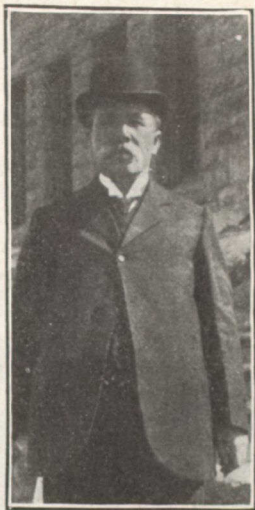




Rev. David Hickey
From Nova Scotia



Bishop Honda
From Japan



Rev. J. W. Cooley
Port Elgin, Ont.



Rev. R. Millyard
President London Conference



Rev. Dr. Manning
From London, Ont.



Rev. Dr. Sparling
Principal Wesley College, Winnipeg

CHURCH CONGRESS ON THE PACIFIC

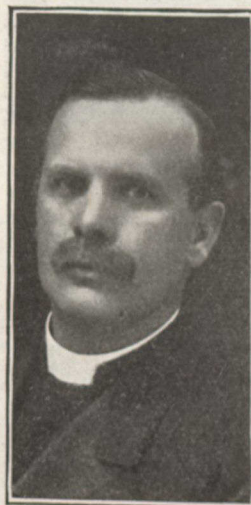
Outdoor Glimpses of Character at the Methodist Conference

By R. D. HAMILTON

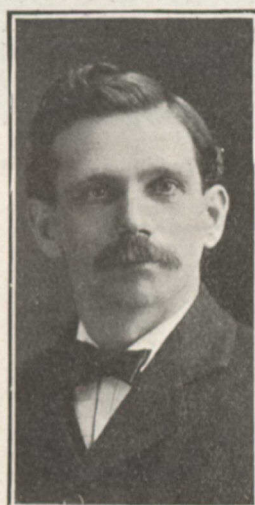
THE Quadrennial General Conference of the Methodist Church, which closed last week at Victoria, B.C., was of more than ordinary interest. The overwhelming vote in favour of church union, the determination to leave questions of theological opinions and church doctrine to the regular court of the Church, the decision to leave card-playing, dancing and theatre-going to individual conscience, and the general enthusiasm on behalf of evangelisation and missions were the outstanding features. It was a great gathering of the leaders of a great church, and the results attained must be felt very keenly during the next four years.

That the national conference of a national church should go so far west as Victoria to hold its quadrennial meeting is a tribute to the growing West and a guarantee that its needs and desires will be met so far as Methodism is concerned. Many of the delegates crossed the continent for the first time, and this in itself will help them to understand the breadth of the field which the national churches must cover. The delegates came from as far east as Newfoundland, and the Maritime Provinces were well represented. There were delegates from Great Britain and the United States, while Bishop Honda of Japan and others were pre-

the other Christian churches proved to be a function of much interest. Rev. Henry Haigh represented the mother church in England, and proved



Two Pacific Pastors
Rev. T. E. Holling
Pastor of Conference Church.



Rev. A. E. Roberts
Secretary B.C. Conference.

himself worthy of the honour conferred upon him by giving a most masterful address.

Rev. Ralph Brecken represented Irish Methodism. The church across the border in the great republic was represented by Rev. Dr. Bovard, of San Francisco, California, and Hon. Mr. Booth, of Oregon, and the M.-E. Church South found an able advocate in Rev. Dr. DeBuvis, and Japan sent a worthy son in the person of Bishop Honda, who told of the work of the United Church in that land.

The cordial fraternity expressed by Rev. L. Clay, for the Ministerial Association, and by Rev. Dr. Campbell, for the Presbyterian General Assembly, the heartiness of the Mayor's words, the polished utterances of the Premier, and the beautiful address of Mr. Jackson, of Winnipeg, in behalf of the W. M. S., were features of the conference that will linger long after the delegates have reached their homes.

The visit of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Premier of the Dominion, to the conference was an event of more than passing moment. He was accompanied by Hon. Mr. Graham and Mr. E. M. McDonald, M.P.

Dr. Carman, general superintendent, welcomed the Premier. "Sir Wilfrid, you do us honour in visiting us to-day. We want to say, we are with you in all that makes for the foundation of our national life. The conference is delighted to see you, and accord you large liberties. We will be glad to hear words from you." In reply the Premier, who had held a public reception the evening before, which function the conference attended, said: "So many of you called upon me last night I thought this a good time to return your call. What they desired in harmony with the church was the welfare of the race. He said he had met thousands on his tour of the Dominion of all classes, and had not heard a discordant note, all proclaim themselves 'true, loyal, free Canadian subjects.'" Mr. Graham said the Premier's party set the church a good example in union. "We have," he said, "the Premier, a Roman Catholic, Mr. McDonald, a Presbyterian; Mr. Pardee, a member of the Church of England, while I am a son of the Methodist parsonage."

The subject of the time limit for the pastoral term caused a lively debate. The committee recommended a possible eight-year term, but the more conservative element prevailed, and the term remains four years.

Conference elections are exciting, but the heads of departments were all elected upon the first ballot. The following were chosen: General Superintendents, Revs. Dr. Carman and Dr. Chown; Superintendent of Home Missions, Rev. Jas. Allen; Superintendent of Foreign Missions, Rev. T. E. Shore, B.



Rev. Dr. Warner
Principal of Alma College,
St. Thomas, Ont.



Rev. Dr. J. V. Smith
Pastor of Centenary Church,
Hamilton, Ont.

sent to present the claims of the Asiatic mission fields. The gathering had thus an international, as well as a national aspect.

The conference was held in the Metropolitan Church, a stone and marble edifice, which speaks well for the prosperity of Victorian Methodists. The Hon. Richard McBride gave an address of welcome in which he said: "We in the Far West are deeply sensible of the great compliment paid our province through the selection of Victoria as a quadrennial meeting place." Rev. T. E. Holling, pastor of the church, expressed a similar sentiment: "We feel honoured in receiving the representatives of Methodism to this the Mother Church of the province. We extend to you the freedom of the Methodist church here, and pray that a quickening of interest in the activities and enterprises of the whole Church may be the result of your coming together."

The receiving of the fraternal delegates from



A Snapshot at Revelstoke



Mayor Dingman
Stratford, Ont.



Mayor Austin
Chatham, Ont.

A.; Superintendent of Education, Rev. J. W. Graham, D.D.; Editor of Christian Guardian, Rev. Dr. Creighton; Editor of Sunday School Periodicals, Rev. Dr. A. C. Crews; Secretary of Sunday School Epworth Leagues, Rev. S. T. Bartlett; Secretary of Young People's Forward Movement, Rev. Dr. Stephenson; Superintendent of Western Missions, Rev. Dr. Woodsworth; Treasurer of Superannuation Fund, Rev. Dr. Griffin; Treasurer of Missionary Society, Mr. H. H. Fudger.

One of the liveliest tilts of the conference was over a motion to remove the "foot-note" explanatory of the General Rules of the Church. After several hours' debate and decisions on points of law raised by the legal lights, the old note was wiped out and a short statement of religious practice inserted in its place.

Church union called forth one of the best debates of the conference, and by a majority of 220 to 35 decided to continue negotiations for union.