MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTEENTH SESSION

OF THE

Bengal Annual Conference

OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church,

HELD AT

Calcutta, December 30,—January 4, 1903-4.

BISHOP H. W. WARREN, " J. M. THOBURN, } Presidents.
JOSEPH CULSHAW, Secretary.

Printed at the Methodist Publishing House,
46, Dharamtala Street, Calcutta.
1904.
Rules of Order.

I.—All the business of the Conference, excepting such as may be brought forward by the President, shall be by motion.

II.—All questions of order shall be determined by the President, whose decision shall in all cases prevail, unless overruled by an appeal to the Conference: and three members dissenting from the President's judgment shall have a right to appeal to the Conference.

III.—The President shall appoint all committees not otherwise specially ordered by the Conference.

IV.—All motions or resolutions introduced by any member of the Conference shall be reduced to writing, if the Secretary or any member requests it.

V.—No new motion or resolution shall be entertained till the one under consideration shall be disposed of, which may be by adoption or rejection, unless one of the following motions should intervene, namely, indefinite postponement, postponement till a given time, to lie on the table, or to amend, and these motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are placed.

VI.—Every member shall have a right to speak on any motion, but shall not speak more than five minutes at any one time, nor more than once on any one subject until all have spoken who desire to do so; unless by special permission of the Conference.

VII.—Every member when he speaks, shall rise from his seat, and respectfully address the chair; and shall not, on any occasion, use personal reflections or intemperate language.

VIII.—When a member intends to make complaint against another having a bearing upon his moral character, he shall apprise such brother of his intention, before he brings it into Conference.

IX.—No member shall absent himself from the services of the Conference, unless he be sick or unable to attend.

X.—It shall be in order for any member of the Conference, when he thinks a question has been sufficiently discussed, to move that the question be taken without further debate, and if the motion be sustained by two-thirds of the members present and voting, the main question shall be put without further discussion.

Rules of Finance Committee.

I.—The Committee shall do business only in session convened.

II.—A majority of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

III.—Presiding Elders shall have authority to call a meeting of the Committee during the interim of Conference sessions.

IV.—A copy of the proceedings of such meetings shall be forwarded to absent members,
Roll of the Bengal Conference, 1904.¹

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<th>Name</th>
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Conference Officers.

Bishop H. W. Warren, D.D., LL.D. 
J. M. Thoburn, D.D., LL.D. 

George S. Henderson
Chester C. McCown
John E. Robinson
Chester C. McCown
George S. Henderson
David H. Lee

... Presidents.
... Secretary.
... Assistant Secretary.
... Statistical Secretary.
... Corresponding Secretary.
... Assistant Corresponding Secretary.

Conference Treasurer and Treasurer of the Mission Board.

CONFERENCE BOARDS.


Board of Deaconesses.—J. O. Denning, W. P. Byers, B. M. Mozumdar, J. E. Robinson, Miss Pritchard, Mrs. Shaw, Miss Knowles, Miss Blair, Miss Pyne.


Board of Education.—C. C. McCown, Mrs. Lee, W. P. Byers, B. M. Mozumdar, Mrs. Denning, Fawcett Shaw, Miss Knowles, Miss Henkle.


Board of Epworth League.—C. C. McCown, President; J. Culshaw, Miss McKinley, K. C. Mullick, Vice-Presidents; Mrs. Denning, Secretary; Fawcett Shaw, Treasurer.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Colportage.—G. S. Henderson, K. C. Mullick, Nain Sukh.


Public Worship.—The Presiding Elder and preacher-in-charge of the place where Conference is held.
MINUTES
OF THE
Proceedings of the Bengal Conference of the
Methodist Episcopal Church,
HELD AT CALCUTTA, INDIA, COMMENCING ON
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30TH, 1903.

JOURNAL.

FIRST SESSION.

Calcutta, December 30th, 1903.

The seventeenth session of the Bengal Conference convened at Calcutta, on Wednesday, the 30th December, 1903, at 11 a.m. Bishop J. M. Thoburn, presiding; Bishops Warren and Warne being also present.

Opening.—The Conference was opened by the singing of Hymn 211, "When I survey the Wondrous Cross." Bishop Thoburn led the Conference in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.


Probationers.—John Byork, A. J. Barkley.

Organisation.—On motion of J. O. Denning, Joseph Culshaw was elected Secretary of the Conference. He nominated G. S. Henderson as Assistant Secretary, who was elected. D. H. Lee, on motion of Joseph Culshaw, was appointed Treasurer of the Conference.
Treasurer of the Board of Missions.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, G. S. Henderson was nominated Treasurer of the Board of Missions for the Bengal Conference.

Transfer.—Bishop Thoburn announced the transfer of Fawcett Shaw from the South India Conference to the Bengal Conference. He was introduced to the Conference.

Introductions.—Mrs. Warren and Miss Ward were introduced to the Conference.

Statistical Secretary.—On motion of J. P. Meik, C. C. McCown was elected Statistical Secretary.

Standing Committees.—On motion of C. C. McCown, the Standing Committees as printed in last year's minutes, were appointed as the Standing Committees for this Conference Session.

Rules of Order.—On motion of G. E. Stokes the rules of order printed in the Conference Minutes were adopted as the Rules of Order for this session.

Programmes.—On motion of Joseph Culshaw the provisional programme as printed in the *Methodist Patrika* was accepted as the official programme for the Conference.

Conference Bar.—On motion of C. C. McCown, the fourth seat in the Church was named as the bar of the Conference.

Order of the Day.—On motion of Joseph Culshaw, the election of delegates to the Central and General Conferences was made the order of the day for 12 o'clock on Thursday.

The 13th Question.—The 13th Question was taken up, and the name of W. P. Byers, Presiding Elder of the Asansol District, was called, and his character was passed. He read the report of his district.

The name of J. E. Robinson, Presiding Elder of the Calcutta District, was called, and his character was passed. He read the report of his district.

Committee to consider Memorials to Central Conference.—On motion of J. O. Denning, a committee to consider memorials to Central Conference was ordered, the members to be named by the Bishop. J. O. Denning, G. E. Stokes, J. E. Robinson were named.

The 13th Question.—The names of S. M. Mondol, G. E. Stokes, C. C. McCown, D. H. Lee, C. C. Das, J. P. Meik, Joseph Culshaw, Fawcett Shaw were called, their characters were passed, and they reported their collections.
The name of B. M. Mozumdar, Presiding Elder of the Diamond Harbour District, was called, his character was passed; he read the report of his district.

The name of J. O. Denning, Presiding Elder of the Tirhoot District, was called, his character was passed; he read the report of his district.

The names of Charles Dowring and Nain Sukh were called, they reported their collections.

Adjournment.—After the announcements were made, the Conference adjourned to meet at 10:30 on Thursday morning.

The Doxology was sung, and Bishop Warren pronounced the Benediction.

SECOND SESSION.

Thursday, December 31, 1903.

The session was called to order at 10:50 a.m. by Bishop Warren.

Opening.—D. H. Lee conducted the devotional exercises, after which Bishop Warren addressed the Conference.

Minutes.—The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

The 7th Question.—The name of John Byork was called. Bishop Warren addressed the candidate, and asked him the disciplinary questions to which he gave satisfactory answers, and he also deposited with the Secretary satisfactory written answers to questions (1) and (2) of ¶ 146 of the Discipline. He was admitted into full membership with the Conference.

The 9th Question.—The name of Keshub Chunder Mullick was called, his character was passed, and he was advanced to the fourth year's class of studies, to bring up the History of Greece and Rome.

The name of George Henderson was called, his character was passed, and he was continued in the fourth year's class of studies.

The 10th Question.—The names of S. C. Biswas and L. C. Sarcar were called. Their characters were passed, and, having completed their courses, they were elected to elders' orders.

The 5th Question.—The name of A. J. Barkley was called, his character was passed, and he was continued on trial in the second year's course of studies on trial.

Standing Committees.—On motion of G. S. Henderson, the Presiding Elders were appointed a committee to nominate the standing committees.
Order of the Day.—The order of the day for the election of delegates to the General Conference and Central Conference was taken up.

Delegate to General Conference.—J. E. Robinson was elected the delegate of the Bengal Conference to the General Conference by ballot. J. P. Meik was elected reserve delegate to General Conference.

Delegates to Central Conference.—J. O. Denning, J. E. Robinson, Joseph Culshaw, C. C. McCown and G. E. Stokes were elected delegates to the Central Conference by ballot. D. H. Lee and W. P. Byers were elected reserve delegates.

The 22nd Question.—The name of Henry Jackson was called. His character was passed, and he was continued in the supernumerary relation.

Calcutta Christian Schools Society.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, the following persons, nominated by Mr. Robert Laidlaw, were elected on the Committee of the Calcutta Christian Schools Society for 1904: C. J. A. Pritchard, H. H. Remfry, William Ross, and D. R. Smith. Mr. Laidlaw addressed the Conference.

Resolution.—The following resolution was carried by a standing vote:

Resolved:—That we gratefully recognize the valuable help rendered to our educational work by Mr. Robert Laidlaw, and the wise and generous provision he has been led to make for needy and deserving enterprises in this City; and in acceding to his request to be allowed to relinquish the right accorded him to nominate four members of the Christian Schools Society, the right henceforth to be vested in the Conference, we wish him all prosperity and the abundant blessing of the Lord. We also desire to express our sincere appreciation of the interest in our work ever shown by Mrs. Laidlaw, whose kindly deeds will ever be gratefully remembered.

Mr. Laidlaw, on behalf of Mrs. Laidlaw and himself, expressed his hearty appreciation of the action of the Conference.

Committee on Memorials to Central Conference.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, Bishop Warne and Mr. Robert Laidlaw were invited to meet with the Committee on Memorials to Central Conference with special reference to the proposed boys' school at Darjeeling.

The 4th Question.—The names of Anonto C. Mondol and W. H. Beeken were called, they gave satisfactory written answers to questions (1) and (2) of ¶ 146 of the Discipline, and on the recommendation of the Calcutta District Conference, they were admitted on trial in the Conference.
The 11th Question.—The name of Probodh C. Das was called, and on the recommendation of the Calcutta District Conference he was elected to local deacon's orders.

Statistics.—C. C. McCown presented the Statistical Report. On motion of G. E. Stokes, the report was accepted.

Introduction.—Mrs. Shaw, also Revs. R. Burges and D. E. Evans, Secretaries of the India Sunday School Union were introduced to the Conference. Mr. Burges addressed the Conference.

Extension of Time.—On motion of G. S. Henderson, the time of the session was extended.

Lay Electoral Conference.—The time of the meeting of the Lay Electoral Conference was fixed for two o'clock on Friday, January 1st, 1904.

Committee on Resolutions.—On motion of G. S. Henderson, J. E. Robinson, Fawcett Shaw, G. E. Stokes and C. Dowring were elected a committee on resolutions.

Epworth League Board.—On motion of G. S. Henderson, the Presiding Elders were appointed a committee to nominate the Conference Epworth League Board of Control.

Adjournment.—On motion of Joseph Culshaw, the Conference adjourned to meet at 10-30 a.m. on Saturday morning, January 2nd, 1904. After the announcements were made, the Doxology was sung, the Benediction pronounced, and the Conference adjourned.

THIRD SESSION.

Saturday, January 2, 1904.

The session was called to order at 10-30 a.m. by Bishop Warne, who also conducted the devotional exercises.

Minutes.—The minutes of the previous session were read and, after correction, approved.

Introduction.—Mr. C. Douglas Green, Secretary of the Calcutta Auxiliary Bible Society, was introduced to the Conference. He addressed the Conference on the work of the Bible Society.

The British and Foreign Bible Society.—Resolved: That, having listened to the instructive address of Mr. Douglas Green, Acting Secretary of the Calcutta Auxiliary Bible Society, we hereby reiterate our thankfulness for the valuable service which the Bible Society renders to our Mission Work. It is simply indispensable to our efforts to evangelize the people of our land. We congratulate the British and Foreign Bible Society on
attaining to the hundredth anniversary of its existence, and earnestly desire that the Centenary observance which is being planned may give a mighty stimulus to the noble efforts of the Society to give the people everywhere the Word of Life.

J. E. Robinson.
W. P. Byers.
J. O. Denning.

Conference Visitors to the Bareilly Seminary.—On motion of C. C. McCown, J. O. Denning and Joseph Culshaw were appointed the Conference Visitors to the Bareilly Theological Seminary.

Corresponding Secretary.—On motion of J. P. Meik, J. E. Robinson was elected Corresponding Secretary, with C. C. McCown, Assistant Corresponding Secretary.

Recommendation to Central Conference.—The Secretary of the Finance Committee, reported that the Finance Committee had recommended that Joseph Culshaw be made a full Missionary, and, on his motion, the Bengal Conference endorsed this recommendation, and requested the Central Conference to take favourable action.

Lay Electoral Conference.—The president of the Lay Electoral Conference, Miss Maxey, and the Secretary, Miss Blair, were introduced to the Conference. The minutes of the Conference were read by the Secretary. She announced that Mr. Laidlaw had been elected lay delegate to the General Conference. Miss Maxey was elected reserve delegate. Miss Maxey addressed the Conference, after which Bishop Warren responded.

Book Concern Dividend.—On motion of W. P Byers, the Presiding Bishop was authorized to draw the usual Book Concern dividend.

The 30th Question.—After an invitation from W. P. Byers, on motion of C. C. McCown, it was resolved to hold the next Conference at Asansol.

Board of Education.—The report of the Board of Education was presented by J. P. Meik. On motion of W. P. Byers, it was accepted.

Printing of the Minutes.—On motion of John Byork, the Secretaries of the Conference were appointed a Committee to edit, print, and publish the minutes. An edition of 250 was ordered.

Finance Committee.—On motion of C. C. McCown the Conference proceeded to the election of the Finance Committee. The following were elected: C. C. McCown, Joseph Culshaw, D. H.
Lee, G. E. Stokes, S. M. Mondol. Fawcett Shaw and C. C. Das were elected alternates.

Committee on Temperance.—The report of the Committee on Temperance was read by G. E. Stokes. On motion of J. O. Denning it was accepted.

The Official Record.—On motion of J. O. Denning, the printed minutes were adopted as the official record of the minutes of the Conference for the quadrennium.

Introduction.—F. A. Oakes, from Chapra, was introduced to the Conference.

Sunday Schools—The report of the Committee on Sunday Schools was read by A. J. Barkley. On motion of Joseph Culshaw the report was adopted.

The 24th Question.—G. E. Stokes, C. C. Das, W. P. Byers, D. H. Lee, G. S. Henderson, B. M. Mozumdar, C. C. McCown were nominated by the Presiding Bishop as the triers of appeals. They were elected.

Board of Conference Stewards.—D. H. Lee presented the report of the Conference Stewards. On motion of C. C. McCown, the report was accepted.

Invested Funds.—On motion of Joseph Culshaw, the Treasurer was instructed to invest Rs. 2,000 of the Conference Funds at the Methodist Publishing House carrying interest at six per cent.

American Methodist Institution.—On the nomination of C. C. McCown, J. E. Robinson, Joseph Culshaw, D. H. Lee, Titus Lowe, and B. M. Mozumdar, were appointed an advisory committee for the American Methodist Institution.

Memorials to Central Conference.—J. O. Denning presented a partial report of the Committee on memorials to Central Conference. It was accepted. [See Reports].

Adjournment.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, the Conference adjourned to meet at 10-30 A.M. on Monday. The announcements were made, the Doxology was sung and Bishop Thoburn pronounced the Benediction.

FOURTH SESSION.

Monday, January 4, 1904.

The session was called to order at 10-30 A.M. by Bishop Thoburn.

Devotional Exercises.—The devotional exercises were conducted by F. S. Ditto, of the North-West India Conference.
Minutes.—The minutes of the previous session were read, and, after correction, approved.

Introduction.—F. S. Ditto, Principal of the Philander Smith Institute, Mussoorie, was introduced to the Conference. He addressed the Conference on the subject of Anglo-Indian education in India.

Resolved,—That having heard the address of the Rev. F. S. Ditto, M.A., Principal of the Philander Smith Institute, Mussoorie, whose wide acquaintance with educational questions qualifies him for imparting helpful counsel, we request him to make special effort to attend the Central Conference at Madras, where educational questions of importance will be considered.

J. E. Robinson.
C. C. McCown.

Auditing Committee.—Seeing that the date of our Conference has been put forward this year some three weeks, to suit the convenience of the Bishops, precluding us from getting all accounts properly balanced up to December 31st, as has hitherto been our custom, it was resolved that audits shall be completed in all cases where not yet complete, as soon after Conference adjourns as possible, and that if time admits, a record of the audits thus completed shall be made either in the body of the Minutes or by means of a printed slip inserted therein.

J. E. Robinson.
W. P. Byers.

Restoration of Credentials.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, the credentials of Ezra Peters requested by the Burma Mission Conference were ordered to be restored.

State of the Church.—The report of the Committee on the State of the Church was read by John Byork, on motion of W. P. Byers it was accepted.

Epworth League Representative at Bangalore.—On motion of Joseph Culshaw, J. O. Denning was appointed the representative of the Conference at the All-India Epworth League Convention to be held in Bangalore.

Muttra Training School.—The Secretary of the Conference read the report of the Muttra Training School, and on his motion, J. E. Robinson was appointed the representative of the Bengal Conference on the Board of Trustees.

Building Committee.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, it was resolved that the Conference Building Committee consist of J. P. Meik, G. S. Henderson, D. H. Lee, and C. C. McCown, whose
approval shall be secured of all plans and estimates for new buildings and also for renewal or extension of existing buildings, when the expenditure amounts to over Rs. 250.

Transfer of Deaconess.—The Presiding Bishop announced the transfer of Miss Pritchard from the North India Conference to the Bengal Conference.

Auditing Committee.—The report of the Auditing Committee was read by C. C. McCown. On motion of John Byork, the report was accepted.

Deaconess Board.—The report of the Deaconess Board was presented by J. E. Robinson; and on motion of D. H. Lee, the report was adopted.

Colportage.—The report of the Colportage Committee was read by D. H. Lee; and on motion of C. C. McCown the report was adopted.

Certificate of Ordinations.—This is to certify that on January 3rd, 1904, in the city of Calcutta, India, by the aid of Bishops Thoburn and Warne present I ordained Probodh C. Das, Deacon, and Sitol C. Biswas and Lakhan C. Sarcar, Elders in the Church of God according to the Ritual of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

(Signed) HENRY W. WARREN,
Bishop.

Adjournment.—On the request of the Bishop the Conference adjourned to meet at 12-15 P.M.

FIFTH SESSION.

The Conference was called to order by Bishop Thoburn at 12-40 P.M.

Board of Examiners.—The Bishop announced the following as members of the Board of Examiners: J. P. Meik, Joseph Culshaw, W. P. Byers, J. E. Robinson, B. M. Mozumdar, J. O. Denning, C. C. McCown.

Conference Boards and Standing Committees.—The report of the Presiding Elders was presented by J. O. Denning and, on his motion, it was accepted. [See Fourth Page.]
Transfer.—The Presiding Bishop announced the transfer of Titus Lowe from the Pittersburgh Conference to the Bengal Conference.

To preach the Conference Sermon.—The Bishop appointed Titus Lowe to preach the Conference Sermon.

Committee on Resolutions.—The report of the committees on resolutions was read partly by J. E. Robinson, and partly by J. P. Meik. The report was adopted. [See Resolutions.]

Adjournment—On motion of Joseph Culshaw, it was resolved, after the hearing of the minutes and reading the appointments, that the Conference adjourn sine die.

Minutes.—The minutes of the fourth and fifth sessions were read and approved.

Appointments.—Bishops Warren and Thoburn addressed the Conference, after which Bishop Thoburn read the appointments, and the Conference adjourned sine die.

J. H. Thoburn
President.

Joseph Culshaw
Secretary.
RESOLUTIONS.

SIR ANDREW LEITH FRASER, K.C.S.I.

At this, the first session of the Bengal Conference since Sir Andrew Fraser, K.C.S.I., was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal Presidency, we desire to express our sincere gratification that one whose long and brilliant official career has been marked by such ability, integrity and uprightness, should have acceded to this high and responsible position. We regard it as something to be peculiarly thankful for that one who fears God and works righteousness, and whose sympathies are so well known to be with all that tends to the moral as well as the intellectual and social advancement of the people, should be called to administer the affairs of this great province, with its nearly four score millions of souls, and a province in which, we remind ourselves, our Mission has such large and important interests. It shall be our duty, no less than our pleasure and privilege, to pray that our honoured Lieutenant-Governor may be endued with all needed wisdom and strength, and we most heartily invoke the blessing of Almighty God upon himself and his family.

BISHOP H. W. WARREN, D.D., LL.D.

Resolved:—That we express our high appreciation of the ability and truly Christian spirit with which Bishop H. W. Warren has administered our Conference business. Well acquainted with his splendid unsullied record as a minister of Christ and one of the Chief Pastors of our beloved Church, and knowing how deep and sincere have ever been his sympathies with the work of Missions in this and in all lands, it gave us very great pleasure indeed when we learned that Bishop Warren had been chosen by the Board of Bishops to visit our Southern Asia Mission field in accordance with the action of General Conference. We rejoice in all that he has been enabled to accomplish for the Church of God and in the favour with which he is regarded by other churches than his own. We thank him for his greatly appreciated public services while among us, and we shall ever cherish grateful memories of the urbanity and general brotherliness which he has exhibited in conducting the business of the Conference as well as in daily social intercourse. We would also express our appreciation of the visit of Mrs. Warren and Miss Iliff to our Conference, and we earnestly pray for the Divine blessing to be vouchsafed to the family in their journeyings in India and their voyage to the home land.

BISHOP C. D. FOSS, D.D., LL.D.

It has greatly gratified us to receive through Bishop Warren the kindly greeting sent by Bishop Foss, whose visit to India in 1897-98 will remain a cherished memory with all who then came in contact with him. We gratefully recognize the valuable service
he has rendered to the Missionary work of our great Southern Asia field by pen and voice, since his visit to India, and we rejoice that Mrs. Foss still continues in the office of President of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, both being thus linked to the foreign mission fields of our Church by close and tender ties. We send glad response to the affectionate messages conveyed by Bishop Foss and most heartily reciprocate all his kindly sentiments.

Bishop J. M. Thoburn, D.D.

Bishop Thoburn is so thoroughly one of ourselves—bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh—that it seems like a work of supererogation to frame formal resolutions concerning him. He is in our hearts and will be for ever enshrined there as our honoured leader and brother beloved, and he knows that no words of ours are needed to assure him of our undiminished affection. We thank God for all he has been to us personally and for what he has been enabled to do for the Mission cause in this land. We are profoundly grateful that he has been permitted to be with us once more, cheering us with his hopeful spirit and inciting us to more earnest aggressive effort in the field God has given us to cultivate. May his days be prolonged on earth and the desires of our hearts respecting him be abundantly fulfilled.

Bishop F. W. Warne, D.D.

Although Bishop Warne has not been officially designated to administer the Conference at this session, it has given us unfeigned pleasure to have had him present with us and we would not let the opportunity pass without most gratefully acknowledging our appreciation of his valuable services in the supervision of our large and varied work. He has been in labours abundant, not sparing himself at any point, but always manifesting his willingness to spend and to be spent for the work of God. We thank God that strength has been given Bishop Warne to carry the very heavy burdens of administration which have rested upon him during the quadrennium, and pray that he may be long spared to oversee and guide the work to which his life is so fully consecrated.

Thanks for Entertainment.

Resolved: That our warmest thanks are hereby tendered to Miss Henkle, and to Mrs. Paul, of the Calcutta Girls' School for the very satisfactory arrangements made for the entertainment of the Conference; also to the kind ladies who provided the daily tiffin which we all so greatly enjoyed; and to Dr. Robinson, the Presiding Elder; also to Dr. Stokes for courtesies received.

J. P. Meik,
J. Culshaw.
BENGAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1903-4.

MEMORIALS TO CENTRAL CONFERENCE.

I

RESOLVED: That we ask the Central Conference to appoint a Special Committee to consider the subject of English Education in connection with our Hill Schools.

II.

Whereas the Secretaries of New York have recently sent to the Board Treasurers of the several conferences a new and elaborate system of blank forms for financial reports to the New York office with a view to securing uniformity of reports in the entire mission field: RESOLVED that we request the Central Conference to take this subject into its deliberations with reference to our co-operating with the secretaries.

III.

RESOLVED: That we request the Central Conference to define the relations between the Finance Committee and the Finance Committee of the Ladies' Conference in their Joint Sessions.

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Public Meetings.

TUESDAY.

7:30 P.M. Woman's Foreign Missionary Meeting. ... Mrs. Stokes in the chair; Mrs. Byers, Miss Knowles, Mrs. Denning, Speakers.

WEDNESDAY.

7:45 A.M. Devotional Meeting ... Rev. G. E. Stokes.
8:30 P.M. Reception ... Reception to Bishops Warren, Thoburn, and Warne, by the Methodist Social Union.

THURSDAY.

7:45 A.M. Devotional Meeting ... Leader, Bishop Thoburn.
9:30 P.M. Conference Sermon ... Rev. J. O. Denning, Mozaifarapur.
10:30 P.M. Sermon ... Bishop Thoburn.
11:30 P.M. Closing Consecration Service, Bishop Warne.
PROGRAMME.

FRIDAY.

7.45 A.M. Devotional meeting ... Bishop Warne.
8 P.M. Epworth League Meeting ... J. O. Denning in the Chair.

Bishops Warren and Thoburn, speakers.

SATURDAY.

7.45 A.M. Devotional Meeting ... Rev. J. E. Robinson.
5 P.M. Meeting of Bengali Christians.

SUNDAY.

8.30 A.M. Sermon ... ... Bishop Thoburn.
12 A.M. Bengali Church: Hindustani service ... J. O. Denning, Preacher.
4 P.M. Bengali Church. Ordination of Deacons and Elders ... Bishops Warren, Thoburn, and Warne
6 P.M. Sermon ... ... Bishop Warren.
### APPOINTMENTS, 1904.

#### BENGAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

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<td>Bolpur Circuit</td>
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<td>Anglo-Indian Boys’ School and Orphanage</td>
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<td>Agent, Methodist Publishing House</td>
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G. E. Stokes, transferred to North-West India Conference.

J. P. Meik, on leave in India.
APPOINTMENTS.


Diamond Harbour ... ... ... To be supplied.
Kulpi ... ... ... To be supplied.
Nihati ... ... ... To be supplied.
South Villages ... ... ... B. M. Mozumdar, L. C. Sarcar.
Tamluk ... ... ... B. M. Mozumdar, S. C. Biswas.


Chapra ... ... ... Supplied by F. A. Oakes.
Darbhanga and Bhaptiahi ... ... ... Nain Sukh.
Samastipur ... ... ... J. O. Denning.
Muzaffarpur ... ... ... Supplied by Makhan Lal.
Sitamarhi ... ... ... Charles Dowring.
Muzaffarpur, Boys' School ... ... ... J. O. Denning.
Dal Singh Sarai ... ... ... To be supplied.

To preach the Conference Sermon, Titus Lowe.

WOMAN'S CONFERENCE.

ASANSOL DISTRICT.

Asansol Woman's Work ... ... Mrs. Byers.
Girls' School ... ... Mrs. Byers and Miss Hoskins.
Bengali work ... ... Mrs. Mullick.
W. F. M. S. Home ... ... Miss Reeves.
Medical Work ... ... Miss Vernieux.
Evangelistic Work ... ... Miss Moore.
Santali work ... ... Miss Mabel Swinnerton.

Miss Forster, on leave to America.

CALCUTTA DISTRICT.

Bolpur ... ... ... Mrs. Culshaw.
Calcutta & Suburbs Woman's Work ... Mrs. Lee.
Dennett Training School
Principal ... Mrs. Lee.
Asst. Principal ... Miss Eddy.
Girls' Orphanage and Ghat Work, ... To be supplied.
BENGAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1903-4.

Calcutta Day Schools, ... ... ... Miss Canham.
" Evangelistic Work, ... ... To be supplied.
" English Church, ... ... Mrs. Lowe.
" Anglo-Indian Girls' Orphanage, ... Supplied by Miss Smith.
" Deaconess Home, ... ... Miss Pritchard, Miss Smith, Miss Stumpf.
" Hindustani work, ... ... Miss Stumpf.
" Kidderpur & Hindustani Circuit, ... Mrs. Shaw.
" Girls' School, ... ... Miss Henkle, Miss Pyne.
" Boys' Orphanage, ... ... Mrs. Smith.
" Seamen's Mission, ... ... Mrs. Henderson (in America).

Darjeeling, Queen's Hill School, ... ... Miss Knowles, Miss McKinley, Miss Wisner.

Pakur, Girls' Boarding School, ... ... Mrs. Culshaw.
" Evangelistic Work, ... ... Miss Jacobson.

Mrs. Warne, in America; Miss Maxey, on leave to America.

DIAMOND HARBOUR DISTRICT.

South Villages ... ... ... ... ... Mrs. Lee.
Tamluk Evangelistic Work ... ... ... Miss Blair.
" Girls' School ... ... ... Miss Moyer.
District Work ... ... ... ... ... Mrs. Mozumdar.

TIRHOOT DISTRICT.

Zanana and District Work ... ... ... ... Mrs. Denning.
Girls' School ... ... ... ... Miss Peters.
Sitamarhi Zanana Work ... ... ... Mrs. Dowring.
Darbhanga " ... ... ... ... Mrs. Nain Sukh.
Disciplinary Questions.

Question I. Who have been received by transfer and from what Conference?
   Fawcett Shaw from the South India Conference, Titus Lowe from the Pittsburg Conference.

II. Who have been re-admitted?
   None.

III. Who have been received on credentials and from what Churches?
   None.

IV. Who have been received on trial?
   (a.) Walter H. Beeken, Anonto C. Mondol.

V. Who have been continued on trial?
   (b.) Alonzo J. Barkley.

VI. Who have been discontinued?
   None.

VII. Who have been admitted into full membership?
   (b.) John Byork.

VIII. What members are in studies of the third year?
   (a.) John Byork.

IX. What members are in studies of the fourth year?
   George S. Henderson, Keshub C. Mullick.

X. What members have completed the Conference Course of study?
   (a.) Lakhon C. Sarcar, Sitol C. Biswas.

XI. What others have been elected and ordained Deacons?
   (a.) As Local Preachers. Proboch C. Das.

XII. What others have been elected and ordained Elders?
   None.

XIII. Was the character of each preacher examined?
   This was strictly done as the name of each preacher was called in open Conference.

XIV. Who have been transferred and to what Conference?
   G. E. Stokes, to the North-West India Conference.

XV. Who have died?
   None.

XVI. Who have been located at their own request?
   None.
XXVII. Who have been located?
None.

XXVIII. Who have withdrawn?
None.

XXIX. Who have been permitted to withdraw under Charges or Complaints?
None.

XXX. Who have been expelled?
None.

XXII. Who are the Supernumerary Preachers?
Henry Jackson.

XXIII. Who are the Superannuated Preachers?
None.

XXIV. Who are the Tiers of Appeals?

XXV. What is the Statistical Report for this year?

XXVI. What is the aggregate of the Benevolent Collections ordered by the General Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer?
Rs. 2,275.

XXVII. What are the claims on the Conference Funds?
$16\frac{2}{3} @ 3 = Rs. 500.

XXVIII. What has been received on these claims and how has it been applied?
$248 which has been applied under order of the Conference.

XXIX. Where are the Preachers stationed?
See appointments.

XXX. Where shall the next Conference be held?
Asansol.
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Calcutta</td>
<td>January 13-17, 1888</td>
<td>Dennis Osborne</td>
<td>F. L. McCoy.</td>
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<td>Rangoon</td>
<td>February 27—March 2, 1895</td>
<td>Bishop J. M. Thoburn</td>
<td>C. G. Conklin.</td>
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<td>Pakur</td>
<td>January 3-5, 1901</td>
<td>Bishop F. W. Warne</td>
<td>Joseph Culshaw.</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Calcutta</td>
<td>January 2-6, 1902</td>
<td>Bishop F. W. Warne</td>
<td>Joseph Culshaw.</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Calcutta</td>
<td>January 22-26, 1903</td>
<td>Bishop F. W. Warne</td>
<td>Joseph Culshaw.</td>
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BENGAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1903-4.

Presiding Elders' Reports.

ASANSOL DISTRICT.

W. P. Byers, Presiding Elder.

Our great anxiety for the past six months has been about property, and the securing of a place where we shall have sufficient room for all our Mission buildings, and all the necessary adjuncts of a large and well-arranged Mission station.

Concerning our needs, Bishop Warne, after his visit in the month of June, wrote in the Indian Witness: "Our work at Asansol originally began with the English congregation, the vernacular work developing later. The two have been worked successfully side by side, and the English congregations are good, with a noticeable growing interest. The vernacular services were crowded. Now the work is too large for present quarters, and one of the duties immediately before our Mission is to provide homes for the W. F. M. S. and the missionary. Asansol is a difficult place in which to secure property, but it must be done."

Since this was written we have been doing our utmost to procure a suitable site, and have been successful in finding one just outside the town, in a most desirable situation and at a very low rate. On this plot (12 acres) we shall need a large church for our Bengali congregation, in addition to the Mission Houses and schools. The money for the W. F. M. S. buildings has been provided by the Northwestern Branch, but who will secure the other needed funds for us?

We also require a house out in the District, where we can live during a part of the year at least. The Bengal Coal Company has very kindly given us an old bungalow that only needs a roof and doors and windows to make it habitable. We have applied for fifty biggaahs of land around this old place, in order to gather about us the people to form a new circuit and centre of work.

A year ago we were expecting a final answer from the owners of "Santibari," as to whether they would sell us that property or not, for the W. F. M. S. work. While we were waiting, the Government took up all the surrounding land and commenced building operations on a circuit house, right in front of the young ladies' home. The workmen and others made themselves so objectionable that it became unsafe for the young ladies and girls to remain there longer, so no other alternative was left but to move back to the old school and premises on the Mission compound. This has been a very inconvenient arrangement for us all around, as we are very crowded and Brother Byork is obliged to live at a distance. But we hope soon to
have all the room we want, and then we shall soon forget all about our bother and cramped quarters.

**ENGLISH WORK.**

This department has now been in charge of Brother Byork for three years, in whose diligent hands it thrives and grows. Asansol is becoming a very large and important place with a rapidly increasing population, and our church shares in the growth of the town. The people appreciate their pastor's attentive services and think there is no one like their minister, and in token of their regard presented him on Christmas day with a purse of Rs. 137.

The congregation, beside paying the pastor's salary raised Rs. 600 this year and purchased a fine new organ. The two organists, (one for church and one for Sunday School) are girls who have grown up in our Sunday School. The church has been neatly repainted and frescoed, and everyone who comes says: "What a nice little church we have." A number have united with the Society during the year, gladdening the pastor's heart as nothing else could do, and without which our well attended meetings, large congregations and nice church would be as nothing.

Beside his pastoral visiting and the various meetings conducted in Asansol, Brother Byork preaches at Sitarampur, Kendwa and Dhanbaid. We should have two additional resident Missionaries to take up the stations of Kendwa and Dhanbaid. These places are too important to be left unoccupied. The Asiatic Iron Works employs a large staff of Europeans at Kendwa and the native workmen number over three thousand. And Dhanbaid is a thriving town in the midst of the best coal district in India. It is also surrounded by many villages of people (chiefly Santalis) who should be reached.

**VERNACULAR WORK.**

We are now working in four languages: English, Hindi, Bengali and Santali, and have Christians in fifteen villages, and there have been 85 baptisms this year.

The Bengali Church is in charge of Brother K.C. Mullick, the only educated man we have to assist in our Bengali work. All the other workers are only pastor teachers. They are doing good work, but are at a disadvantage from lack of education. Brother Keshub, beside being pastor, is also our photographer, doctor and general assistant—well liked and approved by all our people. The Bengali services are crowded meetings, additional chairs and benches having to be brought in every Sunday to accommodate the worshippers. It is a pity we cannot have a proper staff of efficient men; and what we are to do for workers till our boys grow up is a problem which is often a source of anxiety. May the Lord of the harvest speedily answer our prayer and send forth more labourers into His harvest field.

In addition to our Bengali work we have a little company of Hindustani speaking people, for whom a separate service should be
BENGAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1903-4.

held as they prefer the preaching to be in their own language. Most of them are working as servants and on the railway, so we find it difficult to fix an hour that will suit all. If we had a Hindustani Pastor he would find plenty to do and we pray the conference to give us one.

SANTALI WORK.

A year ago an ardent desire was expressed that we might be able to take up work among the Santali people. Soon after conference a Santal preacher applied for work, and on the recommendation of his missionary he was appointed and sent out to preach. The next problem that confronted us was where we should get his salary. The appropriations were altogether inadequate for existing work without attempting anything new. But just then a donation of $40 was sent by a young people's society in California, to be applied for the support of a native preacher. With joyful gratitude we thanked our gracious Heavenly Father for His providential supply for this new and necessary work, and realized that it was His hand that was leading us in this undertaking.

The Santals, originally, according to their own traditions, come from Armenia, from Mount Haratta or Hara—a place where two human beings (in the form of doves) are said to have been saved from the flood. They afterwards took an easterly direction and came down through Persia and Afghanistan into India. Some think that as they call themselves Hor People they are the descendants of the inhabitants of the land of Seir or Edom, who were conquered and driven out by Esau, Jacob's brother. These were Horites (see Deut. 2:12 and 22) and evidently a warlike people even in those early days. Be that as it may, the Santals say their institutions were formed at Hara (could it be Mount Hor, where Aaron died? see Numbers 20:27) and they lived for ages in great prosperity.

They are divided into twelve tribes each of which is again subdivided into twelve families. Their religious ideas are very crude. They worship the sun as a good God and many evil spirits which must be propitiated, or all manner of evil will befall them. Fowls figure chiefly in their sacrifices and at their great festival (the Soharai) in January, thousands of hapless roosters lose their heads to make atonement for the misdeeds of the year. Having found there are many villages of Santals away to the south of Asansol we wish to do our share towards their evangelization and work up from the south towards our brethren of the Danish and Free Church Missions.

The old bungalow donated by the Bengal Coal Company will provide us a Mission House in the midst of sixteen adjacent Santal villages. We have done considerable preaching and itinerating in the vicinity, and now have three Santali preachers at work for the salvation of their countrymen. The missionary is learning the language and will soon be able to preach in it. We ask special prayer for these interesting and independent dwellers of the uplands of Bengal.
Among the Villages.

Our best and happiest times are when we can be among the people, night and day in the villages. They crowd around us so eagerly and with so much curiosity that it is often very amusing and sometimes embarrassing. In the early morning they come to your tent and watch you washing your face and brushing your teeth as though you were giving an exhibition instead of performing these ordinary and necessary offices in the interests of cleanliness. They comment on the way you eat, what you have to eat, the way you put on your clothes, the probable cost of everything they see and are always eager to know something about the country from which the Sahib came and why he comes from such a nice country to live in India among such poor people as they are. In the tent and out of it and on the way from village to village many precious opportunities present themselves for showing them the truth as it is in Jesus.

Medical Work.

It is delightful, also, to be able to carry out the Saviour's command "as you go heal the sick." Everywhere there is suffering to alleviate and as

Burdened ones where'er he came
Brought out their sick and deaf and lame,

so it is with us who follow in his footsteps, under very similar circumstances, and it is a cause for gratitude that we have learned how to treat some complaints which do not require great knowledge or much skill. The people come from far and near for medicine, and wish for some of ours, as though it contained some special virtue not found in the same thing from elsewhere.

A certificated compounder has come to us from the Dublin University Mission, and he will largely take the preparation and dispensing of medicines off our hands. If we only had a small hospital and a little dispensary we should feel better prepared to care for the cases which are often brought to us for treatment. A larger grant should be made for medicines.

Boys' School.

Changes have been necessary at the Boys' School and we are thankful to be able to say we have secured some competent teachers (taking in drill and Kindergarten) and the boys are making rapid and thorough progress in their studies. A number of them can read and write Bengali and Hindi and are struggling with English also. One boy can read and write in four vernaculars—a lad of only fourteen years. Six boys went up for the Lower Primary examination this year and their teacher thinks they will all be successful. If a number of these ninety-three lads are well educated and properly trained we shall have desirable assistants in the years to come,
Failing to secure a suitable young man to take the place of Harry Moore "we have crossed the rubicon" and, on the suggestion of Bishop Warne, engaged two young ladies to assist at the boys' school, an arrangement which is very satisfactory to the boys. They think it just fine to have two masis to look after them, and we believe they will grow up better behaved and more gentlemanly because of the constant presence of these young ladies in their company.

**Leper Work**

The Leper Asylums were opened in 1891; so have been in operation for twelve years. They are supported entirely by the Mission to Lepers, and the cost for maintenance during the past year has been about Rs. 6,000.

Religious instruction is given every day and regular services are held on Sundays. Of the 100 inmates almost all are Christians.

There are some bright untainted children, the eldest of whom, Lucy Charan, is grown up, but will still study as she wishes to become a teacher. Lucy has received a rich blessing and is as happy as a bird, her heart filled with longing to save others. She refuses to marry, and sets her face towards a teacher's or Bible woman's work. She conducts prayers in the school, teaches the little ones to pray, has been secretary of our Epworth League, and takes a leading part in the prayer meetings. She also helps Miss Forster in every way and exerts a good influence upon the other girls.

**W. F. M. S. Work.**

The W. F. M. S. has an increasing staff, six young ladies, beside the two at the Boys' School, now helping in the various departments; so without thinking of it or planning for it we have a young ladies' training home in practical working order. Two of these young ladies passed their Bengali examinations in Calcutta the other day. Three more are studying and one is taking up Santali.

Three of the School girls passed their Upper Primary examinations this year one securing a scholarship of Rs. 4 a month. Two girls only went up for the L. P. examinations. More might have tried, but Miss Forster feared their health would suffer if they studied too closely.

At the sewing exhibition held in Calcutta a few days ago our girls received a medal from Lady Fraser, for good all around work, and two certificates highly commending the sewing.

**Notes on the Work.**

The year's toil was brightened by two visits from Bishop Warne, who came to advise us about property. While with us he conducted some very helpful special services and encouraged us in various ways.

The children were delighted to have a four days' visit from Mr. W. H. Stanes of the I. S. S. U. in July. In the Sunday School examinations 31 of the girls passed and received certificates and 46 of the boys.
The year has not been all brightness, joy and success. The shadow of death has fallen across our pathway, removing from amongst us those whom we thought might be spared for many years. The first of these was Harry Moore, who was suddenly snatched away by a drowning accident. He was taken unexpectedly, but we believe it was to stand before the King and to sing His praises for ever and ever.

One of our older Bengali boys, whom we were counting on to help us in the future, was carried off in a few hours by a violent fever. His poor father had struggled to give his boy every chance to learn, hoping he would become a Christian worker. But the Master saw fit to take him for higher service in the Kingdom above. When this father was told his son had passed away he bowed his head in submission worthy of any Christian in any country, as he said “The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord.” Beholding such quiet and restrained grief, we could not but praise our God for the grace given to that stricken man in the depths of such an intense sorrow.

The kind donor of the Leper Asylum property—Lady Seafield, entered into rest in the month of September. Some months ago she wrote:

"So many thanks for your welcome and most interesting letter, which I have read over several times. I think you have done wonders with the money I sent for Asansol. You could not have spent it in a better way. You are doing a wonderful work for God in ministering to the poor lepers, and it must often be trying, but I think they are the most afflicted people on the face of the earth, and are justly called the brothers and sisters of death. I do feel so intensely for them and it is strange so few people take any interest in them or know anything about them. With a thousand thanks for all the trouble and interest you have taken.

Yours most sincerely,

Georgina Seafield."

In her the leper work had a staunch and sympathetic friend and we shall miss her sadly.

The difficulties are great and there are very many obstacles to be overcome in all this work, but God has given the increase, and we are cheered by the exceeding great and precious promises and the knowledge that we have the prayers and holy sympathies of devout people who constantly remember us at the throne of grace, bringing us nearer the source of strength and wisdom as we toil on and continue in the fierce conflict with the powers of evil and darkness. We are further sustained in every trying hour by the conviction that we are here at the command of our Risen Redeemer, to prepare the way of the Lord, to exalt His name among the heathen, to do His holy will, to dwell under His shadow, to live His radiant life, “in faith and obedience to the saving of our own souls and the salvation of all within our reach.”
CALCUTTA DISTRICT
J. E. Robinson, Presiding Elder.

I. BENGALI WORK.

BOLPUR.

It was a great relief when the name of Joseph Culshaw was read out by the Bishop at last Conference as missionary in charge at Bolpur. We had come to look upon this circuit as a promising field for aggressive work, and the developments of the year have proved the correctness of our estimate. Brother and Sister Culshaw took hold vigorously of all departments of the work, and it is a pleasure to record that good progress has been made during the year they have had charge. The baptisms reported demonstrate the fact that there is a fruitful field in that part of the district from which a rich harvest is certain to be secured within a reasonable time. The dedication of the neat modest church soon after Conference was a great encouragement to the band of workers. The total cost was a little over Rs. 2,000, which was all provided for without help from the Missionary Society. The building serves also for a school. The staff of workers should be strengthened as soon as possible so as to admit of more extensive village evangelization. The summer school held in the middle of the year was a great success. Thanks are due to Brothers Culshaw, Mein, McCown and Mozumdar for their valuable help. Building projects have demanded much of the missionary's attention during the year. A substantial building was erected for the accommodation of workers and a building for the W. F. M. S. to serve as school and widows' home. We are very thankful for these additions to the plant at Bolpur. The village work in this circuit promises well. Efforts are contemplated to reach accessible communities of lower caste people from which it is hoped large numbers will be gathered in. There are important sub-stations on this circuit which ought to be supplied soon. The missionary in charge feels much encouraged by the work of the year and is enthusiastic over the prospects of the Bolpur circuit. Mrs. Culshaw's effective touch on the work among the women and girls has already begun to be felt, and we are greatly indebted to her for her motherly care of the boys.

CALCUTTA.

The work in this city under the care of Brother and Sister Lee is manifold and widespread, and full of interest. We rejoice with them in the favour which God has shown them in the enabling them to secure large and valuable property on Dharamtala Street and in Ballyaghata, a growing suburb. Excellent judgment and business sense have been displayed in connection with all these property interests. Were it possible to reach the patrons of the
work who have provided the funds, entirely apart from the Mission, we could assure them that their gifts have been most judiciously utilized in providing first-rate plant for a prosperous and growing work with many ramifications. During the year an additional eligible property has been secured on Dharamtala Street, adding considerably to the accommodation available. Working loyally with the Church, this work of Brother and Sister Lee is gathering strength and solidity, and is full of promise. Their day and Sunday Schools are reaching numerous communities which will yield much fruit in due season. The young women in the Dennett Training School are getting a solid education under thoroughly spiritual influences, and most interesting practical work is carried on in the boarding department. The work at Baliaghata is opening up encouragingly. It bids fair to become a populous section of the city. Indeed it is already such. As no other mission is operating there, we ought to put forth our best efforts to develop it as rapidly as possible. It is impossible to portray in detail the different departments of this interesting work in the space at disposal. In all the varied work carried on by Brother and Sister Lee they have been ably and devotedly assisted by Miss Eddy, Miss Canham, and Bro. Beeken.

Dharamtala Street Church.—This work has been in charge of brother Lee with brother Solomon Christo Panthi as Native pastor. The latter is also obliged to teach in the American Methodist Institution, a disadvantage to both offices easily perceived. As was remarked last year, this church is not and indeed cannot be, as aggressive in its efforts to reach the non-Christian people all around as we hope it will be when it can have the undivided attention of missionary or pastor not burdened with a lot of other work which demands prior consideration. But there is a good work going on among the large number of young people connected with the church,—a promising element in itself, which well repays careful attention. Thankful mention must be made of brother McCown’s much appreciated help in Sunday school and Epworth League, and of his successful endeavours to improve the musical part of all the services. His efforts to teach the young men and women vocal music have been most encouraging. The sub-circuits of Beg Bagan and Baliaghata have many features of interest and hopefulness. On the whole the Bengali work has a stronger position every way than it had a year ago.

The American Methodist Institution has had a year of solid prosperity. Brother McCown has taken hold of the Institution with a wise apprehension of its needs and possibilities. He has been ably seconded in all his efforts by Brother Barkley, who has fitted in with much acceptance as a valuable colleague. I am glad to report that the financial status and general position of the Institution are more satisfactory than I have ever known them
to be. Good solid work has characterized the year. The introduction of systematic religious instruction in all the classes, and the establishing of a Sunday school and Bible Class, have marked a very encouraging advance. We are glad to note that the first Y. M. C. A. organized in any Calcutta institution was recently started in this school. The number of Christian boy boarders is larger than at any previous period, while the receipts from non-Christian day pupils are slightly above the average of past years. The finances all round are easier, and the day of chronic starvation has passed away, we trust, never to return. The discipline of the school has improved in various respects. Altogether, the outlook is most satisfactory. In anticipation of the $1,00,000 promised in America for this Bengali educational work, an eligible property has been purchased on Dharamtala Street at a cost of Rs. 70,000, which we hope will one day be the sphere of a great educational enterprise that shall worthily represent our Church and be a potent auxiliary to the work of our Mission in Bengal.

The Hindustani Mission.—The Hindustani work has been prosecuted under great difficulties. It has been under the charge of Bro. Das, a Bengali, who, to save rent appropriation, lives three or four miles away from the part of the city where his work lies. But he has worked diligently, finding much assistance from Brother Good and Brother Twidale, who, as volunteer honorary workers, superintend the Sunday School and the Epworth League and are very useful in the work. We trust the time will soon come when we shall have a missionary set apart exclusively for the Hindustani work, of which there is plenty to be done in this great city. It is not of course expected that it shall ever receive the attention or have funds at its disposal in anything like the proportion given to the Bengali work, which has the first claim on our consideration. But while we would not have less done for the latter we would like to see much more done for the former.

The Kidderpore Mission.—For several years it has been earnestly desired to open a Mission in this important section of the city, the European and native population of which has rapidly increased of late. In March last a beginning was made in work for seamen in connection with the resident European and Eurasian element, under the supervision of Mr. and Mrs. Walshe. There was considerable encouragement during the few months they had charge, but owing chiefly to health causes, Mr. and Mrs. Walshe decided to return to England, which they did in September. The gap was filled by Bishop Warne transferring the Rev. Fawcett Shaw from Madras, South India Conference. Brother and Sister Shaw have taken up this pioneer work, for such it practically is, with considerable energy, and the prospects are in many respects encouraging. There is scope for work of a manifold
character at Kidderpore—among Europeans, seamen, lascars and native people, both Bengali and Hindi. One difficulty is likely to be occasioned by lack of sufficient finds to meet the clamorous needs of a new work that has not had time or opportunity to develop a base of supplies. We might recall the achievements of former days, when solid work was developed out of existing local resources, and there are places where that may still be done on old lines. But the situation at Kidderpore is not as favorable to that line of work as we could wish. Attached to this circuit are two exhorters who work among the lascars and others, and are doing useful work of a quiet character. Their support is provided by the British and Foreign Sailors’ Society. Since Bro. Shaw took charge and began to explore, he found that quite a number of the Satnamis, who are to be found in large numbers in the Central Provinces, have found their way to the neighbourhood of Calcutta, attracted by the higher wages paid to workers at the docks and in the mills. He is getting into touch with them, and we hope to arrange for a preacher from their own country to look after them. There are some Christians among them belonging to a German Mission, whose missionaries have expressed their willingness and desire that we should care for them. The Sunday services and the Sunday School are being carried on with a measure of encouragement; but the disadvantages of carrying on such work in ill-adapted rented quarters are great. We must endeavour to arise and build in Kidderpore as soon as possible. Within a few weeks the European Day School at Kidderpore has been offered to and accepted by us. We hope it will prove a helpful auxiliary to the general work of the Mission.

Pakur.

During the years Bro. Meik has been stationed at Pakur he has given considerable attention to the material interests of the circuit, and marked improvements have been made in the Mission property. The compound, which was much of a jungle, has been drained to advantage, unsightly hollows have been filled up, boundaries have been set up and hedges made, and desirable bits of land have been judiciously added to the original compound from time to time, at comparatively little expense, by which encroachments by undesirable neighbours will be prevented and the value of the whole property be increased. Work of this kind takes up a lot of time, but it is work that should be done and Bro. Meik deserves credit for his efforts in this direction. The crowning achievement of his administration has been the planting out of hundreds of fruit trees of various kinds, many of which have begun to bear already, and all of which will be yielding fruit in a few years. The financial benefit to the Mission ought to be considerable; for these trees have been selected with great care, and
though the soil at Pakur is not of the best, the promise of good growth is manifest. I think such work as this should have the praise it deserves. In years to come we will be thankful for what Bro. Meik has been able to accomplish.

At the same time, while these improvements of mission property have been in progress, the spiritual work has by no means been neglected. The teaching and training of a large number of boys and girls have demanded much time and thought; also the training of workers. No better schools of their kind than those at Pakur can be found. More than once has the educational Inspector commended them for the solid, thorough work done in them. The training is of a practical kind throughout, and it is a pleasure to find boys and girls trained at Pakur teaching and working in the mission, or, as is the case in numerous instances, settling down in the villages in married life, establishing neater and happier homes than those of the non-Christians around them. With the completion of the buildings now in course of erection the way will be open for more aggressive evangelistic work in the surrounding villages, though a larger staff is needed to do this effectively. And here, in passing, I must pause to pay a special tribute to the excellent work done by Mrs. Meik in caring for and looking after the girls and giving her motherly attention to the boys. If any more faithful and really efficient work of this kind is being done, I am free to say I have not seen it. Mrs. Meik also has edited for some years the Bengali paper for women, *Mohila Bandhub*, a useful magazine for the special benefit of our Christian women, but useful among all. Bro. Meik’s breakdown in the middle of the year gave us great anxiety for a time. We are thankful he has rallied so well, and trust that his vacation next year will set him up thoroughly. After twenty-five years of service, it is time he had a good solid vacation and a proper chance to rest. The Poultry Farm has been discontinued. It cost the mission nothing either to establish or carry it on; but on the contrary furnished some financial help while it was in operation. The W. F. M. S. new building is in process of erection. Built in a thoroughly solid manner, the premises when completed will be far the best for their purpose in the whole Conference. Bro. Meik has given a good deal of time to planning and supervising this enterprise. It is a pleasure to record that the W. F. M. S., in grateful recognition of Mrs. Meik’s valuable services through many years, has decided to call the new mission building, the “Isabella Meik House.”

II. ENGLISH WORK.

*Dharamtala Street English Church.*—Dr. Stokes has been at his post without a break throughout the year, excepting a couple of weeks in the hills. He has preached and visited faithfully, having valuable assistance from Mrs. Stokes in the important work done
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in the homes of the people. All the interests of the Church have been cared for as usual. Bro. Thurlow gives earnest effort to the Sunday School, in endeavour to make its work effective. The young people's organizations have undergone some needed readjustment which will render their work more useful. The finances have kept up well, needing only a comparatively small amount at the close of the year to meet all claims. A Mission conducted by Mr. R. A. Studd last month proved a time of blessing to Christians, and there were conversions which gladdened our hearts, chiefly among the older pupils of the Girls' School. Mr. Studd's spirit of prayerful devotion and entire consecration to God made a lasting impression upon many. But the revival of God's work in this church and in this city, is yet to come. It is apparent to those familiar with the situation as it is at present, and as it existed some years ago, that the work being done by the church now is of a different complexion to that which characterized it in its earlier days.

Elements that added strength, financial and spiritual, in former times, appear to be almost wholly absent now. The European sea-faring element, for instance, has entirely disappeared. We all know how valuable an element that was. It is noticeable, too, that the sturdier class of domiciled Europeans and Anglo-Indians is not to the front as it once was. The church membership is recruited from a different class, which does not contribute to the strengthening of the church as one could desire. Yet, it is encouraging to find that the finances keep up tolerably well, and that the institutions which have grown up around the church are prosperous and successful. Yet it cannot be ignored that the environment of the church is widely different from what it once was, and that it is not tapping the solid sections of the community from which it drew so largely in former years.

I need hardly say that, as always in the past, the Church continues not only to be wholly self-supporting, but is a generous contributor to connexional benevolences and to the philanthropic institutions which look to it for assistance.

The Industrial Home.—Being obliged to leave its old quarters in Hospital Lane, our great concern early in the year was to find suitable premises in some eligible locality. We were fortunate to get 11, Creek Row, which, while involving greater expenditure for rent, has much better accommodations for the inmates and the work. The Home has had a good year. Mr. Oakley is an efficient Superintendent. His management has been very satisfactory. Orders for work have come in with unfailing regularity, sometimes taxing the capacity of the workshops to the utmost. This useful institution, founded most opportunely by Bishop Warne during his pastorate of this church, has proved itself a valuable agency for dealing successfully with unemployed Europeans and Eurasians in a practical, self-helpful way. No fewer than 1,400 men
have passed through this Home since its establishment a few years ago, this large number including quite a considerable proportion of men of good position and brilliant parts who have come to grief through intemperance. The valuable character of the Home is recognized by the Government which makes it a grant of Rs. 1,000 per annum, and by the public who subscribe towards its maintenance. The ordinary current expenditure is met by the proceeds of the work done by the inmates. The balance sheet for last year shows all demands met, all bills paid, and Rs. 1,000 invested as a nucleus for a building fund.

EUROPEAN SCHOOLS AND ORPHANAGES.

The Calcutta Girls' School.—This school holds its own very encouragingly. With the exception of one single year, its income for the past fiscal year was the largest in its history, and the number of boarders in attendance reached high water mark, exceeding that of any year since the school was established. After over four years of faithful work, Miss Samson resigned the Principalship on the occasion of her marriage, and was succeeded by Miss Henkle, who had proved herself an efficient teacher and had acted as Principal on two occasions. Miss Storrs, honorary missionary teacher, has rendered most valuable service since the beginning of 1901. The splendid library recently added to the school is due to her initiative and energy. There is no library to approximate this in any high school of any mission in India, boys' or girls', and we have no doubt it will prove a great blessing to the institution. It is very gratifying to record the blessed work of grace among the pupils, the outcome of Mr. Studd's special meetings in the church. A goodly number of girls were soundly converted, and have given every evidence of having experienced the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit. Under Miss R. May Pyne's able direction the Kindergarten has put on greatly increased strength and may be regarded as second to very few to be found in this land in the excellence of the work done in it, though as yet it has not been fortunate enough to secure a habitation of its own, which is badly needed. In training young teachers as well as the sixty odd pupils in attendance, the Kindergarten is doing efficient work and will become increasingly useful with the passing years. All debt on the property has been paid off, and it has closed as it began the school year with a substantial balance to credit.

The Calcutta Boys' School.—It is a pleasure to record that at no period since the school was started has its financial position been better. Under the careful administration of Mr. and Mrs. Smith, without any sacrifice of comfort or efficiency, the school has paid all its bills, spent some Rs. 1,500 for general repairs, a considerable amount for other improvements, and wound up its last quarter with a substantial balance in hand, after making a
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Donation of several hundreds of rupees to the Boys' Orphanage. This is a most encouraging record. The numbers, too, have been slightly better than last year, and the examination results have been fairly good, though not up to our ideal. The cadet corps has improved during the year, and had the pleasure of carrying off the second prize recently in the competition Drill Inspection held on the Maidan. We hope gradually to develop a first-class teaching staff, which we have felt the need of for some time past.

We rejoice to report that the long contemplated Endowment Scheme has taken material shape. This very week we have put the matter of the formation of a trust in the solicitor's hands to manage the estate which has a present value of three and a half lakhs in the interest of the Boys' School. A handsome block of buildings is now being erected on the land adjoining the School, to cost Rs. 2,00,000. The whole will provide a splendid endowment for the School, with which the Orphanage will then be incorporated. As some indebtedness has to be paid off it will be a few years before the entire net revenue of the estate becomes available for the School. But there will be foundation scholarships at the disposal of the School at an early day. This splendid provision will place the Boys' School and Orphanage on a prosperous basis and furnish the opportunity of educating a large number of boys of the poorer class. We shall soon have to face the question of a technical or industrial department.

The Queen's Hill Girls' School—Has had the best year in point of numbers and financial prosperity, in its history. During the year 1899, towards the end of which the terrible disaster occurred, it had 33 boarders. In 1900, the number fell to 18, with 5 day pupils; in 1901, it advanced to 23, with 3 day pupils; in 1902, 34 boarders and 11 day pupils; while this year 62 boarders and 6 day pupils were enrolled, twice the number enrolled immediately prior to the disaster. The Government grant, which in 1899 was 995, fell to Rs. 550 in 1900; rose steadily in the two succeeding years to Rs. 743 and then to Rs. 1,600. Out of the sad events which well-nigh broke up the school, God has brought enlargement. I must take the opportunity to commend Miss Knowles's excellent financial management and her general administration of the school. While the spirit which prevails at Queen's Hill pervades our English schools, they are fulfilling a most useful mission, and are practically indispensable to the many-sided work of our Church in this land. In the admirable paper on English schools read the other evening by Miss Knowles, the gratifying statement was made that three-fourths of her present staff consists of teachers who were educated in our English schools. Many also find their way into mission work. A substantial decrease of indebtedness has been made this year. Yielding to the earnest request of parents, a department for small boys was opened two years ago,
It has prospered, and the prospect is that of still further increase the coming year. The requests coming to us for a fully-equipped boys' school, and the eagerness with which they are entrusted to us, are indications that we can hardly much longer defer the opening of a boys' school in Darjeeling. It is one of our most pressing present problems. Miss Knowles has been efficiently assisted during the year by Miss McKinley and Miss Wisner. The health of the School, which caused anxiety once or twice in former years, has been all that could be desired this year.

The Anglo Indian Girls' Orphanage.—This useful institution has much to be grateful for. Though the Superintendent, Miss Smith, has passed through some severe testings and her faith has often been tried, the Lord has stood by her and graciously supplied the needs of her forty-five girls throughout the year. An empty exchequer confronted her a little while ago, but God has provided enough to enable the books to be closed with a balance to be carried forward. We are also thankful to learn of a legacy Rs. 7000 or Rs. 8000—which we expect will soon be paid over to us for the building fund, making ten or eleven thousand we shall have in hand towards a suitable home for these girls. Those who are in close touch with the Orphanage are pleased with the spirit that prevails and with the training imparted. The Christian lives of some of the girls afford much encouragement, and we know that God's blessing rests upon the institution.

The Anglo Indian Boys' Orphanage has had an average of about 62 during the year. It is now housed in the commodious premises of the Calcutta Boys' School. Owing to the falling off in subscriptions, which were diverted in some instances to other institutions, the Boys' Orphanage has been in tight places this year. But a grant generously made by the Boys' School helped it out of its difficulties for the time. The Orphanage finances, boarding, etc., are kept separate from the Boys' School; but it is intended to amalgamate them in the near future, and then the united institution will participate without distinction in the benefits resulting from the Endowment Scheme to which reference has been made. The Orphanage is under the care of Mr. Fred Smith, Principal of the Boys' School; and all who remember Mrs. Smith's work in the orphanage in years past will understand how natural it is for her to give time and thought to its affairs now.

The Methodist Publishing House.—The Conference will be glad to hear that the Publishing House is gathering strength and improving its position in various directions. The plant has had considerable additions during the past year involving heavy expenditure. But the year's work has been above the average, and Agent Henderson is much encouraged. He is now thankful in prospect of the setting up of an oil engine which will be a great help. The year opens auspiciously. All betokens a pros-
perous new year. Bro. Henderson is bravely attacking the problem of indebtedness and is ambitiously setting himself the task of wiping it out by the earnings of the press and book department. This will be no light achievement, and if accomplished, there will be joyful acclamation throughout the Conference. All visiting brethren will be gratified to note the various improvements in the book room across the street, and they are cordially invited to inspect and invest in its literary and art treasures.

The Lal Bazar Coffee Rooms and Seamen’s Mission.—Although the peculiar work among European seamen for which the Coffee Rooms became famous throughout the world has almost wholly subsided because of the disappearance of European seamen from the port in consequence of the comparatively few sailing ships which now come to Calcutta, it must not be supposed that no work is being done on behalf of the seamen at Lal Bazar. Much useful work has been done for this needy class and the boarding department has had a fair record during the year. The Coffee Rooms is also doing a much appreciated work among young business men, who as boarders find there a safe home to dwell in, and good influences to surround them. Brother Henderson is managing these interests in addition to his work as Agent of the Press and Treasurer of the Conference. It does seem as if there is truth in the remark of the Secretary of one of the great Societies operating in India, that Methodist missionaries, more than any other in the land, are badly overworked.

Of the Indian Witness it must suffice to say that it is probably in a better position to-day than at any previous time for years past, if indeed any limitation as to time is needed. It is doing useful work for the Church and for the people of this land. Would that it might be far better equipped in every respect!

Woman’s Work.—It is unnecessary and perhaps undesirable to go into the details of Woman’s Work on the District in view of the fact that it will be fully reported in the Woman’s Conference, and more or less incidental reference has been made to it in the course of the report. I must, however, say that, as already intimated, the wives of our missionaries are rendering valuable service in many ways, in directing evangelistic work, caring for schools, etc. In Calcutta, Miss Maxey supervises the Deaconess Home and puts herself into the work of the English Church to the utmost limits of her strength. We regret that her health has been so poorly the past year, necessitating her taking furlough to the home land in 1904. Miss Stumpf is diligently prosecuting her Hindustani studies, and at the same time has considerable work on hand. Her Sunday Schools and day schools are full of interest. At Pakur Miss Jacobson has charge of the evangelistic village work and also helps in the school work. She watches the upraising of the new building with unfeigned interest, for the money to
build it is being raised by the Swedish W.F.M.S. auxiliaries which she organized when in America a year or two ago. Of the work of teachers in schools, mention has already been made. We are glad to report that the contract for the much needed W.F.M.S. building at Tamluk was given out a few weeks ago, though that belongs to another District. The event in Calcutta has been the purchase a few weeks ago of the building occupied by the Deaconess Home for Rs. 50,000. Being near church and schools, its situation is most eligible.

Closing Remarks.

In closing devout and grateful acknowledgment must be made of Divine help received in all our financial enterprises. At no time for many years past have our various interests in this city been in better condition—many entirely free from the last pice of indebtedness, others looking forward to generous provision already guaranteed, while the special anxiety which burdened us in regard to others has been turned into joyful congratulation over wondrous deliverance vouchsafed. It seems as if the altar has been built and the sacrifice laid thereon, and that now is needed more especially the fire of the Almighty from heaven. Throughout all our borders what we now most sorely need is the mighty manifestation of the power of the Holy Spirit to vitalize the preparations made, that on every hand we may see wondrous spiritual advance.

DIAMOND HARBOUR DISTRICT.

B. M. Mozumdar, Presiding Elder.

There are three Circuits in the District, namely Diamond Harbour, South Villages and Tamluk.

Diamond Harbour itself is a Harbour Station. There are very few here besides the Government Courts' people. One Colporteur lives here, whose principal work is to sell Christian Books and Tracts in the Railway Station, Steamers, hauts and bazars. In the beginning of the year the Steamer business being totally abolished, our work in this line suffered very much. There are two small churches in connection with this Circuit comprising a hundred souls. I am thankful to state that the good Lord has blessed our little work in many ways.

Our South Village work is chiefly among the Christian people. There are two churches in this circuit comprising 410 souls. I saw on many occasions, a large number of the people attend the Church Services. It seems to me that some kind of good arrangement for the workers should be made for the future improvement of the work.
Last year fearful cholera broke out all over the South Villages. We distributed medicines worth about Rs. 20 among the people, and by the blessing of God many souls have been saved.

At Tamluk there is no Christian family besides that of the agent. This is a purely evangelistic circuit. Rev. L. C. Sarcar and one colporteur are working there, faithfully and diligently. There are some enquirers among the sweeper classes. They are now under the religious instruction of Brother Sarcar and we earnestly hope that they will be baptized soon. There are also some believers among the high caste people. They confess ours is the true religion, and they read the word of God very carefully and diligently, but it is difficult for them to leave all their social connections and relations and embrace the Christian religion publicly. Indeed, this is the greatest hindrance in this country and it will require a great deal of time and perseverance to get over it.

Our workers are living in rented houses at Tamluk, but we are lamentably in want of houses of our own. I have taken in this year some additional pieces of land, measuring more than two bighas, the yearly rent of which is about Rs. 70.

Miss Blair and Miss Moyer of the W. F. M. S. have done their work faithfully and diligently with great sacrifice. I am glad to see the increase in the numbers of scholars of the Girls' School and Sunday School in this year over last.

On my last visit to Tamluk in the month of November, I baptized a young men named Ram Das Adhikari, who is about 18 years of age. He comes from the religious guides of the Baisnava religion. His father's sole occupation was to make disciples and these men provided his family with all their wants. When he arrived at the age of twelve, he lost all his relatives, seven in number, including his parents, who died, within a week, of cholera. This fearful disease which carried away all those who were near and dear to him, left him in a very helpless condition. After the death of his parents, his shrewd neighbours took away all that he possessed under the pretext that Ram Das' father owed them many things and that it was his (Ram Das), duty to pay the debts of his father.

The wicked people by whom he was surrounded on all sides went still further in their ill-treatment of this young, inexperienced boy. At night they used to throw stones and bones of all kinds to frighten him and they also told him that the house in which he lived was haunted by the ghosts of his relatives, and if he paid no heed to their advice and did not quit the house he would surely be killed. He listened to them and became a disciple of a Sonnasi (ascetic). After sometime he accompanied this Sonnasi to Tamluk. He now found out to his disgust and sorrow that the man whom he had followed was a hypocrite and a very wicked man, so he left him and took shelter with the priest of a temple. But the Sonnasi, fearing lest his wicked conduct and hypocrisy be found out
and he be disgraced, used his persuasion over the priest and got him turned out from the temple. It was at this time, when the poor man was turned out helpless and comfortless that Brother Lakhi Kanta Biswas, our colporteur, received him and gave him religious instruction. The mind of the young man was turned to God the Father of all things, and he trusted in Christ and made Him his Saviour. According to his request, brother Lakhi Kanta cut off the Chaitan Chutki and tore the beads of Tulsi from his neck. On my arrival I gave him some more religious instruction and found him a true and faithful believer on the Lord Jesus Christ. As he seemed in a hurry to embrace the Christian religion I baptized him on the 29th of November, 1903. Do not cease in your prayer to God for this poor young man and also pray to Him that he may be the means of bringing many to his glory and honour. Five adults have been baptized from Hinduism during the year, besides children.

I have visited all the circuits and stations in the District not less than four times during the year, and held meetings in conl junction with the quarterly conference.

Colportage.—I am thankful to report that no pains have been spared to carry out the work amidst so many difficulties and hindrances this year, as I have mentioned above. We have sown the Gospel seeds on every opportunity to the Heathens as well as to the Christians in different Melas, Hauts, Markets, etc. Books and tracts have also been sold to the value of Rs. 120, 8 an., 3 p.

There are thirteen Sunday Schools in the District with 358 scholars. Pray to God that these poor lambs who receive scripture lessons from various religious books and learn to sing hymns—although most of them are Hindus—may be bright gems of the Master's Crown. The work of the Day Schools is improving very rapidly. A few boys have been sent up this year to appear for the Lower Primary examination. There are also thirteen day Schools with an attendance of 378 pupils. Religious instruction is given daily from various books in all these schools, besides school lessons. On the whole, the pupils are being properly trained and we hope to reap a fruitful harvest soon.

In connection with our work, we have two Epworth Leagues, one at Jhanjra and the other at Tamluk. These societies are doing good work both for the Master as well as for the Church. May God, our Father, bless all the work and the workers abundantly with his Holy Spirit.

TIRHOOT DISTRICT.

J. O. Denning, Presiding Elder.

One hundred miles south of Mount Everest you cross the border from Nepal into the province of Bihar, which occupies a large portion of one of the most fertile plains of India. Our Tirhoot District in-
cludes the whole of this province, with an additional strip to the west. It lies on both sides of the Ganges river. The soil, for the most part, is low, level, and very fertile, sustaining one-fifteenth of the entire population of India. The greatest density of population is in Muzaffapur civil district, which averages 916 to the square mile. One-fourteenth of the population is Muhammadan, which has its highest percentage in the eastern parts.

In this province, long before the invasion of Alexander the Great, were the noted Kingdoms of Magadha, Vaisali, and Anga, often referred to in the Mahâbhârata, the first being mentioned in the Rig Veda under the name Kikota. It was in Magadha, south of the River, that the great Buddha developed his system of religion; and north of the River, near Sitamarhi, were enacted many of the scenes connected with the celebrated god Râma Chandra and his wife Sîtâ.

While the soil has produced abundant crops, it has also produced religious fervour. Though the Ganges, with its supposed source in the god Mahâdev, flows through our midst and is devoutly worshipped, yet the real River of the Water of Life is obstructed in its flow by Satan, superstition, and sin, and its source is not recognized.

Less mission work has been done in this territory than in most parts of India. The Roman Catholics are strong at Bettiah, near the Nepal border, where they have been for two hundred years, but they have done but little in the province as a whole. The Gosnerr (Evangelical Lutheran) mission occupy five points with as many missionaries but almost no native evangelists. The English Baptists have work at five points along the River and at Gayâ. The Church of England have some work south of the River, and two Zanana ladies at Darbhanga. The “Regions Beyond Mission” have four missionaries at two stations, Motihari and Sawân, but very few native helpers.

Our own mission has eight centres: Bettiah, Chapra, Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Dal Singh Sarai, Darbhanga, Bhapiâli, and Sitamarhi. On account of scarcity of workers we have had no man at Bettiah for the last half of the year; and Samastipur has been irregularly supplied. These centres are widely separated, but work has sprung up in them and we are endeavouring to work out from these centres to the surrounding country.

We are greatly in need of workers. When I came to the district, eleven months ago, I found a very limited staff and but few of them of any efficiency. Four of these have left our work during the year. But, including Brother and Sister Dowring, who are practically new to the work, we have added fifteen new workers this year. But what are these among twenty-two millions of people? Our work is becoming more thoroughly organized and systematic and we expect great results in the future. Not a little of my time this year has been occupied in building work connected with the girls’ school, and I have not been able to spend as much time on the District as I would like, though I have travelled 5,600 miles during the year, in strictly district work.
We found but little property on the district belonging to the Missionary Society. In Sitamarhi we have a good native parsonage. The title to it was in confusion, but we have that completely settled now. In Darbhanga we own a thatch parsonage which must be replaced with a new building soon. In Muzaffarpur we have a small building erected by Brother Byers for the boys' school; and a house for a native helper near by. There are four or five vacant lots. There is no Church on the District. We have great need of a mission property in Muzaffarpur. The Presiding Elder is now living in the W. F. M. S. bungalow; but as the women's work enlarges, this arrangement cannot last long, and we must not spend money on rent. The boys' school is small and cannot be greatly enlarged until we get suitable buildings. We need a large plot of ground on which will be a mission house, a Boys' School and a Training School for workers.

Parsonages are needed also at Darbhanga, Chapra, Bhatpather and Dal Singh Sarai.

The W. F. M. S. has an excellent property at Muzaffarpur. This was purchased by my predecessor for Rs. 9,000, but he was good enough to confer the blessing of paying for it on us. We are glad to report that through the blessing of the Lord and the effort of Mrs. Denning we have come into connection with good friends who have collected this Rs. 9,000 and paid it into the treasury of the Northwestern Branch, where it awaits an order from the secretary to be paid to us to redeem the promissory note.

We have this year entirely transformed the old stable line of this compound, where we found the girls' school sheltered, and made it into excellent dormitories, adding a matron's home and store rooms. We now have a line 200 feet long by 22 feet wide, with a 10½ foot verandah the whole length. We also walled in the school compound, built a tank, a kitchen, and a bath house, besides a brick stable and carriage house. These improvements cost Rs. 6,000, all of which has been paid in cash.

Iron bedsteads have been provided for both the girls' and the boys' schools. Nine boxes of supplies from America have provided the girls with many comforts. These improvements have been due almost wholly to the ladies of the Indiana Conference in America.

Both schools are working systematically and show great improvement in scholarship, manners, and religious experience.

Some Zanana work has been done, but Mrs. Denning's hands have been too full of other work to accomplish much on this line. We give a very hearty welcome to Miss Jessie Peters from America, who will take charge of the school, leaving Mrs. Denning free for Zanana and District work. A European Assistant is expected in a few days for Zanana work. A Bible woman, also, has been secured. Mrs. Dowring, too, is opening Zanana work in Sitamarhi.

The most of our Christians are from the Kallar community. These are people from all castes, but having lost their caste standing
for various reasons, and not being able to restore themselves, have formed a class of themselves. They are employed as labourers, farmers, and the like. As they move about a great deal we have lost track of many that have been baptized. Most of them have been insufficiently trained. We are endeavouring to reach them with regular visits and instruction in Bible truth. When these that we have shall know Christ clearly and be able to testify to His saving power they will be able to reach others.

There are almost a million Chamars in the District. They are most accessible at Chapra, where we hope to make an opening in this caste soon. Our endeavour is not so much on the general preaching of the Gospel in the bazars, but to work on caste and family lines, individual effort. Bro. Nain Sakh and his helpers in Darbhanga circuit have gathered in a considerable community in this way.

We are glad that our lot has fallen in the Tirhoot District. It is a promising field. Harvests are plentiful, fruit is abundant, people by the millions, and climate far from being the worst in India. With plenty of workers that know Christ and His saving power and inspired with the spirit of missions, we hope to have many such, and with the leading and blessing of God we see no reason why we may not expect the work in Bihar to develop into an Annual Conference before many years shall pass. May the Lord be pleased to hear our prayer.
AUDITING COMMITTEE.

Your Committee beg leave to report that the Auditing Committee have audited and found correct the following accounts:

The accounts of the Treasurer of the Missionary Board, also of the Board of Stewards.

Accounts of the Presiding Elders of the Asansol, Calcutta, Diamond Harbour and Tirhoot Districts.

Accounts of the Treasurer of the W. F. M. S., also Asansol, and Tirhoot W. F. M. S. accounts.

The accounts of the Bishop Thoburn Special Fund will be audited immediately after the close of this Conference.

Joseph Culshaw, Chairman of Committee.

COLPORTAGE.

As a part of the great army of His people, we need constantly to remind ourselves of the “weapons of our warfare” and to see that they are well in hand and well in use.

The statistics for the year show a desirable increase in some columns of the report. But the work demands at our hands much more activity.

Your Committee advise that each preacher in charge shall take a weekly or monthly account of sales of Scriptures and booklets and to inspect carefully all tracts and books distributed or sold by all workers in the Mission.

D. H. Lee.
K. C. Mullick.
Nain Sukh.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The work of the Sunday School has been carried on much the same as in former times. The statistical report this year shows that there are ten more schools and 413 more pupils in the Conference than last year. We are also pleased to report that many more took and passed the All-India Sunday School Examination this year than in former years. These facts are certainly encouraging, especially when we realize the great benefit and lasting good derived by impressing religious truths on the receptive minds of the young about us.

While the Sunday School work is prospering, it is not in such an encouraging condition as we wish. The statistical report shows only 68 more pupils in our Sunday Schools than there are in our schools and orphanages. We also notice with regret that one whole district does not report a single non-Christian Sunday School Scholar, and that the largest Sunday School in India does not report any work among non-Christians.

Inasmuch as the education of the young in the Gospel is of the highest importance, we urge that greater care be taken in the selection and training of teachers, and that, wherever possible, Bible Classes be formed under competent leadership for the instruction of teachers. We further recommend that wherever well-qualified and spiritually minded persons can be found that they be encour-
REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

aged to become volunteer Sunday School workers and to open new schools
where none exist. It is also hoped that a greater effort will be put forth
this coming year to get more of the non-Christian children about us into the
Sunday Schools.

Your committee strongly recommend the use of the lessons prepared by
the International Committee during the coming year and that every boy and
girl in our schools be encouraged to appear at the annual All-India Sunday
School Examination next July.

It is hoped that each pastor and Sunday School Superintendent will see
that careful records of attendance and membership are kept during the coming
year, so that hereafter we may be able to obtain accurate information con­
cerning the state of our schools.

A. J. Barkley.
L. C. Sarcar.
C. C. Das.

Report of the Treasurer Conference Board of Stewards to
the Bengal Conference for 1903.

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REPORT OF BOARD OF DEACONESS WORK.

The character of the following deaconesses were passed:—Miss Maxey,
Miss Blair, Miss Pritchard, and Miss Jacobson.

Having been informed of the circumstances under which the building
now occupied by the Deaconess Home was recently purchased by Bishop
Warne and the Presiding Elder of the Calcutta District, the Board cordially approves of the purchase of this eligible property for the W. F. M. S. It is conveniently located near our churches and schools and we consider the price paid, Rs. 50,000, entirely reasonable. We are pleased to learn that the Presiding Elder was able to secure the loan on favourable terms, and trust the W. F. M. S. will provide for its speedy repayment.

In view of the necessitated return to America of Miss Maxey, owing to the condition of her health, we cordially express our appreciation of the value of her services as Superintendent of the Deaconess Home, in labours for the church abundant, and an efficient Treasurer of the W. F. M. S. for Bengal Conference. We trust that after she recovers at the home land, she may be able to help in securing the purchase money for the Deaconess Home building, which we believe will be a valuable centre of Woman’s Work in this great and needy city.

We recommend that the Central Conference be memorialized to take into its careful consideration the whole question of Deaconess Work, that its status and efficiency may be improved. In recent years it has not only made no advance, but has positively retrograded.

EXAMINING BOARD.

Those who have completed the Conference Course of studies:—
Lakhan Chunder Sarcar, Sitol Chunder Biswas.

In the fourth year’s course of studies:—George S. Henderson, Keshub C. Mullick.

In the third year’s course of studies:—John Byork.

In the second year’s course of studies:—A. J. Barkley.

In the first year’s course of studies:—W. H. Beeken, A. C. Mondol.

J. P. Meik, Chairman.

THE STATE OF THE CHURCH.

Your committee is pleased to touch upon several encouraging points which stand out prominently as we review the present state of our church.

One is, that although there is not a large numerical increase in membership, as seen by our statistical report, yet we feel quite safe in saying that the general tone of present day Christianity is of a better order than that of former years.

Our people are being elevated spiritually, morally and temporally as they are gaining Christian knowledge, and our hopes run high as we notice the deepening spirituality in character and service of the native church. The conviction that a pure morality is an essential part of Christianity is taking a firmer hold on our people every day, and they understand that purity of body is bound to accompany purity of soul. Evidences along these lines have been found in other reports read at this Conference showing how intoxicating drinks and tobacco, among other things, defiling the body are practically done away with among our Christian people.

The work among our young people is most encouraging in all parts of our church.

Our Epworth Leagues are lively and stimulating meetings, where our children and young people are being developed for aggressive work as well as increasing in spiritual strength.

It is pleasing to notice the place the Junior League gives for the development of little ones, and while rejoicing in present attainments, we earnestly urge that if possible even more careful attention be given to the improvement and successful carrying forward of this most important part of our work,
not only in order to build up a Christian community well conversant with our faith, but because of the great influence for good which such a community would exercise in the onward march of God's kingdom in days to come, your committee would also suggest that our Christian children be encouraged to help in, and when possible, to conduct Sunday Schools for small groups of Hindu children wherever such may be gathered together. In this way an influence may be exercised which will tend favourably toward Christianity and the enlargement of the church in the future. The day is coming when the people will begin to turn to Christ in large numbers. We should anticipate this continually, and make preparations for it, so as to be ready, as far as possible, to grapple with a much more extensive work than we now see.

As another agency for the education and training of our workers we would commend the summer school as an able adjunct, calculated to arouse and stimulate life and interest among those whose educational advantages have been meagre.

We would also direct attention to the great necessity of more being done of an evangelistic character among the women. We need not expect very exemplary Christians until the mothers are more carefully taught, and made to realize the great work to be done in the homes, upon the characters of the rising generation.

The people of Bengal have not yet begun to rally around the standard of Christ in masses or by communities but we believe that the day is not far distant when God's promises concerning the heathen shall be fulfilled, and this ancient province with its many millions shall begin to emerge from the darkness in which it has been enveloped so long.

John Byork, for the Committee.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

From the beginning of our work in Bengal we have recognised the fact that in order to accomplish the most good and obtain permanent results we must work among both Europeans and Natives. These two communities are closely associated with each other, and in many respects dependent upon each other, and they react one upon the other so much that any neglect of one is an injury to the other. We have recognised this principle in both our evangelistic and educational work. The European Christian is to the native a sample of the religion of the missionaries. If the European be good, pure and wise then the natives look upon the European's religion—Christianity—as good, pure and worthy of respect, but if the European be ignorant, foolish and impure he and his religion are both condemned or despised. Ignorant and badly living Europeans and Eurasians in India do much to counteract the work missionaries are striving to do among the natives.

Evangelistic and educational work among the English-speaking people are absolutely necessary in order to successfully reach the natives and raise them to a high plane of righteousness and civilization. We must not only preach the Gospel to the natives, but we must be able to show them some true, clear and earnest Christians among the Europeans as living testimonies of the power of Christ we preach.

Our schools in Bengal are to-day doing a great work, we are teaching, evangelising, and training both Europeans, Eurasians and Natives to be Christians, to be gentlemen and ladies in the highest sense of the term, and to be honest and faithful in whatever sphere of work they are called to.

We can give many examples of natives brought to Christ in distant parts of the country where missionaries had not been, by some Christian planter, Magistrate, Judge or Engineer, and we can give numerous examples of how those who have gone out from our schools to their village homes have influenced their Non-Christian neighbours by their upright lives, their clean homes and dresses, their pure conversation and their correct judgment of things in general.
From what we have said we hope we have made it plain that work among Europeans and Natives are both necessary to the evangelization of India, and if we wish to succeed in our part in this great work, we must not neglect the Europeans any more than we can neglect the Natives.

The statistics this year show that we have in all fifty-five schools within the bounds of the Bengal Conference. We have an English School for girls and one for boys, and also two English Orphanages in Calcutta. We have an English girls' school in Darjeeling. In these five institutions we have 357 girls and 154 boys. We have four Orphanages and boarding schools for Native girls—one in Pakur, one in Calcutta, one in Mozafferpur and one in Asansol. We have six Orphanages and boarding schools for Native boys, one in Calcutta, one in Ballaghat, one in Mozafferpur, one in Pakur, one in Asansol and one in Bolpur. And we have seventeen day-schools for girls and twenty-three day schools for boys, in our several circuits. In all, we have 1,407 boys and 1,392 girls in our Educational Institutions. In these schools we teach the various subjects required by the Government Educational Code. But we also teach the Scriptures. In most of these schools one hour a day is given to teaching religion. The Bible, our Catechism, the Peep of Day, Line upon Line, and the Hymn Book are regularly taught, and the pupils are made to not only read and memorize, but the truth is made plain and attractive to them and they are trained to be useful Christians.

We are devoutly thankful for the work done in our schools, nevertheless there are certain matters connected with our Educational Institutions which call for special attention.

First.—We must better the position and prospects of our teachers, so that we may procure a more efficient and permanent staff. The constant change of teachers and also inefficient teachers are a source of serious injury to the students.

Second.—We must have a proper training class for European and Eurasian young men and women who feel called to work for Christ. There are a number of young men and women who would make valuable workers if they were properly instructed and trained and opportunities given them to work in our church. We have lost several because we were unable to do our duty by them.

Third.—We must have a properly equipped training and theological class for Bengali young men. We occupy a large field in Bengal but we have not the trained men to put into the work. Every missionary is asking for more workers, but the men we need are not forthcoming in the number we want them. Our work in North India would not have been what it is today, if we had not the theological training school at Bareilly. We want a Bareilly and a T. J. Scott in Bengal. We realize that it is absolutely necessary to set apart one of our best Missionaries for this work and let him give his undivided time and attention to it.

Fourth.—We must insist upon a high standard of learning and training in our boarding schools and orphanages. Our educational standard in the vernacular should be the Chattrobrati or middle vernacular examination, and our lowest standard in English should be the Entrance or High school examination. No lad should be admitted into the Theological class unless he has passed one of these examinations. Those of our children who are incapable of pursuing the higher standards of study should be taught up to the Upper Primary and then put to some industry or trade.

We must teach our children to learn and to work. Let us not neglect the physical and industrial part of education. We must not add to the number of loafers who know nothing and can do nothing.

Fifth.—We must insist upon all our workers giving their children a proper education. Any worker who is found neglecting his child should be dealt with severely, and if he does not amend he should be dismissed from our work.

Sixth.—We recommend that a committee be appointed to visit all our boarding schools and orphanages and report to the next Annual Conference about their state, and the moral, intellectual and physical condition of the children.

We nominate Brother Stokes, Mrs. Denning and Miss McKinley to be the Committee.

J. P. Meik, Chairman.
REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

TEMPERANCE.

We are glad to be able to report that a careful inquiry has convinced us that the members of our Church generally abstain from the use of intoxicating beverages; they are constantly becoming better informed of the baneful effects of such indulgence, on the spiritual, moral and physical being. This fact is significant and gratifying. It has been demonstrated that all restrictive rules, especially in ecclesiastical organizations, that are not supported by the educated sensibility of the people is always unsatisfactory and usually harmful. We desire again to emphasize the need of vigorous and intelligent sermons, newspaper articles, and of thorough instruction in all our educational institutions on this important subject.

While the tobacco habit is not to be compared with the liquor habit in the appalling resultant consequences we earnestly recommend that similar methods be operated in this matter also.

"In these matters it is important beyond expression that we recognize that conduct is the result of character and that we must never be satisfied with external conformity to rules aside from the determinating quality of right principles.

G. E. STOKES.
C. DOWRING.
S. C. BISWAS.

MUTTRA TRAINING SCHOOL.

There have been during the year, in all departments, forty students in the school. Seven having finished the course have gone into Christian work.

The Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held in Lucknow during Dashera as usual. The name of Rev. J. E. Robinson was proposed for re-election by the Bengal Conference as its representative on the Board.

Respectfully submitted.

MARY EVA GREGG,
Secy., Board of Trustees.

Scale of Salaries for Native Members of the Bengal Annual Conference, who are not graduates of the University, prepared by the Finance Committee, to come into force, January 1st, 1905.

Probationer in Annual Conference.—Salary—Minimum. Rs. 16; Maximum, Rs. 20. Allowance for wife, Rs. 5; for each child, Re. 1.

Deacon in Annual Conference.—Salary—Minimum, Rs. 20; Maximum, Rs. 22. Allowance for wife, Rs. 5; for each child, Re. 1.

Elder in Annual Conference.—Salary—Minimum, Rs. 22; Maximum, Rs. 25. Allowance for wife, Rs. 5; for each child, Re. 1.

Local Deacon.—Salary—Minimum, Rs. 16; Maximum, Rs. 20. Allowance for wife, Rs. 3.

Allowance for a child will stop when the child is 15 years of age, or before that if he or she begins to work or is married. It is to be clearly understood that when the wife of a minister receives a salary from the W. F. M. S. or any other source, her husband shall not receive the allowance for his wife.

The salaries of Probationers and Members of Annual Conference who are undergraduates or graduates of Universities, and other special cases, shall be fixed by the Finance Committee according to the necessities of the case, as they arise.
Lay Electoral Conference

of the

Bengal Conference

held on

January 1st, 1904.

Minutes.

The Lay Electoral Conference of the Bengal Annual Conference met in the Dharamtala Street Methodist Episcopal Church at 2 p.m. on Friday, the first day of January, 1904.

Miss Maxey was elected Chairman of the meeting, and Miss Blair, Secretary.

The meeting was opened with prayer, after which the election of a Lay Delegate to the General Conference was taken up. As the result of the first ballot, Mr. Robert Laidlaw was declared to be elected by a unanimous vote. This is the third time this Conference has had the pleasure of sending Mr. Laidlaw as its lay representative to this important body. May there be many another such a privilege granted it.

Your Secretary has also much pleasure in recording that the Election of the Reserve Lay Delegate resulted in a departure from all former proceedings. The election of Miss Maxey to this honourable post, is the first of its kind in the annals of the Bengal Conference, and also an election to the first General Conference to which she could be received unchallenged.

With the election of Robert Laidlaw, Esq., as Lay Delegate, and Miss E. Maxey as Reserve Lay Delegate to the General Conference to be held at Los Angeles, California, in May, 1904, the Conference closed with the benediction.

Kate A. Blair,
Secretary of the Lay Electoral Conference.
THE BOARD OF MISSIONS REGULATIONS FOR SPECIAL GIFTS.

The following Resolutions were adopted at a meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Bishop Thoburn Special Fund for India at its meetings held at Jabalpur, December 20th, 1901:

1. Resolved: That the Missionary Society's regulations adopted at a meeting of the Board of Managers, October 15, 1901, and printed in "Gospel in all Lands" for November, 1901, with reference to special gifts, be adopted by this Committee, and that Treasurers be requested to ensure their observance. The regulations are as follows:

SPECIAL GIFTS, &C.

(1.) Missionaries sending letters or circulars to contributors in the United States shall ask them in all cases to forward special gifts through the Missionary Society. If this rule is observed all special gifts will pass through the treasury of the Society and be made a matter of record. Special gifts are sent out from the office at the beginning of every month.

(2.) All money received as contributions or special gifts for current work whether from persons on the field, or in the United States, or elsewhere, shall be deposited at once with the Mission Treasurer.

(3.) Itemized bills shall be presented to the Mission Treasurer for the application of such funds, to be receipted when paid, audited by the Finance Committee, and placed on file by the Treasurer.

(4.) Money received for tuition in schools and as medical fees shall be deposited with the Mission Treasurer, to be paid out by him on itemized bills to be approved by the Finance Committee.

(5.) All contributions for building and property received by Missionaries in the field shall be deposited with the Mission Treasurer, to be drawn out only with the consent of the Finance Committee.

(6.) All income from rentals, &c., of property owned by the Society shall go into the Mission Treasury as heretofore, to be paid out on the authority of the Board.
COURSES OF STUDY.

Studies required of Missionaries who take a vernacular course concurrently.

The privileges of this course, as regards abridgment, are not to be extended to any who does not at the same time present themselves for examination in a vernacular except in the case of those who may have completed the vernacular course. All the books are those named in the course of study in the Discipline of 1900.

For Admission on Trial.

Larger Catechism.—Nast.
Life of John Wesley.—Telford.
Doctrinal Aspects of Christian Experience.—Merrill.

To be read:

Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church (1900.)
The Revival and the Pastor.—Peck.

First Year.

Introduction to the Holy Scriptures (Old Testament pp. 1-447.)
—Harman.
Christian Purity, or the Heritage of Faith.—Foster.
Discipline of the M. E. Church 1900 (Parts I-V).

To be read:

Sermons, (Vol. I) i-xxxiii.—Wesley.

Second Year.

—Harman.
Systematic Theology, Vol. II.—Miley
Discipline of the M. E. Church 1900. (Part VI to end).

To be read:

Sermons, (Vol. I. xxxiv—lvi)—Wesley.
Digest of Methodist Law. (Edition of 1900)—Merrill.

Third Year.

Biblical Hermeneutics.—Terry.

To be read:

The Supernatural Book.—Foster.

Fourth Year.

History of the Christian Church, Vol. II.—Hurst.

To be read:

Life and Epistles of St. Paul:—Conybeare and Howson.
COURSE OF STUDIES.

Bengali Course of Study for Missionaries

ADOPTED BY THE

Annual and Ladies’ Conferences.

The Calcutta Missionary Conference has formed an Examination Board and arranged a syllabus for a Junior and a Senior Examination in Bengali for Missionaries arriving in Bengal. The Board consists of representatives of the different Missions, and will appoint the Examiners from time to time and see that the rules are carried out, or make such modifications as experience shall suggest. It is hoped that this will prove to be a convenience and help to all concerned. If candidates offer themselves, there are to be two Examinations each year at intervals of about six months’ for both the first and second year course. The following are the rules and syllabus as now constituted. Ample notice will be given if, in the future, any change in the Text or Books or otherwise is made.

RULES.

1. The papers on the Text Books, Grammar and Composition shall be calculated for three hours, except the Second Year Translation, which shall be for one and a half hours.

2. In the papers on the Text Books, 60 per cent. of the marks shall be given for translation into English and 40 per cent. in each case for questions on Grammar or retranslation of phrases occurring in the Text. These questions shall be of a simpler kind in the First Year.

3. The written questions shall be framed in English.

4. The number of the Examiners shall not be less than three in each Year’s course, one of whom must be a Bengali gentleman.

5. The Oral Examinations shall be conducted by a Bengali gentleman, assisted by one or more of the Examiners, who shall consult together in assigning the marks.

6. The Address or Exposition, in the Second Year Oral Examination, must be of not less than ten minutes’ length. The topic may be chosen beforehand by the candidate, but the address must not be read. In the case of gentlemen, it must be delivered before an audience unacquainted with English. In the case of ladies, the audience may be a class of Bengali girls.

7. The candidates shall be placed in three divisions according as they obtain 40, 50 or 60 per cent. at least of the marks assigned in the aggregate. They must also secure one-third of the marks in each of the papers and 50 marks at least in the Oral Examination, or otherwise they fail to pass.

8. To help cover the working expenses, each candidate shall pay an entrance fee of five rupees.

9. Notice of the number of candidates likely to appear and of the alternative books chosen should be given by each Mission three months beforehand.
BENGAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1903-4.

JUNIOR OR FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION.

I. Written.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Bododhoy and Naba Kāhini omitting 'Kena' and 'Jaminda'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Padya Path I, or an equal portion of Hymns, and the Gospel of St. Mark (revised version)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. 1. Sisu Byākaran by K. P. Vidyaratna, or Bengali Grammar by Wenger or Beames, omitting Samas, Taddhīt and Kridanta, 50 marks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Translation into Bengali from C. L. S. Second Reader, 50 &quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. Oral.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Dictation from the Text Books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Reading and translation at sight from ditto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Conversation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 450

SENIOR OR SECOND YEAR EXAMINATION.

I. Written

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. The Conference Selection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Charupath II, and Padyapāth II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. A Bengali letter on a given subject, ... 40 marks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Bengali written address on a religious topic given at the time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Translation into Bengali from the first 100 pages of new C. L. S. Fourth Reader</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. Oral.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Conversation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Reading aloud from the Bengali Bible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. An exposition or address</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total ... 500
COURSE OF STUDIES.


ENGLISH—Binney's Theological Compend.


ENGLISH—Compendium of Methodism. Porter.


ENGLISH—Cambridge Bible. I Corinthians.

Apostolic Age. Watson.
1903-4.

    Luther and the Reformation. Lindsay.
    Christian Baptism. Merrill.

ENGLISH—Isaiah—his Life and Times. Driver.
    Binney’s Theological Compend.
    With Christ in the School of Prayer. Murray

19. 30.

1. 20.

1. 20.

1. 20.

1. 20.
COURSE OF STUDIES.

1. ملذكو، جراح.
2. مهندسي موحدات إيحاس.
3. सर्जन लिखन।

ENGLISH—The Ministry of the Lord Jesus. Selby.
Christian Evidences. Row.
The Revival and the Pastor. Peck.

४ हर्ष भेदी।

1. विज्ञानक एनालजी। (न, एम, एस, रुक डिपो अवृक्त प्रकाशित।)
2. इक्क्पुर अभिज्ञ। (विखंडन मेमिल कर्नेक लिखित।)
   (महद्दिष्ठ परिलिखित हाउस कर्नेक प्रकाशित।)
3. महाभिक घुलारी शिक्षा। (पटाई साहेब कर्नेक लिखित।)
4. मनिया उससेयमेय किस्सू। (ट्रामेट सोसाइटी।)
5. पाठशालावासिय बाग। (बल साहेब कर्नेक लिखित।)
6. जगदो इक्क्पुर। (पेशरेज साहेब क्रूर, भागवान्सिक एंड कों।)
7. पियरर्सन प्रतीक प्रतीति बाकाँ व्याख्या नामक ग्रंथ सांख्य संग्रह
   (An Abridgement of Pearson on the Creed).
   (ट्रामेट सोसाइटी।)
8. साधु लिखन।

ENGLISH—Cambridge Bible. Isaiah. [Wheeler.]
One Thousand Questions concerning Methodism.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY</th>
<th>BAPTISMS</th>
<th>SUNDAY SCHOOLS</th>
<th>EPWORTH LEAGUES</th>
<th>CHRISTIAN WORKERS</th>
<th>SPECIAL ITEMS ORDERED BY CONFERENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>118</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>797</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asansol District</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asansol Bengali</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>675</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asansol English</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>369</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>343</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta District</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolpur</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>91</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta American Methodist Institution</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Reliaghta</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Baramul and Bagan</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>493</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta English</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>548</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Hindustani</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>74</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Kitchener</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Seamen's Mission</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>390</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>538</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>1,611</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamond Harbour District</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamond Harbour</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>78</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Villages</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>416</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamluk</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>502</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tirhoo District</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darbhanga</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>338</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozaffarpoor Circuit</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>127</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sitamarhi</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>507</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>932</td>
<td>1,371</td>
<td>1,078</td>
<td>3,381</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total Last Year</td>
<td>1,014</td>
<td>1,325</td>
<td>1,170</td>
<td>3,555</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>117</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>339</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STATISTICAL FORM I.
STATISTICS OF THE BENGAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE RELATING TO CHURCH MEMBERSHIP AND WORK, FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30TH, 1903.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAMES OF CIRCUITS.</th>
<th>CHURCH PROPERTY.</th>
<th>MINISTERIAL SUPPORT.</th>
<th>BENEVOLENT COLLECTIONS.</th>
<th>OTHER COLLECTIONS.</th>
<th>INCOME EARNED IN SOUTHERN ASIA.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asansol District.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asansol Bengali.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>9,600</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asansol English.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>772</td>
<td>17,600</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta District.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta American Mission.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>11,500</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Church of England.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Mission.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14,700</td>
<td>33,000</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamond Harbour District.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamond Harbour.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Villages.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tihotoo District.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darbhanga.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moratalpore Circuit.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total.</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1,49,000</td>
<td>3,48,500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total Last Year.</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1,49,000</td>
<td>3,48,500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,795</td>
<td>4,335</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7,795</td>
<td>4,035</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STATISTICAL FORM II.**

**STATISTICS OF THE BENGAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE RELATING TO CHURCH FINANCES, FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30TH, 1903.**
# Statistical Form III

Statistics of the Bengal Annual Conference Relating to Schools, for the Year Ending November 30th, 1903.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of Circuits</th>
<th>Vernacular Schools</th>
<th></th>
<th>European and Anglo-Vernacular Schools</th>
<th></th>
<th>Grand Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boys' Schools</td>
<td>Girls' Schools</td>
<td>Total Number of Schools</td>
<td>Total No. of Roll at End of Year</td>
<td>Total Average Daily Attendance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No. of Boys' Schools</td>
<td>No. on Roll at End of Year</td>
<td>Average Daily Attendance</td>
<td>No. of Girls' Schools</td>
<td>No. on Roll at End of Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asansol District.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asansol Bengali</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asansol English</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta District.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Calcutta</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Calcutta</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta English</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Hindu</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Kidderpore</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Seamen's Mission</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakur</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamond Harbour District.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamond Harbour</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Villages</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamluk</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tihri District.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darbhanga</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozaffarpur Circuit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>641</td>
<td>915</td>
<td>825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Last Year</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>747</td>
<td>1,003</td>
<td>883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease</td>
<td></td>
<td>106</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The numbers represent the total count or sum of the respective categories for each circuit.
STATISTICAL FORM IV.
STATISTICS OF THE BENGAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE RELATING TO COLPORTAGE,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30TH, 1903.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAMES OF CIRCUITS</th>
<th>Scriptures and Tracts Sold and Distributed.</th>
<th>Colportage How Supported.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No. of Men employed as Colporters.</td>
<td>No. of Vernacular Bibles Sold or Distributed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asansol District</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asansol Bengali</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asansol English</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta District</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolpur</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta American Methodist Institution</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Ballyagata</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Dharamtala and Bagan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta English</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Hindustani</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Kidderpore</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Seamen's Mission</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamond Harbour District</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamond Harbour</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Villages</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamluk</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tirhoot District</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darbhanga</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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