

circumstances of the people; point out the injustice of deficiencies under any circumstances, and the still greater wrong inflicted when amounts actually promised are not paid; indicate methods of increasing Circuit finances, and after careful consideration name the amount which, in their judgment, the Circuit or Mission ought to raise, obtaining, if possible, the consent of the officials to the same. A written report shall be presented by the deputation to the ensuing District Meeting, and on the basis of such report the meeting shall recommend a grant from the Missionary or Sustentation Fund, as the case may be, for the ensuing year; and the District Superintendent shall at once forward a Schedule of such recommended grants to the General Secretary of the Missionary Society.

8. When the Schedules are received by the General Secretary, they shall be carefully tabulated and printed, and laid before the General Board of Missions, who shall make such grants as the funds at their disposal will admit of. These shall be communicated at once to the various District Superintendents concerned, who shall, without delay, notify the Superintendents and Recording Stewards of the dependent fields, so that steps may be taken by the respective Official Boards to raise such additional amount as may be required to pay the minimum allowance on the above mentioned scale.

9. While the General Boards of Missions shall be at liberty to make grants, if necessary, up to the amount of the preceding year's income, it is to be distinctly understood that the responsibility of providing the minimum allowance agreed upon rests primarily with the Circuits and Missions upon which the Ministers are stationed; and grants in aid will not be continued where such Circuits and Missions do not pay their proportion of said allowance. It is also understood that the General Board may gradually diminish the grants, so that all fields receiving aid may become independent at the earliest possible date.

10. The Constitution of the Sustentation Fund, and regulations affecting the same, shall go into operation on the first day of July, 1887; but inasmuch as some time must elapse before the relative needs of the Missionary Fund and the Sustentation Fund can be fully understood, it shall be competent for the General Board of Missions, during the ensuing quadrennium, to make a grant out of the one fund to aid the other, as the circumstances of the case may seem to demand.

REGULATIONS RESPECTING INCREASE OF MINISTERS AND PROBATIONERS FOR THE MINISTRY.

As the multiplication of dependent fields has been caused, in part at least, by an unnecessary increase in the number of Ministers, and the absence of any authority by which Ministers or Probationers for the Ministry can be sent to any part of the Connexion where their services are most required, the General Conference hereby enacts as follows:—

1. That during the ensuing quadrennium it shall not be competent for any Annual Conference, or officer thereof, to receive any Minister or Probationer for the Ministry from another Body, or from abroad.

2. During the same period it shall not be competent

for any President of an Annual Conference, or Superintendent of a District, to employ a Local Preacher, in the intervals of Conference, with a view to his reception into the regular work.

3. All Candidates recommended to the Annual Conferences during the ensuing quadrennium, shall be put upon a List of Reserve, which shall be placed in the hands of the General Superintendents. When the President of an Annual Conference requires additional young men to supply vacancies in his Conference, or to occupy new fields duly authorized by the Conference, he shall make application to the General Superintendents, who shall enquire into the circumstances, and draw from the Reserve List in their possession such supplies as may be urgently needed, and no more. Moreover, it shall be distinctly understood that no Candidate be received in the future with reference to a particular Conference, but shall be under obligation to proceed, when so directed by the General Superintendents, to any part of the Connexion where his services are required.

4. No additional Minister or Probationer shall be stationed upon a dependent Circuit unless the Circuit undertakes to meet the cost, without any additional grant from the Sustentation Fund.

5. No additional Probationer shall hereafter be sent to any independent Circuit without a written guarantee to the Conference, signed by the Superintendent and Recording Steward, that at the end of four years the Circuit will assume the support of a married man in place of such Probationer.

CONSTITUTION OF SUSTENTATION FUND.

Until otherwise ordered by the General Conference, the Sustentation and Contingent Fund shall be administered under the following Constitution:—

1. This Fund shall be known as "The Sustentation and Contingent Fund of the Methodist Church."

2. The object of the Fund shall be to give aid to a class of dependent fields in the Home work, now receiving aid from the Contingent or Missionary Funds, but which are, hereafter, to be classed as dependent Circuits or Stations. Also to provide for the items of expenditure in the Annual Conferences which have hitherto been charges upon the Contingent Fund.

3. The income of this Fund shall be derived from

(1) An annual collection in all the congregations of the Connexion, which shall take the place of the Contingent Fund Collection hitherto made.

(2) Subscriptions and Donations.

(3) Legacies on behalf of the Fund.

4. During the ensuing quadrennium the Sustentation Fund shall be managed and disbursed by the General Board of Missions, under the same general regulations as now apply to the Missionary Fund; and the Board shall make such provision as shall be necessary for the correct keeping of the accounts and the auditing of the same.

5. During the ensuing quadrennium the General Treasurers of the Missionary Fund shall be General Treasurers of the Sustentation Fund. Superintendents of Circuits shall be the Treasurers of their respective Circuits; District Superintendents of their Districts. Each Annual Conference may appoint a