quarterly Official Board more carefully reviewed the work of the year and saw to it that all of the requirements of discipline were complied with? Last year, in several cases, such as the change of circuit boundaries, the sale of church properties, and other recommendations affecting either circuit or pastor, the delegates had to rely upon their memories for the resolution of the Quarterly Board in the case, and in others were unable to state whether the resolution had been formally presented or not.

If the discipline were strictly followed, neglect in these particulars, might work a grievous wrong to the parties concerned, particularly if the case be that of a probationer entering or being advanced.



THE PRICE OF VICTORY.

The news which has reached us of the surrender of Commandant Cronje and the relief of Ladysmith, called forth such a burst of enthusiasm and spontaneous jubilation, as has seldom been known.

The praise of the commander-in-chief, as contained in the following message to the Governor-General, but added fuel to the enthusiasm:

"Paardeberg, Orange Free State, Feb. 22.—The Canadian Regiment has done admirable service since arrival in South Africa. I deeply regret the heavy loss it suffered during the fighting on the 18th inst., and beg you will assure the people how much we all here admired the conspicuous gallantry displayed by our Canadian comrades, on that occasion. (Signed) Roberts."

That so many of our gallant boys have lost their lives in the conflict casts a shadow over the general rejoicing. But that they died defending the interests of the Empire will cause a glow of pride to suffuse the heart of every true lover of his country.

Sacrifice has ever been the price of victory in affairs national, social, moral or spiritual. In the midst of the spirit of self-seeking which so generally prevails we cannot but admire the willingness displayed by so many noble fellows to offer themselves, a sacrifice if needs be, for the national advancement.

Let us not forget that the Empire has internal as well as external foes who are working for its moral and social disintegration. Among these are first and foremost the Liquor Traffic, following close behind is Political Partisanship, and its attendant Political Corruption, race prejudices and commercial combinations. Where are the men who are willing to offer something more than sentiment in this conflict?



POLITICAL CORRUPTION.

The church has to a large extent held aloof from the discussion of subjects which are of a purely political and partisan character, deeming it inexpedient to interfere in questions upon which public opinion is so divided. But there comes a time when she must needs raise the voice of warning, if she be true to her trust, as the guardian of the morals and well being of the community.

The practice of bribery and corruption at elections is becoming so common that the public sense is being outraged and the church can be no longer indifferent to the matter. We welcome the recommendations of the Nova Scotia Conference of the Methodist Church as set forth in the following resolutions:

1. Whereas, the practice of bribery at elections is rapidly increasing in many sections of our country and the venality of the voters becoming more and more unblushing.

2. And whereas, an elector has as little right to sell the decision he is supposed to record when he casts his vote as a judge and jury have to barter for money the decisions they declare in our courts of justice.

3. Whereas, the practice adds enormously to the temptations of our public men and to the expenses of government and tends to steadily lower the standard of public morality.

4. Whereas, on account of the importance this practice gives to campaign funds, the Christian sentiment in its struggle for the enactment of prohibitory and other laws, is and must be seriously handicapped.

5. Whereas, many of our church mem-

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