

given to Mr. Peter Best and Mr. John Osterhout, who had suffered financially through difficulties at Northwood in connection with their church, be granted.

10. That permission be granted the trustees of the Petrolea parsonage to sell the old parsonage property, proceeds to be applied to the purchase of a new parsonage.

J. GRAHAM, *Chairman*.

A. G. HARRIS, *Secretary*.

COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE WORK.

It is with profound gratitude to God that your Committee report progress in almost every department of our Church work.

An increase in our membership, Connexional Funds and Sabbath-school attendance makes the difference between the report of this year and that of the last, while the Epworth League promises to be rich in blessing, serving and conserving the best interests of our young people.

Recognizing that the prosperity of our Church in the future depends, more than ever in the past, on the proper teaching and training of the children connected with our congregations, your Committee would suggest the advisability of preaching special sermons to the children, or, at least, devoting one section of the regular discourse to their special benefit.

We wish further to emphasize the opinion expressed by the last annual Conference, viz., the importance of the fact that every Methodist minister is expected to be, not only a preacher and pastor, but also an evangelist; and would urge the people of our Church to regard them as such, and consequently rally around them in revival efforts with all the enthusiasm usually given to the special evangelists. This is especially necessary in the rural sections of our work, where so few evangelists can be secured to labor.

Encouraged by the achievements of the past and hopeful as to the future, we rejoice that the words of the one hundred years ago are still appropriate, "The best of all is, 'God is with us.'"

S. BOND, *Chairman*.

H. W. LOCKE, *Secretary*.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

Recognizing our obligation to obey God's law, and the close connection between the proper observance of the Sabbath and the moral growth, both of the individual and the community, we urge our people to labor to the full extent of their ability to preserve the sanctity of the Sabbath as a day of rest to man and beast.

While we would not make it a day of sadness, we nevertheless think its hours should not be devoted to pleasure seeking, social visiting and conversation on worldly topics.

As the sanctity of the Sabbath is openly disregarded, in spite of the protests of the Churches, by some of our railways, thus depriving many of their employees of their divinely appointed day of rest, we recommend this Conference to memorialize both the Provincial and the Dominion Legislatures to enact more stringent laws for its protection.