

About the
Pastors Salary

Compiled for the Committee
By H. B. Williams
Secretary Laymans Association
Chicago

Table showing how much one's "quarterage" will amount to in a year at different rates from 2 cents per week to \$3.00 per week.

(For convenience 50 weeks is figured as a year)

2 cents per week or	$\frac{2}{7}$ cents per day =	\$ 1.00 per year
5 " " " "	$\frac{5}{7}$ " " " =	2.50 " "
7 " " " "	1 cent " " =	3.50 " "
10 " " " "	$1\frac{3}{7}$ cents " " =	5.00 " "
12 " " " "	$1\frac{5}{7}$ " " " =	6.00 " "
15 " " " "	$2\frac{1}{7}$ " " " =	7.50 " "
20 " " " "	$2\frac{6}{7}$ " " " =	10.00 " "
25 " " " "	$3\frac{1}{7}$ " " " =	12.50 " "
30 " " " "	$4\frac{2}{7}$ " " " =	15.00 " "
40 " " " "	$5\frac{5}{7}$ " " " =	20.00 " "
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\$1.00 " " " "	$14\frac{2}{7}$ " " " =	50.00 " "
1.50 " " " "	$21\frac{3}{7}$ " " " =	75.00 " "
2.00 " " " "	$28\frac{4}{7}$ " " " =	100.00 " "
2.50 " " " "	$35\frac{5}{7}$ " " " =	125.00 " "
3.00 " " " "	$42\frac{6}{7}$ " " " =	150.00 " "

Table showing how little each person in a church of from 100 to 500 members would have to increase his "quarterage" to increase the Pastor's salary \$100.00.

Number of Members	Increase per Month per Member	Increase per Week per Member	Increase per Day per Member
100	$8\frac{1}{2}$ cents	$2\frac{1}{8}$ cents	$\frac{1}{8}$ of 1 cent
200	$4\frac{1}{6}$ cents	$1\frac{1}{6}$ cents	$\frac{1}{6}$ of 1 cent
300	$2\frac{7}{10}$ cents	$\frac{6}{10}$ of 1 cent	$\frac{1}{10}$ of 1 cent
400	$2\frac{1}{2}$ cents	$\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 cent	$\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 cent
500	$1\frac{2}{3}$ cents	$\frac{1}{3}$ of 1 cent	$\frac{1}{10}$ of 1 cent

To the Committee on Pastor's Salary.

Dear Brethren:

At the 1906 session of the Laymen's Association of the Rock River Conference, a resolution was adopted to the effect that the salaries of our ministers have not generally been advanced in keeping with the changed conditions and increase in cost of living.

A committee made up of H. B. Williams, D. D. Thompson and O. A. Oliver was appointed to investigate the matter and upon a hearing of their report to the Association for 1907, the conditions were found to be such that the committee was continued and instructed to do what it could to promote an equitable advance in the salaries of our ministerial brethren.

For that reason, we are handing you this little book which contains extracts from the proceedings of the Laymen's Association relative to this subject; some clippings from daily and weekly papers, both secular and religious; and also extracts from some letters received by the committee and which show how general is the feeling that our ministers should be better paid.

By referring to the table on opposite page you will see that it requires but a small average increase per member to advance the salary \$100.00 or even \$200.00.

With the hope that this pamphlet may be of service to you in undertaking to interest your Official Board in this very important matter, and that it may act as one of the straws which show the way the wind is blowing, we beg to remain

Faithfully yours,

THE COMMITTEE,

H. B. Williams, Chairman.

H. B. Williams

D. D. Thompson

O. A. Oliver

Report of the Ninth Annual Meeting of the Laymen's Association of the Rock River Conference, 1906

H. B. WILLIAMS, *Secretary*

The ninth annual meeting of the Laymen's Association of the Rock River Conference convened in Chicago at ten o'clock, Thursday, September 27, 1906, at Eighth Presbyterian Church, corner Washington Boulevard and Robey Street ninety-six delegates being present.

In the absence of President O. H. Horton, First Vice-President J. B. Hobbs presided.

Meeting was opened by singing, "Blest be the Tie that Binds," and prayer was offered by Brother J. H. Manny.

On motion, all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church present were invited to participate in the proceedings of the meeting.

Secretary H. B. Williams read Minutes of the last meeting, which were approved.

At this point Bishops Harris and Berry arrived and a motion was made to suspend the order of business.

Bishop Harris addressed the Association and gave an interesting talk on Japan.

Bishop Berry brought greetings from the Annual Conference.

* * * * *

Committee on Pastor's Salary

Upon motion of H. B. Williams, the Chair was requested to appoint a committee to inquire into the matter of Ministerial Support in the Rock River Conference and to report at our next meeting with recommendations.

The Chair appointed the following committee:
H. B. Williams, D. D. Thompson, O. A. Oliver.

Resolution by Henry P. Magill and O. A. Oliver Concerning Ministerial Support

WHEREAS, the cost of living has greatly increased during recent years as has also the material prosperity of church members generally, and

WHEREAS, the salaries of Methodist Ministers have not generally been advanced in keeping with the changed conditions; therefore be it

Resolved, by the Laymen's Association of the Rock River Conference, that our Pastors should share more generously in this material advance, especially when their work indicates marked ability and faithfulness.

LY TRIBUNE: TUESDAY.

In the meeting of the Laymen's association of the Rock River conference at St. James' Methodist Episcopal church in this city last Thursday a resolution favoring an increase in the salaries of preachers was discussed and adopted by acclamation. The resolution set forth the fact that no increase commensurate with the increase in the cost of living had been made in the salaries of ministers and called for action by the body that "should permit the pastors to share more generously" in the material advance and general prosperity of the church members. It was adopted.

ELMER E. WIXOM, Mendota, Illinois.

Mr. H. B. Williams.

Dear Sir:--In accordance with your request of the 17th, will state I am very much interested in your effort to advance our pastors' salaries. The present expense of living demands such a move. At our recent board meeting we voted to advance our pastors' salary from \$1050 to \$1100, in addition to furnishing him with a new parsonage. This makes our salary equal about \$1300, and he earns every cent of it.

I am glad you are doing so much for this cause and wish you great success.

A. J. LUNDBERG, Riverside, Illinois.

Mr. H. B. Williams.

Dear Sir:--In answer to your communication of the 17th, will state that we have advanced our pastor's salary \$200.00.

G. W. HALLEMAN, Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. H. B. Williams.

Dear Sir:--In answer to your letter of the 17th, will state that we have advanced our pastor's salary to \$1500, which with parsonage makes it equal to \$1800. The members of our official board to a man voiced their sentiment in the movement to advance pastors' salaries. We trust this report of the action of our church will encourage others to do likewise.

ROYAL A. STEMM, Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. H. B. Williams.

Dear Sir:--We have advanced our pastor's salary several times recently and, if possible, will give him another raise this year. We assure your association of the support of the official board of our church in this grand and noble work.

R. E. WINTER, Highwood, Illinois.

Mr. H. B. Williams.

Dear Sir:--In answer to your letter of late date, will state that our board has made an advance of \$100.00 to our pastor's salary, and we are now busy trying to raise money to build a parsonage in the spring. I hope that other official boards have done the best they can in this important matter.

THOMAS SCADDEN, Galena, Illinois.

Mr. H. B. Williams.

Dear Sir:--I received your letter, and in reply will state that our board has increased our pastor's salary \$200.00, raising it from \$1200 to \$1400. We are glad to have our preacher back again.

R. G. SHUMWAY, Polo, Illinois.

Mr. H. B. Williams.

Dear Sir:--In answer to your letter, will state that we have already advanced our pastor's salary from \$1400 to \$1500.

CAPT. A. R. PALMER, Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. H. B. Williams.

Dear Sir:--Your letter is received, and in answer will state that our church has advanced our pastor's salary to \$1900, and I think next year it will be advanced to \$2000.

JOHN ROGERS, Geneva, Illinois.

Mr. H. B. Williams.

Dear Sir:--In answer to your letter regarding an increase of pastors' salaries in the Rock River Conference, will state that our church has increased our pastor's salary \$200 00 for the coming year.

C. E. GARY, Aurora, Illinois.

Mr. H. B. Williams.

Dear Sir:--In answer to your letter, we have increased our pastor's salary \$100.00, making it now \$1700.

CHICAGO DAILY JOUR.

The Underpaid Pastor

Religious revivals such as Dr. Torrey is conducting in Chicago are always to be encouraged. Whether they work any permanent benefit is a matter that need not be discussed; the fact remains that for a time they raise the moral tone of the community and induce many people to aspire to better living.

But such revivals can not be expected to do the country much service so long as they are the only manifestations of religious spirit that awaken attention among the people. They should be supplemented by steady pressure from established churches, which, while it exists in some cases, is steadily diminishing in force.

At the Methodist conference in Kingston, N. Y., for example, statistics were read showing that it is impossible for the average pastor to make ends meet, and innumerable instances were given of preachers who have been driven by the pressure of poverty from their profession and forced to seek means of subsistence in life insurance, real estate and other secular business. It is a well-known fact that all over the country many pastors can not meet expenses or properly care for their families because congregations, though composed of prosperous men, will not pay decent salaries.

In a world like this religion can not be kept alive except by continual effort. That effort is being made, but it is lessening. Changed conditions have made life harder for everybody, and men can not be expected to consecrate their lives to church work when such consecration makes it impossible for them to live and support their wives and children. Only the Catholic clergy are free from anxieties such as torture other clergymen day and night.

The Protestant churches must make up their minds to increase the pay of pastors, or not even such revivals as Dr. Torrey's will be able to keep religious fervor hot.

Telephone Franchise

THE CHICAGO DAILY TRIB

THE MINISTER'S SALARY.

The agitation in the ranks of the ministers of the Methodist church for the increase of salaries is the result of conditions measurably the same in other denominations. The average salary paid a minister of the gospel is much smaller than that paid in almost any other profession. It is little wonder that the general advance in living expenses has made this question one of vital importance to the ministers.

In churches of the Methodist denomination the situation is exceptional because it has always been noted for its missionary work. It has established its outposts everywhere, furnishing opportunities for religious training in the new towns, among the poor, in regions where the population is scattered and where there is little community of interest. The circuit rider has been the advance agent of the denomination, the self-supporting local church often following long after the pioneer efforts of men who have had to preach three times on a Sunday in different villages, using the time between services to make the needed journey from point to point.

The progress from a condition where there is an occasional preacher to one where the local body has its own minister is slow, and long after the advance step has been taken the ability of the church members to pay much of a salary is limited. As a result the average salary of a Methodist minister is small.

At the same time the demands upon him keep growing. The minister must pay attention to dress. He is expected to marry and to have his wife do her share in the upbuilding of the community. If there are children the desire for their education

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is usually strong. In many cases a horse must be kept for the work of the parish. If there is any attempt to keep up with the thought of the time there must be outlays for books and current literature. Incidentally the minister and his family must have food to eat, and the bills for this item keep growing larger year by year. It is not surprising, therefore, that men leave the ministry for other employments, and that those who feel the desire to remain use their influence to secure better pay for their work.

It is more than likely that a good deal of the trouble is in the pews. There is a general opinion that men enter the ministry because they feel called to do a special work, not in order to make a good income. The work, not the pay, is the important thing. It is not difficult for the layman to forget all about the needs of the pocket-book while emphasizing the obligations of the profession. If the humiliating situation in which the ministers often find themselves shall be brought to public attention as the Methodists have brought it, there may be hope that those who contribute the funds for support may realize that the modern minister cannot be a mendicant without scrip or shoes. A self-respecting man who is decently clothed and fed, and who can give his family the same advantages men in other walks in life give theirs, will feel far more zest in his noble calling than the one who must scrimp and save at every turn to keep soul and body together. That this is often the situation seems to be evident from the reports which come from many quarters.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

least

Rev. L. B. Sparks gave the Methodist preachers a paper on "The Problem of Pulpit Supply in the Methodist Church." The consensus of opinion, as brought out in the discussion, was that low salaries, especially in the rural Churches, as compared with other lines of business, had more to do with keeping young men out of the ministry than any other one thing, if not everything else. While salaries in the strong city Churches are better than they were a few years since, on circuits they have not increased with the cost of living.

THE MATTER OF PASTORAL SUPPORT

The attention of the church has lately been called in various ways to the present inadequacy of ministerial support in a majority of cases. Several secular papers have taken up the subject, and some of them have gone into a somewhat exhaustive investigation and study of the facts in the case.

The prominent facts alleged are of the highest importance. Undoubtedly the ministers as a class are the most poorly paid of any in the country. Of course, their remuneration will not compare at all with that of other professions, nor with the wages of skilled artisans. In a large number of cases their pay is below that of ordinary laborers; and this when they are compelled to dress themselves and families and live in a style far more expensive. In this we do not speak of the more favored class of ministers, for these are fairly well paid; but we refer to the rank and file, the great majority.

It is alleged that this fact has much to do with the present lack of recruits for the ministry among the young men. No doubt there is much truth in this claim. Able young men naturally hesitate to enter a calling where the promise of support is so unsatisfactory when other employments are open to them at much larger pay. Ministers are but men, and they feel that they must care for themselves and their families; and if the ministry will not promise this, they will be inclined to seek other lines of work.

Another assertion made is, that ministers are leaving the work because of lack of support. We lately called attention to this, and expressed the conviction that few, at least of our church, are retiring for this reason. But there are some ministers who are going out, moved by this consideration.

No one questions the fact of the great increase in the cost of living during the past year or two. Expenses are now at the highest, and ministers on salaries, and these not increased for a long time, are made to suffer as a consequence.

And besides all these things is the fact that a man who gives his whole time and life to this calling should be kept above care as to temporal things. That is his due, and the people should see that he has it.

Now is a good time to consider this matter. The year is opening, or has opened, in all our churches. The quarterly conferences are engaged in determining the allowances for the year. They should be liberal, and estimate fairly. Then, they should lead the people in contributing according to the needs of the case. There is room for some advance in many, if not in most, cases, and it should be made. Let the men who serve the church in spiritual things share in the temporal good the people enjoy.

*There are others
who see*

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Paying the Preacher

Pittsburg Gazette Times.

From various parts of the country come reports of discussions and movements bearing upon the question of adequate support of the pulpit. It appears that preachers have not prospered in proportion to the balance of the community. As a result, the cost of living having advanced, many ministers are in desperate straits to properly maintain their families. The problem is an old one, and it has been wrestled with for many generations. Just now it has taken on a keener edge because of conditions with which we are all familiar, and this very familiarity ought to operate in favor of the clergy.

It is rather a disconcerting fact that whereas Americans are proverbially generous, so many are penurious in the matter of a pastor's salary. The effect of that is to discourage young men whose natural bent is toward the ministry, and the consequence is that in every denomination there is a deplorable shortage of candidates for clerical duties. It is no longer held to be quite the thing that every considerable family should number among its members one man of God, because it is feared that he could not make a living, and thus might become a burden upon others. The responsibility for this state of affairs lies upon church-members, of course. It is an astonishing thing, explainable only upon the theory that the "old Adam" is in us all, that a congregation will deliberately stint a minister, while the individuals comprising that congregation deal generously, and even lavishly, with others in their private relations. When it comes to the minister, they interpret too literally the divine injunction: "Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on." So it comes about

that, though there are quite a number of high salaried preachers, the average pay of these disciples of the carpenter's Son is barely enough to provide a living.

In the Congregational Church, for instance, with its 6,000 establishments, there are only about thirty ministers receiving over \$3,000 a year. The highest salary is \$10,000, and from that the figures run down almost to the vanishing point. In ten years there has been an actual decline of ten per cent. In Cleveland, which is a larger city than Pittsburg proper, the charge is made that ministers' salaries have not been advanced in ten years, many drawing but \$600 per annum; and there is some talk of united action by the clergy to secure fairer compensation. In Detroit the Baptist Association is considering a proposition to permit ministers to engage in any form of honorable work in addition to their pastoral duties to help meet living expenses. At a meeting of Lackawanna presbytery last week the Rev. John F. Carson, of Brooklyn, exclaimed: "My heart bleeds for some of the faithful ministers who are living upon starvation wages in this great, wealthy Presbyterian Church."

It is not a denomination difficulty, but a condition common to all faiths, and possibly to all countries where the living is provided by voluntary contributions. Let any seriously-minded man who is interested study the statistics of his own church—not merely of his own congregation—and he will soon discover that of all the agencies which contribute to the comfort of the people, to their well-being and to the uplifting of human standards, the minister receives the smallest material reward.

Concerning the Salary

To the Estimating Committee:

Into your hands is placed the task of determining for the next twelve months the measure of financial compensation deemed proper and practical for your pastor's comfort and welfare. You may already have come to a conclusion in this regard. This fact should not bind you and your fellow-officials, should you deem it wise to reconsider. You may yet have left the question of salary open for the present. In either event we desire to stand as counsel for the pastor in our plea for some advance. You doubtless are well aware of the grave dilemma the Church is at present facing in the scarcity of worthy young men to enter the ranks of the ministry. Year after year the situation becomes more serious. The fact confronts the Church that unless this drift is checked, Methodism, as well as all other denominations, will be materially crippled in its leadership.

There is no need denying that the chief cause of this condition is financial. Young men of ability will more and more hesitate to choose for their life-work a profession that gives no guarantee of an adequate compensation, when so many avenues of useful activity are lying open before them. Nor can such be charged with unholy ambition or worldliness. The question of a living is as serious to the minister as to any other professional man, and these are not to be condemned for hesitating to serve the Church under present conditions.

This subject of salary has become a crying one. We do not hesitate a moment in saying that the standard of recompense should be raised, if for no other reason than to conserve the ministry of the future. It is a gratification that many of our Churches have grasped the situation, and in the past year made generous advances in their minister's salaries. Such we congratulate. There is a large number, we fear, who have yet to make the needed increase that will give their ministers even comparative release from financial concern. We trust such will face the fact squarely for the year to come, and decide in the light of justice.

Fifteen years ago your minister was allowed little enough for his and his family's care and education. And, even though there has been a slight increase in the salary since then, it has not kept pace with the rapidly increasing cost of living—in the case of some necessities running into forty or fifty per cent advance. Your minister is consequently poorer to-day than ever. Let us bear in mind: It is true enough your pastor is "preaching for souls," and not preaching for money; and any fear that a more generous compensation may turn his head or secularize his heart has no foundation in truth. The very fact that he has given his life to the

service of God in His holy ministry is sufficient refutation of the charge. We think a more serious danger of worldliness comes from a too limited compensation which necessitates constant and anxious attention to and care for material affairs that otherwise would be cast aside for higher considerations.

No, Methodist ministers are not preaching for money. There is no more consecrated class of men than these who have abandoned themselves to the service of Christ through the Church. It is for the Church in general and for you in particular to say how these servants shall be compensated.

Brethren, we appeal to you at this particular time. Let Methodism redeem herself from the charge of failing to appreciate her ministering servants. Let a new salary standard be adopted. At your first Quarterly Conference may you see your way plain to announce to your pastor that a substantial increase will be made in the salary for the coming year. Set him loose with a glad and grateful heart to do even better service than you have thus far had, and when the year shall have closed, you will discover that your pastor's increased spiritual efficiency, his hopefulness and enthusiasm have far outrun the effort of the Church in adding a few additional dollars to the stipend.

We desire to print the name of every charge in the territory of the Western that does its part toward this elevation of the standard. Can we not enroll your Church among them?

... We commend to our readers this resolution, passed unanimously by the Laymen's Association of the Northwest Iowa conference:

"Resolved, That we as laymen believe that the services of our pastors far exceed in value the compensation we are paying them, and that the failure of the ministry to attract the talent of the young men and the depletion of the ranks of the ministry are due to our fault as laymen in not affording a prospect of a reasonable living and an opportunity of saving for the needs of misfortune and age, and we believe there should be a general advance in pastors' salaries."

... as the nightingale.

* * *

YOUR PASTOR'S SALARY.

Every church within the range of the circulation of the NORTHWESTERN is now entering upon a new conference year. Among the important questions that will come before every official board will be the fixing of the pastor's salary for the ensuing year. We hope that with each one there will be an effort made to advance the salary over the previous year. Ministers are almost alone among the various classes of people who have not profited by the prosperous times which are now upon this country.

It would surprise the church to know how large a proportion of ministers receive less than \$700 a year, including house rent, and most of these receive less than \$600, and many less than \$500. It needs but to state the fact to indicate to most people that such a salary is too small to enable a minister of the gospel and his family to live in comfort. Worse even than the small salary is the failure of many churches to pay the pastor's salary estimated at the beginning of the conference year. In one of the youngest and richest conferences of the Northwest the deficit on salaries has amounted already to \$168,000; in another conference, which has completed its half century, the unpaid salaries have amounted to over \$300,000, and in another conference during its half century of existence the deficit in salaries has amounted to \$340,000. In nearly every instance these salaries could have been paid if the proper method of collection had been adopted and followed and members of the church had felt the same sense of duty to meet their financial obligations to the church that they do to the grocer, coal dealer, and other merchants.

We are glad to know that several laymen's associations have this year discussed the matter and adopted plans whereby there should be both an increase in pastors' salaries and payment in full of salaries promised. One earnest layman in each official board who will press this matter upon his brethren can effect action that will do justice to the pastor, his family, and the church. Pay your pastor's salary in full. Increase it if possible.

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THE E

THE EPWORTH HERALD

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BETTER PAY FOR THE PREACHER

A SERIOUS situation is confronting the Churches. The increased cost of living is making it harder for the average minister to maintain himself and his family in a way that becomes his and their station. The question of finances is crowding to the front in an embarrassing way. The minister cannot keep it in the background any longer. Nobody says in these days that men go into the ministry for the money there is in it. For there is no money in it.

Men go into the ministry because they are called to it. With them it is "Woe is me if I preach not the gospel." The great majority of ministers have made sacrifices of material advantages to become ambassadors of Jesus Christ. And they have done so with a cheerful heart. They want to invest their lives where they will produce the largest dividends for the kingdom.

It has always been true that when one goes into the ministry he commits himself to a life of sacrifice, if not to a life of poverty. In these days of material prosperity, when the cost of everything that touches the maintenance of life is constantly increasing, the minister suffers more than most men. For with the increase of the fixed charges of the domestic life there has come an increase in income. Clerks, mechanics, laborers, professional men are receiving more for their services than heretofore. But this good thing has hardly reached the minister. He still suffers and tries to make both ends meet on his small income. As a rule he does not make a great success of it. How can he? And where he does, it is at the cost of some other things that are as dear to him as life.

The Churches must pay their ministers better. And they must begin to do it at once. It is not fair to the ministers—nor creditable to the Churches that so many of God's noble representatives are compelled to feel the pinch of poverty in times when the country is rich, the times prosperous, and the Church generous in its missionary and philanthropic contributions. Better provision for the support of the ministry means a Church more efficient in every branch of its world-wide endeavor.

SEVEN SEVENTH

YOUR PASTOR'S SALARY.

Your pastor's salary! Have you ever asked yourself the question, Is my pastor's salary sufficient to enable him and his family to live in comfort, and are we paying him for his services what we should? The question has been a subject of discussion by nearly every Methodist laymen's association held this year, and with all there is a determined effort to increase the salaries of low-paid pastors until they reach a figure in keeping with the cost of living. Everyone knows that during the past few years there has been a great advance in the cost of living. There has been also a great advance in the wages of workmen. With few exceptions, however, there has been little advance in the salaries of pastors, which in most cases are now what they were a few years ago. The low salaries of preachers of all denominations is attracting even the attention of the secular press.

The official members of every Methodist Church should give the subject of their pastor's salary consideration at the first quarterly conference and, if possible, advance the salary \$100 or \$200, and as much more as the needs of the pastor will justify. There is scarcely a Methodist Church that cannot do this. Even country Churches can advance salaries, for during the past few years there has been a great increase in farm values and in the prices of farm products.

THURSDAY EVENING POST The Preacher's Pay

SEPARATION of church and State is admirable from every point of view except that of the minister. At the Wisconsin Methodist Conference it was said that twenty pastors of that denomination in the State received less than four hundred dollars a year; fifty-seven not over six hundred; and that, while the cost of living had increased forty per cent., the preacher's pay had actually decreased.

In Indiana the average salary is said to be under seven hundred a year, with but a small raise of late years to offset much higher living expenses. In many other churches and other States a similar condition is found. Trying to meet expenses that have increased four-tenths with an income that has risen only one-tenth must tend to disturb the parson's sense of proportion. Considering social demands that are obligatory upon him, there are very few outside the slums who work closer to the bread line and have had less share in the country's enhanced prosperity than the country preacher.

He is, as a class, in the economically absurd position of offering his services for whatever the recipients choose to give. It is not so much a sign of religious decadence as of enduring human nature that they don't choose to give very much.

We should not quite like to see a trades union of ministers; but we do not think it would be spiritually less savory than the personal begging, the donation parties and so on by which the church committee seeks to coax from reluctant pockets enough money to overcome the perpetually-threatening salary deficit.

Central for November 6 1907

Ministerial Support.

The first round of Quarterly Conferences for the new year are being made. Purposely we have tried at this time to suggest to our laymen the rising scale of the cost of living, that they might have it as frontlets between and before their eyes when they take up the disciplinary question as to what shall be the ministerial support for this Conference year. Dr. T. M. McKendree Stuart calls the case into court again this week. The question is a vital one to many a parsonage. If any of our official boards should seem to thoughtlessly side-step at the question, the pastor of cannot; his grocer's bills will bring it quite forcibly to his attention every thirty days.

The Discipline provides that at the first Quarterly Conference it shall be asked: "What amounts have been estimated for, and apportioned to, this charge this year for the support of the ministry?" For one of the brethren to move: "I move that we fix the support of the pastor the same as it was last year," if by that he and the board understand that the sum shall be the same, is mistaken logic and may be the forerunner of actual hardship, and for the reason that the cost of living has advanced over last year. Consequently to "fix the sum the same as last year" is in reality to reduce the ministerial support.

For example, \$1, which in 1896 would have bought 7.81 pounds of beef, would buy only 6.88 pounds in 1905, and only 6.68 a

over

dy in 1906. In 1896, \$1 would have bought
ve 9.82 pounds of salt beef, it will now buy
us but 8.85 pounds. In 1896, \$1 would have
as bought 9.84 pounds of fresh pork, in 1905,
ss. 7.58 pounds, in 1906, 6.97 pounds. Salt
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ds —since a dollar which in 1896 would buy
y. 7.56 pounds, in 1905 would buy but 5.94
nd pounds and in 1906 but 5.69 pounds. Eggs,
ys milk, butter, cheese, lard, sugar, corn-
n meal, flour, have all gone up in equal
n ratio. The increase in cost of living since
y. 1905 is very considerable; cattle products,
er dairy products (milk, butter, cheese), flour
d, and bread each have shared the upward
or movement of good times; bacon is still
ss higher, flour is 16 per cent higher.

And wages have kept pace with the cost
of living. The Bulletin of the Bureau of
n. Labor, issued by the Department of Com-
ce merce and Labor, for July, 1907, is just
ss to-day at hand. Three hundred and twen-
of ty-eight pages are given to wages, hours
of labor and the retail prices of food. The
statistics are separated into the various
trades and sub-divisions of the trades;
they also give the size of families and
summaries of cost of living in various
sections of the country. They prove in
cold figures that the cost of living has ma-
terially increased in every section of the
country, that wages have kept pace, and
that the burdens of labor have been less-
ened by shorter hours.

We are certain that when our loyal
and aggressive laymen ponder these facts,
and the presiding elders discreetly stir
up their fine minds by way of remem-
brance, the ministerial support through-
out our vast prosperous West will be
made to conform to the changed condi-
tions of the past fifteen years, the past
five years, the past year.

News from the Field

The year starts off well on the Springfield
District. The following charges have in-
creased the pastor's salary: Catawba, Dial-
ton, and New Carlisle, \$50 each; Mutual and
Grace, Urbana, \$100 each; Clifton Avenue,
Springfield, \$150; and we hope more will
follow the good example.

Rev. H. G. Scudday was

At the recent session of Northwest Iowa
Conference, Rev. Ernest C. Richards and
wife were appointed for the second time to
Newell. As a result of this, the stewards
have raised the salary \$100. On the evening
of October 2 the members went in a body to
the parsonage and surprised the pastor.

MINNESOTA

The fourth quarterly conference of Sta-
ples charge by a standing vote unanimously
invited Pastor Dodds to return to the pas-
torate of the Church another year with the
salary fixed at \$1,500—\$250 advance over
the present year. They also invited the
annual conference to meet in the city of
Staples in 1908. Four thousand dollars is
being expended to modernize the church.

Central Park Church, St. Paul, recently

complete recovery.

Rev. H. G. Goodsell is diligently pushing
the work on the Springville charge. Three
prayer meetings are held each week, faith-
ful pastoral work is being done, and we
confidently expect a successful revival year.
The congregations are large and the salary
was advanced \$100.

Rev. Charles E. Butters has been cor-
dially received for the sixth year at Viroqua.
The Church expressed its appreciation of
the pastor by advancing the salary \$200.
This is one of the most delightful

wyoming.

Casper.—The work for the new year is
encouraging along all lines. The Sunday-
school, Epworth League and church serv-
ices are well attended. A silver commu-
nion set has been given by one of our
faithful members, Miss Anna Riley, who
is holding down a homestead, four miles
from town. At our first Quarterly Con-
ference the members voted an increase of
one hundred dollars on the pastor's sal-
ary. L. C. Thompson is pastor.

Oblong became a station at the last ses-
sion of the annual conference. Brother J.
W. Jackson proves to be the right man for
this important charge. The salary was
parsonage is being pushed to completion.
There will be \$700 or \$800 increase in sal-
ary on the old Oblong charge.

Rev. W. I. Terhune begins his work at
Bridgeport with energy and zeal. He re-
ceives \$100 increase in salary. This is the
Oil City of Illinois. We expect large de-
velopments here this year.

J. W. Edwards, and loyal supporters among the membership, are helping to place this important Church in the front rank. At the first quarterly conference of this year the pastor's salary was advanced \$100. Evangelist William A. Sunday has been scheduled for an evangelistic campaign in

Conservative Salton takes advanced ground. They have raised the salary \$100 and plan to pay all church obligations promptly when due. They will do their business through the bank, and a check will be forthcoming, in full of account, to meet every creditor. John Colver

WISCONSIN

Madison District.

Out of twenty-one quarterly conferences held thus far in the new year, twelve have increased the pastor's salary over last year. This is a hopeful sign. Four charges have increased the salary \$200 each. The new pastor at First Church, Baraboo, Rev. John S. Crowder, has made a brilliant beginning.

ers' Meeting of that city.

The church at Amity is in a prosperous condition. At the third Quarterly Conference both the pastor and presiding elder were over-paid. A good increase was made at the first Quarterly Conference in the pastor's salary.

Rev. M. B. Williams, pastor at Bismarck,

OKLAHOMA.

Tonkawa.—The year on this charge begins under the most favorable conditions. On the return of the pastor, George W. Irwin, for the fourth year, the members of the church and congregation tendered him a reception at a six o'clock dinner in the basement of the new church. There were three hundred persons who sat down to tables loaded with choice things to eat. The evening was spent with good cheer and fellowship, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. The salary has been advanced \$200 over last year, and the off-

are to blame, chiefly, and their friends. Grand Junction and D. D. Forsyth still rejoice over the last session of the Annual Conference. It was "a feast of fat things." The pastor's salary has been increased \$320. The third year opens well indeed; twenty-five persons have been received by certificate and two on probation. William Hints and wife received

Our Church at Newell surprised their pastor on his return for another year by coming in a body to the parsonage and presenting him a handsome buffet. The stewards have adopted the monthly pay system, and added \$100 to the salary, making it \$1,000 and house.

At Webster City, the pastor, Rev. F. W.

The first quarterly conference at Rutland voted an increase in salary of \$50, and authorized Pastor J. C. Shirk to take immediate action toward making a change in homes, so that the parsonage will be better located. The plan is to sell the old one and build or buy a new one. They have a buyer for the present one.

The Church at Williams urgently requested the return of their pastor for the fourth year, and as an evidence of their appreciation they raised his salary \$100. Brother Bryan has already begun the revival work of the year at Vincent, an out point.

Fort Dodge First Church has expressed their appreciation of the return of their pastor, Rev. G. C. Fort, for the fourth year by adding \$100 to his salary, making it \$2,000, with house. A large number were present at a reception given in honor of his return.

The salary of the Rev. John Ward, of Wall Street, Jeffersonville, has been increased to \$1,700 and parsonage, an equivalent of \$2,000.

The first quarterly conference of our Church at Galena, at its session October 18, voted an increase of \$200 in the salary of Pastor J. A. Matlack, who returns for the fifth year.

A. Buchtel of Colorado

and all paid community.

The pastor, John Winterbourne, is given large credit for the success achieved, and in appreciation of his work as pastor the Quarterly Conference has increased his salary \$400 over that of last year.

Notices.

The Meridian Street (Indianapolis) Official Board has advanced the salary of their pastor, Dr. Joshua Stansfield, to \$4,000 cash and house rent. He starts his seventh year with this people under favorable conditions. His report on the benevolences last year was in advance of any record of the charge for the past.

The Rev. J. Frank O'Haver, pastor of Locust Street Church, Greencastle, returns with \$300 added to the salary. He has already more than doubled the list of subscribers to the Western Christian Advocate, and is still campaigning in this regard.

The Rev. T. F. Williams is now entering on his seventh year as pastor of West Washington Street Charge, and his salary has been raised to \$1,000 for this year. The work is prosperous in all departments.

Hall Place, the Rev. F. A. Steele pastor, has put in a new furnace since Conference. The support of the pastor has been advanced \$100, which makes \$1,500, the most the Church has ever paid. The outlook is satisfactory.

St. Clair Street Church, Cleveland, will undoubtedly go on the honor-roll, as they have increased their salary \$500 for the coming year.

Spencerville Circuit, Central Ohio Conference, has increased the pastor's salary and repainted the parsonage. Special meetings will open about November 15th. H. S. Worthington is serving this charge for the fourth year.

Dr. Calhoun

Our people of Garfield-boulevard Church have bestowed two favors upon our new pastor, Dr. E. E. McKay, namely, raised his salary, and gave him a reception the evening of October 29. Addresses from the departments

Dr. L. W. Thrall begins his fifth year at Flora under most favorable conditions. Everything points toward the beginning of the new church enterprise. The congregation promises to pay Dr. Thrall \$200 more than last year. This increase is merited as Dr. Thrall is universally popular with his people.

Claremont Circuit divided and formed a new Chauncey charge. Chauncey has purchased a new \$1,000 parsonage. Brothers Griffin and Hardesty enter upon their work with a spirit of consecration which indicates success. There will be \$300 increase in salary on this work.

Rev. C. W. Ivie at Browns, Rev. A. Vandaveer at Calhoun, Rev. G. W. Hanks at Hutsonville, each receive \$100 increase. Other charges will do as well. Rev. George R. Goodman returns to Flat Rock, a field of large opportunities, for his second year. He will soon have a new church ready for dedication. His salary was increased to \$800 and house. Rev. Robert Morris

Edgar has what they asked for in the coming of E. N. Tompkins to the pastorate. They have increased the salary \$100 and will continue the cash payment policy adopted last year. A novel method here is the publishing of a folder containing the name of each contributor for the past year and the amount of each one's contributions, both to current expenses and benevolences.

J. E. Rinn

perance Society.

Olney District.

There has been a strong effort made to increase the pastors' salaries. The committee on pastoral support appointed at the last annual conference met in Olney at the call of the presiding elder and addressed a circular letter to all of the estimating committees, asking that this important matter be presented to each congregation in the district. The letter has been published in many of the county papers throughout the district. The result is that Olney District will make the largest increase in its history. So far eight charges have reported an increase of \$1,600.

The church at Williams urgently requested the return of their pastor for the fourth year, and as an evidence of their appreciation, they have increased his salary \$100.

nerge present.

Better Salaries.

A wise man said before the Book Committee: "If I have a big load, and want my team to do its best, I will not depend on a better whip, but I will put more oats in the trough." The Sensible man. How often a good man is handicapped by a small salary.

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