

## NEXT MEETING OF CONFERENCE IN MONCTON

Invitation of Quarterly Board  
of Central Methodist  
Church Accepted.

LAYMEN'S ASS'N  
ELECTS OFFICERS

Statistics Show 14,824 Mem-  
bers—1,200 Have Enlisted  
for Overseas Service.

Special to The Standard.

Summerside, P. E. I., June 9.—The N. B. and P. E. I. annual conference of Methodist churches resumed its sessions this morning at 9 o'clock. A number of memorials from the various districts were presented and referred to the appropriate committees.

The following young men were recommended to attend college the coming year: John Witham and John L. Duggan. Rev. Dr. D. W. Johnson, the editor of the Wesleyan, addressed the conference and presented the report of that paper. The Wesleyan which serves the Methodist constituency of the Maritime Provinces has a circulation of 4,300, and is a financial success. Mr. F. W. Mosher, the popular book steward, presented the report of the Book Room at Halifax, which showed this branch of the publishing interests of the Methodist church to be in a flourishing condition. The conference welcomed and listened with pleasure to an address from Rev. Dr. Huestis, a former book steward, now retired and living in Toronto.

Rev. Dr. George Steel, the energetic and painstaking superintendent of missions for the Maritime Provinces, gave a verbal report of his labors during the past year. There are 40 missions within the bounds of this conference, on most of which considerable progress is being made. During the past year the conference raised towards the general mission fund of the church the sum of \$17,555, which is an increase over the preceding year of \$2,960, which is a splendid return in view of the many demands upon the liberality of the people. Rev. L. J. Birney, D. D., Dean of the Boston University School of Theology, was introduced by the Rev. G. F. Dawson, the secretary of the evangelistic committee, and delivered the first of a series of addresses which promise to be one of the inspirational features of this conference programme. His subject was "Some of the Personal Elements of Redemption," and was treated in a masterly manner.

Rev. Frank E. Boothroyd, who had been transferred into the conference from Alberta, was welcomed and gave a brief address.

Meet Next Year in Moncton.

The quarterly official board of Central church, Moncton, presented an invitation through its pastor, Rev. H. A. Goodwin, to the conference to hold its next annual session in that church and city. On motion it was decided to hold the conference of 1917 in Central church, Moncton, beginning the second Thursday in June. In the evening the report of the committee on social service and evangelism was presented and a very large audience listened to a splendid address by Rev. W. J. Smith, B. A., field secretary of the Department of Social Service.

The laymen's association elected the following officers today: President, A. C. M. Lawson, Fredericton; vice-president, J. M. Lamont, Fredericton; secretary-treasurer, R. D. Smith, St. John. Additional members of the executive, C. A. Hampson, Fredericton; Dr. J. M. Palmer, Sackville; William Kingston, St. John; H. T. Pickering, Granville; J. Gamble, Apohaqui.

Statistics of the conference show a total membership of 14,824, an increase of 71 over 1915. Over 1,200 members and adherents have enlisted. The amount raised for all purposes is \$211,898, an increase of \$14,301.

## CHARLOTTE COUNTY EXHIBITION STAKES

Declared Off Owing to Small  
Number of Entries and Re-  
openen Till June 20th.

Owing to insufficient number of nominations, the Charlotte County Exhibition Stakes have been declared off and have been re-opened till June 20th, when first payment of \$5.00 should be made second payment July 1st, when horses must be named, third payment, \$4.00, August 1st.

The 2.27 trot remains a straight trot, the 2.35 pace and 2.13 pace have been made trot and pace with the usual three seconds allowed trotters.

R. W. Whitlock, St. Stephen, N. B., is the secretary.

Mr. and Mrs. Spear of Sussex, who have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Spear, Charlotte street, have left for home.

## New Air Methods At The Front

Allied Aviators Now Make Reconnaissances in Groups, a  
Small but Efficient Fighting Corps—New Method More  
Costly to Enemy and Less Dangerous for Our Airmen.

By C. G. Grey, Editor of the Aeroplane.  
Two of the most satisfactory features of the war from the Allies' point of view during the past month are the remarkable diminution in the losses among the Allies' aircraft, and the indisputable fact that the Germans have lost during the month more aeroplanes than the French and British. It would be unwise, all the same to assume from this that French and British aeroplanes have suddenly attained absolute dominance in the air.

On a previous occasion when it was claimed for British aeroplanes that they were so much superior in the air that no German aeroplane dare cross the lines, it was proved quite clearly afterwards that the reason was that all the most powerful and most reliable German aeroplanes had been sent to the eastern area, first of all to reconnoitre over the Russian front, which meant journeys of 100 miles out and 100 miles back—over forest, swamp, and mountain—and later to the Serbian war area, where many long journeys were necessary over country which provided no possible landing ground.

The Russian Front.

It is now only a few weeks since the Russians themselves recorded the fact that German aeroplanes were constantly seen 100 miles behind the Russian front, evidently doing their utmost to find out where Russian troops were concentrating for the great attack which the Germans are constantly expecting there. All this work must necessarily deplete the supply of German aircraft on the western front, and this is proved by the fact that it is now a considerable time since any of the bigger types of German aeroplanes have been seen in any numbers over the British and French lines.

The Germans have seemingly freed on one particular method of using their aeroplanes, reserving one type for artillery control, and concentrat-

ing otherwise on small, fast fighting machines to prevent French and British aeroplanes from penetrating behind the German lines. Early in the year these machines were the notable Fokker monoplane, about which so much was written. Since then, as I have stated in a previous article, small and even faster tractor biplanes have been put into use.

Flying in Flocks.

The method of reconnaissance employed at the present time by the Allies is entirely altered, and as the Germans know it—apparently to their cost—there is no reason why the people who have to pay for the machines, and whose families have to supply the men, should not know it also. Instead of sending a single aeroplane out to wander over the German lines alone, either on reconnaissance or for artillery spotting, the slower machines now go out in flocks. Each machine has its arms for self-defence, and each little flock is protected by one or more high-speed fighting machines, according to the size of the flock.

In the same way, comparatively slow machines which are flying up and down certain stretches of line spotting the fall of shells from a certain battery, and signalling results by wireless, are guarded by fast fighting machines, which protect them against any German machines which may attempt to bring them down.

It would be well, however, not to be confident yet about "market dominance" or "absolute supremacy" in the air, for the Germans are an exceedingly resourceful people, and one never knows what new surprise they may be hatching.

The great thing is to give British and French aeroplane and aero-engine designers and constructors every encouragement to produce something better than anybody else has, and not to tie them down to hard and fast rules and regulations.

Work of the Merchant Service.

It is the merchant service that carries that magic all over the world. Nobody takes much notice of it except as it affects himself personally. To some it means a good holiday, a decent captain, and not too bad food. To others hope of an uneventful passage from port to port in the shortest time possible; to others a channel of exchange, a means of buying or selling for dates.

And behind all that, an untiring shuttle weaving ceaselessly in the great loom of man's eternal needs. Day and night, six and seven, the ships are laboring and toiling, fetching and carrying, loading, coaling, unloading; skimming in to save a tide; lying out to wait a berth at overcrowded wharves; driving down unlighted coasts, skirting hurricanes and sitting as tight as may be in the heart of the sea—all the while going on as we sleep, walk and eat and take our pleasure. And if the master has his ship in and to time that's all as it should be; and if he hasn't there's got to be a damned good reason why.

That's everyday work in peace times and be grateful if an unhandy nigger doesn't lose your job for you. But now it's that and war as well, and these men of the merchant service again, always, are ready for it. Across the wind-swept spaces of the sea they go patiently, stubbornly, carrying back and forth the where-withal to keep their country fed and fighting; over lonely stretches where you could S.O.S. your head off, without being heard; with crews to be coaxed, elements to be fought and chances of attacks from nowhere at any time. So they go, these men who wear no ribbons in their coat for the incalculable services they do. And when their moment comes they're there, from the coiller to the liner. One will for ever see the little clan of eternally with the bully at her heels; and hear the dauntless answer when the bully curses the master for "help-

ing his enemy." "I am your enemy!" For the men of the merchant service who are fighting today as splendidly as any listed army let there be the honor due to them. The ribbon in the heart is all right, but the ribbon over the heart is small enough return for those indomitable who are keeping victory open to us.

As for me, I thank them for more than my breakfast, I thank them for the thread in my hand that tells me where my mother is.

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## WHOLE FAMILY FOUND DEAD

Chicago, June 9.—Mrs. Jennie Sushnick, 35 years old, her husband, Frank, 40, and their four children, the oldest six years, were found dead in their home today. The mother's head had been crushed. The police believe Sushnick killed his wife and then turned on the gas, killing himself and children.

London, June 9.—The prize court has condemned as lawful prizes the cargoes of the American steamer Joseph W. Fordney and three Scandinavian vessels from American ports. The cargoes, consisting almost entirely of fodder comprise the most valuable seizure since those of the meat cargoes shipped by American packers.

Arthur G. Hays, the attorney for the claimants, will appeal from the decision.

The American steamer Joseph W. Fordney was detained by the British authorities in January, 1915, while on her way from New York to Malmö, Sweden, and her cargo of cattle and silage was thrown into prize court. Trial of the cases began on April 9 last and two days later, following the presentation of the evidence which was declared by the attorney-general to have revealed a plot to evade the blockade, decision was reserved.

St. John's, Nfld., June 9.—To help make up for the losses suffered by the British naval forces in the recent North Sea battle, Newfoundland authorities began making plans today for a special recruiting campaign.

An effort will be made to send forward one thousand men as the colony's share.

Work of the Merchant Service.

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