

MINUTES OF MEETINGS
OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

April 3 -- 7, 1944

and

SPRING MEETING

April 10 -- 16, 1944

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and

SPRING MEETING

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THREE HUNDRED NINETY-FOURTH MEETING

GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

April 3, 1944

MEMBERS PRESENT:

W E Nelson, T J Michael, H H Cobban, F M Wilcox,
 J A Stevens, J J Ireland, H H Votaw, Dr H M Walton, L L Moffitt,
 W H Teesdale, H A Morrison, W A Scharffenberg, W K Ising, L
 Halswick, A W Peterson, M L Andreasen, H W Barrows, C L Bond,
 S A Wellman, W A Butler, G E Peters.

OTHERS PRESENT:

D E Robinson.

W.E.Nelson was asked to take the chair. Prayer by
 L.L.Moffitt. Minutes of the meeting of March 30 were approved.

APPOINTMENTS AND ITINERARIES:

VOTED, That we approve of the following appointments:

Miss Lois Burnett to the Riverside Sanitarium after
 the Spring Meeting, the time to be arranged.

Dr. H.M.Walton to attend the American Medical Association meeting in Chicago, June 12-16.

MRS. RUNNING--VOICE OF PROPHECY OFFICE:

VOTED, To pass on to the Pacific Union Conference the call from the North American Radio Commission for Mrs. Running to connect with the language department of the Voice of Prophecy.

RAYFIELD GUINYARD--KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE:

VOTED, To pass on to the Columbia Union and the East Pennsylvania Conference the call from the Southern Union for Rayfield Guinyard to connect with the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference as assistant field missionary secretary for the Colored Department.

MARTHA FERREE--GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND:

VOTED, To pass on to the Columbia Union and the Potomac Conference the call from the Southern Union for Miss Martha Ferree to connect with the Georgia-Cumberland Conference for Bible work.

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E. J. BARNES--RELEASED:

VOTED, That since the way is not clear for him to accept, E. J. Barnes be released from the call to the Solusi Mission in South Africa.

MANUEL PEREZ--RELEASED:

VOTED, That Manuel Perez, of the South American Division, be released from the call to the Inter-American Division, inasmuch as Inter-America has agreed to withdraw their call in recognition of the need for Brother Perez's services in South America.

PHYLLIS JOHNSON--EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT:

VOTED, To request the Columbia Union Conference and Washington Missionary College to release Miss Phyllis Johnson, to connect with the General Conference office for work in the Educational Department.

SOUTH AMERICAN DIVISION--\$500:

VOTED, To appropriate another \$500 from the Relief Fund to the South American Division, for relief of our believers who suffered through the San Juan earthquake.

CHURCH IN SAN JUAN, ARGENTINA:

Request was presented from the South American Division for assistance in providing a meeting place for the congregation in San Juan, Argentina, whose new church was destroyed in the recent earthquake, after having been occupied only twice. The proposition submitted was that a two-room school building be erected on the church lot, to be used temporarily for church services also. The request is for 15,000 pesos from the General Conference, to assist in providing a place of worship for the church in San Juan.

VOTED, To appropriate 15,000 pesos to the South American Division for the benefit of the church in San Juan, Argentina.

LAND FOR SCHOOL IN PERU:

A letter was read from the president of the South American Division, giving information concerning a new site for the relocation of the Lima Training School. A desirable piece of farm land has been found, 26 kilometers from Lima, on a paved highway and on the railroad. The entire site consists of 23 hectares, or nearly 60 acres, and is held at a price of 345,000 soles, about \$58,000. The Inca Union has funds they can count on to the amount of 276,000 soles for the relocation of the school

April 3, 1944

Counsel was sought as to whether the entire site should be secured, or whether it would be sufficient to purchase about 15 hectares, which can be secured with part of the funds in hand. It was

VOTED, That we approve of the purchase of 15 hectares of the land as described, for the relocation of the Lima Training School, provided this includes a proper building site.

W.E.Nelson, Chairman.
T.J.Michael, Secretary.
E.Zeidler, Recording Sec'y.

THREE HUNDRED NINETY-FIFTH MEETING

GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Chicago, Illinois, April 7, 1944, 4 P.M.

The meeting was held in one of the committee rooms in the Stevens Hotel.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

J L McElhany, W G Turner, W H Branson, J F Wright, L H Christian, E D Dick, H T Elliott, A W Cormack, T J Michael, W E Nelson, W H Williams, H H Cobban, J F Cummins, J J Strahle, H M Blunden, D A McAdams, F H Robbins, R A Anderson, E F Hackman, E E Andross, M L Rice, W E Phillips, C S Longacre, N C Wilson, M C Taft, J E Weaver, L E Froom, N F Brewer, E A Moon, C L Bond, W P Elliott, Claude Conard, E E Franklin, R Ruhling, H D Casebeer, V G Anderson, H C Kephart, M V Campbell, Dr W E Macpherson, J W Turner.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Frederick Lee, J.R.Ferren.

Prayer by E.E.Andross.

INGATHERING MAGAZINE--1945:

In order to help the Southern Publishing Association meet their paper shortage, and believing that it can be done without injury to the campaign, it was

VOTED, That the 1945 Ingathering issue of the Watchman Magazine be reduced to eight pages and cover, the date of publication to be arranged by the Home Missionary Department in counsel with the publishing house.

April 7, 1944

MEDICAL COLLEGE CONSTITUENCY MEETING:

VOTED, That J.L.McElhany, W.G.Turner, Dr. H.M.Walton and W.E.Nelson be authorized to attend the constituency meeting of the College of Medical Evangelists, to be held at Los Angeles, April 26 to May 1.

LOCAL PRESIDENTS TO MEETING ON COLORED WORK:

VOTED, To invite the presidents of the local conferences in North America to participate in the work of the special committee appointed to study the future of the colored work.

J.R.FERREN--APPOINTMENTS:

VOTED, That J.R.Ferren be authorized to attend a meeting of the workers of the three western conferences in the Canadian Union, April 24-28, with the understanding that he will also participate in the dedication of the church in Milwaukee.

GEORGE CASEBEER--WASHINGTON:

VOTED To pass on to George Casebeer, formerly connected with the Voice of Prophecy, the call from the North Pacific Union to connect with the work in the Washington Conference, to take effect between now and the first of September.

J.L.McElhany, Chairman.
E.D.Dick, Secretary.
Roger Altman, Recording Secretary

SPRING MEETING

THREE HUNDRED NINETY-SIXTH MEETING

GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Hotel Stevens, Chicago, Illinois, April 10, 1944

The first session of the Spring Meeting was held in the convention room of the Hotel Stevens, Chicago, Illinois, at 2:00 P.M., Monday, April 10, 1944.

MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE PRESENT:

J L McElhany, W H Branson, L H Christian, J F Wright, W G Turner, E D Dick, A W Cormack, H T Elliott, T J Michael, W E Nelson, W H Williams, H H Cobban, J F Cummins, W A Spicer, N F Brewer, Frederick Griggs, R Ruhling, W E Phillips, H W Barrows, Claude Conard, L Halswick, G E Nord, H D Casebeer, H A Morrison, W H Teesdale, J E Weaver, R G Strickland, W A Butler, W A Scharffenberg, Dr H M Walton, G A Roberts, D Lois Burnett, L E Froom, R A Anderson, G E Peters, H M Blunden, J J Strahle, E E Franklin, H H Votaw, C S Longacre, J A Stevens, S A Wellman, L L Moffitt, W K Ising, A W Peterson, C L Bond, E W Dunbar, M L Rice, H L Rudy, N C Wilson, F H Robbins, J J Nethery, M V Campbell, V G Anderson, L K Dickson, E F Hackman, J W Turner, G J Appel (of China), C L Torrey, D A McAdams and W.E.Murray (of Inter-America), W P Elliott, M C Taft, F C Carrier, H C Kephart, Dr H W Vollmer, H G Childs, G W Wells, H J Klooster, C B Haynes, B G Wilkinson, W P Bradley, E E Andross, Dr W E Macpherson, E A Moon (of Southern Africa).

OTHERS PRESENT:

Because of special matters that were to be considered, there were present also the local conference presidents in North America, the union treasurers and auditors, the presidents of senior and junior colleges, members of a committee on financial policies, colored representatives who were members of a large committee appointed to study the question of our colored work, also representatives of the publishing work who had been in attendance at a Publishing Convention, as well as a number of others present by special invitation.

"He Leadeth Me," was sung to open the meeting, and prayer was offered by W.K.Ising.

Elder J.L.McElhany read a number of extracts from Volume 8 of the Testimonies, on "The Power Promised," among which were the following:

April 10, 1944

"God does not ask us to do in our strength the work before us. He has provided divine assistance for all the emergencies to which our human resources are unequal. He gives the Holy Spirit to help in every strait, to strengthen our hope and assurance, to illuminate our minds and purify our hearts.

"With great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus; and great grace was upon them.' Acts 4:33. Under their labors there were added to the church chosen men, who, receiving the word of life, consecrated their lives to the work of giving to others the hope that had filled their hearts with peace and joy.

"To us today, as verily as to the first disciples, the promise of the Spirit belongs. God will today endow men and women with power from above, as He endowed those who on the day of Pentecost heard the word of salvation. At this very hour His Spirit and His grace are for all who need them and will take Him at His word.

"Notice that it was after the disciples had come into perfect unity, when they were no longer striving for the highest place, that the Spirit was poured out. They were of one accord. All differences had been put away.

"So it may be now. Let Christians put away all dissension, and give themselves to God for the saving of the lost. Let them ask in faith for the promised blessing, and it will come. The outpouring of the Spirit in the days of the apostles was the 'former rain,' and glorious was the result. But the latter rain will be more abundant.

"The presence of the Spirit with God's workers will give the presentation of the truth a power that not all the honor or glory of the world could give."

As we take up the work of this council, said Elder McElhany, as we consider the matters that are to come before us, let us make the things of first importance first in our thinking and in our praying. May we be led and guided by the Spirit of God.

DAILY PROGRAM:

The following Daily Program was adopted:

Devotional	8:30 -- 9:30 A M
Committee Session	9:35 -- 12:00
Session of Subcommittees	2:00 -- 5:00 P M
Session of Subcommittees	7:30 -- 9:30

April 10, 1944

RADIO COMMISSION, RESIGNATION OF
F.W.DETAMORE AND APPOINTMENT OF H.H.HICKS:

F.W.Detamore having tendered his resignation as a member of the North American Radio Commission, it was

VOTED, That the resignation of F.W.Detamore be accepted, and that H.H.Hicks be appointed to fill this vacancy on the Commission.

COLORED WORK IN NORTH AMERICA:

The large and representative group that was appointed in harmony with the action of the 1943 Autumn Council, to give study to the future of our colored work, and which group met in Chicago prior to this Spring Meeting to do its work, submitted a report, which was adopted as follows:

Advanced School in the North:

We recommend, 1. That a school be established in the North where advanced training can be given our colored youth; and

2. That a commission be appointed to give study to this plan and report to the 1944 Autumn Council.

Sanitarium in the North:

We recommend, That a commission be appointed to give study to providing for the medical and nursing education needs of our colored constituency in the North, this commission to report at the earliest possible date.

Future of Riverside Sanitarium:

We recommend, That the commission on the Riverside Sanitarium be requested to further consider the work and future of that institution and endeavor to report during this Spring Meeting.

Publishing Work:

We recommend, 1. That the Southern Publishing Association secure a colored editor for the Message Magazine.

2. That plans be laid to establish a small periodical for the colored constituency, somewhat comparable to the union conference papers in size and style, which will carry church news and promotion material.

April 10, 1944

Conference Organization:

WHEREAS, The present development of our work among the colored people in North America has resulted, under the signal blessing of God, in the establishment of some 233 churches with some 17,000 members; and,

WHEREAS, It appears that a different plan of organization for our colored membership would bring further great advance in soul-winning endeavor; therefore,

We recommend, 1. That in unions where the colored constituency is considered by the union conference committee to be sufficiently large, and where the financial income and territory warrant, colored conferences be organized.

2. That these colored conferences be administered by colored officers and committees.

3. That in the organization of these conferences the present conference boundaries within each union need not be recognized.

4. That colored conferences sustain the same relation to their respective union conferences as do the white conferences.

5. That the General Conference Committee appoint three members of a commission to join with other members to be appointed by each union conference committee concerned, for a study of the colored work in the respective unions, these commissions to report to the respective union committees, and that in cases where it is found necessary for any union committee to request additional appropriations, organization of colored conferences be deferred until after the 1944 Autumn Council, in order to ascertain whether or not this will be possible.

6. That the 1930 plan of colored organization for the Southern States be adopted for all territories in North America with sufficient members, but where the constituency is not sufficiently large to warrant the organization of colored conferences.

SPECIAL DAYS AND OFFERINGS FOR 1945--COM ITTEE:

VOTED, That the following named persons constitute a committee to suggest the calendar of Special Days and Offerings for 1945:

J.A.Stevens, R.G.Strickland, H.T.Elliott, H.A.Morrison, A.W.Peterson, F.C.Carrier, L.Halswick, H.M.Blunden, W.G.Turner.

April 10, 1944

DISTRIBUTION OF LABOR--COMMITTEE:

VOTED, That W.G.Turner, the union conference presidents, the heads of General Conference departments, and H.T.Elliott be a Committee on Distribution of Labor.

STATISTICAL SUMMARIES:

Printed sheets containing the 1943 Statistical Summaries and the Fourth Quarter Report of Seventh-day Adventist Conferences in North America were distributed, and the Statistical Secretary called attention to a few of the interesting items.

Our church membership in the United States and Canada passed the 200,000 mark during the third quarter of 1943. The membership of 201,111 at the end of 1943 was more than twice that of 1921, an increase in twenty-two years of 102,396. The membership gain for 1943 was 3,896. The tithe paid in 1943 of \$11,990,838.56 in the United States and Canada, was almost four and one half times the tithe receipts in 1933, over twice as much as in 1940, and \$2,902,491.01 -- 31.9% more than in 1942. Since the low of the depression in 1933, foreign mission offerings have increased from \$1,692,774.76 to \$4,856,260.56 in 1943, a little more than two and three-quarter times. The mission offering increase in 1943 of \$1,114,496.67 was 29.8% over 1942. The 1943 mission offerings were almost twice the amount in 1939.

CAMP PASTORS' INSTITUTES:

A request was presented from the War Service Commission for authorization for the holding of a general Camp Pastors' Institute this spring, and a number of regional Camp Pastors' Institutes, in order that plans may be laid for further harmonizing and unifying the work and efforts of these men in the army camps. It was

VOTED, That we authorize the holding of a general Camp Pastors' Institute, beginning at 7:30 P.M., May 15, and closing the night of May 18; it being understood that invitations to this general meeting will be sent to the union conference Commission representatives, General Conference camp pastors, union conference Missionary Volunteer secretaries; and that W.H.Branson, C.B.Haynes, C.L.Bond, J.A.Buckwalter, H.M.Walton and J F Cummins shall be requested to attend.

VOTED, That we authorize the holding of three or more regional Camp Pastors' Institutes following the General Camp Pastors' Institute, and that W.H.Branson, C.B.Haynes and the union conference presidents be a committee to designate the dates places, and attendance for these regional meetings, as well as to name the place where the general Camp Pastors' Institute shall be held.

April 10, 1944

MANUAL FOR MINISTERS--AMENDMENT:

A question having been raised concerning a statement in the Manual for Ministers with reference to the relationship to the church board of a licensed minister who may have been appointed by a conference committee to act as pastor of a church, it was

VOTED, That the statement on page 32 of the 1942 edition of the Manual for Ministers, following the words "or to preside at business meetings," be amended to read as follows: "unless he has been elected as a local elder, or to serve on the church board unless he has been elected as a member thereof."

Adjourned to 7:30 P.M., with the closing prayer by G.J. Appel, of China.

J.L. McElhany, Chairman.
E.D. Dick, Secretary.
E. Zeidler, Recording Secretary.

THREE HUNDRED NINETY-SEVENTH MEETING

GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

April 10, 1944, 7:30 P.M.

Following the opening song for the second session of the Spring Meeting, prayer was offered by G.A. Roberts.

Dr. H.M. Walton was called on to report concerning the arrangements being made for giving the Health Evangelism Course at the Theological Seminary this summer, in harmony with the action of the 1943 Autumn Council. Dr. Walton solicited the interest of conference executives in seeing that as many as possible of their workers are given opportunity to take advantage of this course.

The Chairman called for the report from the Committee on Financial Policies, but inasmuch as certain members of the committee desired opportunity to reconsider some features of the report before its presentation, consideration of the report was deferred, and the session adjourned, allowing the remainder of the evening for subcommittee work.

W.G. Turner, Chairman.
E.D. Dick, Secretary.
E. Zeidler, Recording Secretary.

THREE HUNDRED NINETY-EIGHTH MEETING

GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

April 11, 1944, 9:30 A.M.

The devotional service Tuesday morning, April 11, was led by Elder W.A.Spicer. The central thought was God's love for fallen man, and His great desire that all should come to repentance and be saved. All of God's work is founded on love. He "so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." The Scripture says that God is not slack concerning His promise, but is longsuffering, not willing that any should perish. When Adam sinned and thus incurred the sentence of death, immediately Jesus offered Himself to the Father, to give his life in order that man might have another chance. He took the risk of failure and eternal loss. He really "gambled" His life for man's life. But trusting His Father implicitly, he met the risk successfully, and when he hung on the cross it was as a conqueror that he exclaimed, "It is finished!"

As we work for men, let us not become discouraged and give up too soon, said Elder Spicer. That may be just the time when God is reaching out after them. Jesus spoke to the thief on the cross, and he was saved. Let us go out to work with greater zeal, that many who sit in darkness may yet be brought to a saving knowledge of the gospel of Christ.

Prayer was offered by M.L.Rice at the beginning of the third business session of the Spring Meeting.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

The Treasurer presented the Financial Statements of the General Conference, the General Conference Corporation, the Washington Sanitarium and Hospital, and the General Conference Association for the year ending December 31, 1943, together with auditor's statement for each organization; also a statement concerning the North American Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists, and these were accepted as follows:

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

BALANCE SHEET -- DECEMBER 31, 1943

ASSETS

Current

Cash and Bank	2 390 673 40
Security Investments	4 495 238 38
Accounts Receivable	321 783 00
Accrued Interest Securities	13 975 82
Supplies and Prepaid Items	<u>74 389 16</u>

Total Current Assets 7 296 059 76

Fixed

General Conference Library	5 561 65
Less Reserve for Depreciation	<u>4 877 78</u>

Total Fixed Assets 683 87

Total Assets 7 296 743 63

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	125 499 91
Trust Funds	<u>1 406 310 60</u>

Total Liabilities 1 531 810 51

Net Worth December 31, 1943 5 764 933 12

ANALYSIS OF NET WORTH

Regular Net Worth January 1, 1943	4 260 798 00
Increase during year 1943	<u>1 010 754 01</u>
	5 271 552 01

Reserves set aside in harmony with 1943 Autumn Council action for use toward meeting 1944 budget appro. 1 839 982 17

Regular Net Worth December 31, 1943 3 431 569 84

Surplus Reserves:	
On hand January 1, 1943	300 867 86
Increase during year 1943	<u>2 032 495 42</u>

Surplus Reserves December 31, 1943 2 333 363 28

Total Net Worth December 31, 1943 5 764 933 12

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

OPERATING STATEMENT

Year Ending December 31, 1943

INCOME

TITHE

North America

Union Conferences	120 099 42	
Per Cent of Tithe Regular	2 258 759 24	
Per Cent of Tithe Special	67 706 84	
Miscellaneous Tithe	26 950 00	2 473 515 50

Foreign Tithe

10% Union Tithe Europe	4 826 84	
25% Local Tithe Europe	10 610 55	
Tithe from Other Divisions	10 673 13	26 110 52

Total Tithe Receipts 2 499 626 02

MISSION OFFERINGS

North America

Fifty-cent-a-Week Funds	4 814 205 77	
Miscellaneous	43 068 82	
Specific Mission Offerings	79 407 29	4 936 681 88

Foreign

Europe 25% Non-Revertible	61 042 60	
Other Divisions Non-Revertible	280 262 67	
Revertible Mission Funds	771 244 06	1 112 549 33

Total Mission Offerings 6 049 231 21

MISCELLANEOUS INCOME

Funds Reclaimed - Northern Europe	25 000 00
Security Sales Gain	22 673 71
1943 Recovery Security Values	6 055 65
Surplus Tithe	171 000 00
Funds Returned and Reclaimed	20 898 71
Interest & Dividends	100 179 96
Royalties	19 613 61
Purchasing Bureau	2 253 93
Miscellaneous	12 383 99

Total Miscellaneous Income 380 059 56

Total General Conference Income Year 1943 8 928 916 79

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

OPERATING STATEMENT - Continued

Year Ending December 31, 1943

EXPENSE

APPROPRIATIONS

Foreign

Regular	2 828 800 00
Reverted Funds	771 244 06
Special Appropriations	434 786 11
Emergency Appropriations	393 650 73
Specific Mission Funds	79 407 29
13th Sabbath Overflow	78 173 40
Special Sick Relief	2 094 08
Appointees Expense	4 645 58
Spring in Tithe and Offerings	53 578 52
Mission Reconstruc.& Advance	<u>102 205 57</u>

Total Foreign Appropriations

4 740 585 34

Home

Regular	427 600 00
Reverted Funds	54 807 97
Special Appropriations	331 700 00
Emergency Appropriations	297 661 11
Institutional Relief	743 944 16
Camp Pastor Expense	38 364 31
Rural Schools - So. Union	3 000 00
Bible Societies	4 250 00
Miscellaneous Travel	531 28
Appropriation to Sust. Fund	54 284 54
Appropriation to F.R.W.Fund (Sch. C)	40 431 75
Gathering Overflow	429 733 81
Special Sick Relief	7 286 86
E. G. White Pub. Special	749 80
Ministerial Internships - Amer.	4 742 11
Spring in Tithe and Off. - Alaska	<u>2 939 46</u>

Total Home Appropriations

2 442 027 16

Total Appropriations Year 1943

7 190 612 50

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have examined the accounting records of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1943. Cash was in hand as called for by the records and bank accounts were in reconciliation with statements from the respective banks. The securities have been verified by actual inspection and are valued in the Balance Sheet on the basis of market rates December 31, 1943 or cost, whichever was lower.

Funds received by the General Conference during 1943 have been allocated in harmony with our general policy. All regular, special, and emergency appropriations have been passed on to the organizations concerned in accordance with authorizing actions of the Autumn Council and the minority committee.

I hereby certify that the accompanying Balance Sheet and the related Operating Statement, are in agreement with the books of account, and, in my opinion, present fairly the financial position of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as of December 31, 1943, and the results of operating during the year then ended.



Associate Auditor General Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists

Takoma Park, D. C.
February 11, 1944

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GENERAL CONFERENCE CORPORATION OF S. D. A.
Including Washington Sanitarium

Balance Sheet -- December 31, 1943

	<u>ASSETS</u>	
<u>Current</u>		
Cash and Banks	130 174 78	
Securities	1 557 937 05	
Accrued Interest	7 768 91	
Accounts Receivable	507 654 75	
Unexpired Insurance	<u>659 14</u>	
Total Current Assets		2 204 194 63
<u>Fixed</u>		
<u>Real Estate</u>		
Atlanta Dental Home	4 000 00	
Apartment Property	3 500 00	
D. C. Clinic	2 500 00	
G. C. Corporation	12 718 53	
Washington Sanitarium	<u>27 966 23</u>	50 684 76
Bldgs. Less Deprec.:		
Atlanta Dental Home	14 550 00	
Apartment Houses	28 683 25	
D. C. Clinic	25 853 00	
G. C. Corporation	82 781 67	
Washington Sanitarium	<u>371 989 79</u>	523 857 71
Equipment Less Deprec.:		
Apartment Houses	740 65	
G. C. Corporation	26 608 57	
Washington Sanitarium	<u>79 372 58</u>	<u>106 721 80</u>
Total Fixed Assets		<u>681 264 27</u>
Total Assets		2 885 458 90
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
Accounts Pay. & Deposits	109 698 05	
Notes, Trust & Certs.	638 234 32	
Annuity Agreements	481 069 10	
Accrued Int. & Annuities	1 111 62	
Trust Funds	<u>11 220 38</u>	
Total Liabilities		1 241 333 47
<u>NET WORTH</u>		
Net Worth, Jan. 1, 1943	1 381 052 68	
Add: Bldg. Addition D. C. Clinic	18 170 00	
	<u>1 399 222 68</u>	
Add: Corp. Net Gain Yr. 1943	77 312 08	
Wash. San. " " "	<u>88 399 57</u>	165 711 65
Regular Net Worth, Dec. 31, 1943	1 564 934 33	
Less: Transfer to Security Reserve	<u>78 946 59</u>	
Regular Net Worth, Dec. 31, 1943	1 485 987 74	
Security Reserve, " " "	<u>158 137 69</u>	
Total Net Worth, Dec. 31, 1943		<u>1 644 125 43</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Worth		2 885 458 90

GENERAL CONFERENCE CORPORATION OF S. D. A.
Washington Sanitarium Eliminated

BALANCE SHEET -- December 31, 1943

		<u>ASSETS</u>	
<u>Current</u>			
Cash and Bank		130 174 78	
Securities		1 557 937 05	
Accounts Receivable		37 491 03	
Accrued Interest Receivable		7 768 91	
Unexpired Insurance		<u>659 14</u>	
Total Current Assets			1 734 030 91
<u>Fixed</u>			
Real Estate		22 718 53	
Buildings Less Depreciation		151 867 92	
Equipment Less Depreciation		<u>27 349 22</u>	
Total Fixed Assets			<u>201 935 67</u>
Total Assets			1 935 966 58
		<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
Accounts Payable		81 356 69	
Notes, Trusts & Certificates		638 234 32	
Annuity Agreements		476 069 10	
Interest and Annuities Payable		1 111 62	
Trust Funds		<u>11 220 38</u>	
Total Liabilities			1 207 992 11
		<u>NET WORTH</u>	
Net Worth January 1, 1943		553 301 29	
Net Gain Year 1943		77 312 08	
		<u>630 613 37</u>	
Add: Bldg. Additions D. C. Clinic		18 170 00	
		<u>648 783 37</u>	
Less: Transfer to Security Reserve		78 946 59	
		<u>569 836 78</u>	
Regular Net Worth, Dec. 31, 1943		569 836 78	
Surplus Reserves, Dec. 31, 1943		<u>158 137 69</u>	
Net Worth			<u>727 974 47</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Worth			1 935 966 58

GENERAL CONFERENCE CORPORATION OF S. D. A.
 OPERATING STATEMENT
 Year Ending December 31, 1943

INCOME

Interest Income:			
Banks	932	89	
Securities	27,006	38	
Dividends	<u>19,560</u>	<u>08</u>	47,499 35
Gain on Security Sales			12,048 22
Bldg. & Equip. Rental Income			13,200 00
Wills, Legacies & Estates			747 50
Matured Annuities			3,918 10
310 Longbranch Pkwy. Property Gain			397 69
Lucy Hall Property Gain			281 25
Net Gain on Equipment Sales			36 00
Gains Washington Clinic			36,325 37
Miscellaneous Donations			142 06
Appreciation Securities previously written down			<u>47,111 82</u>
 Total Income Year 1943			 161,707 36

EXPENSES

Salary	3,165	14	
Annuity Expense	20,652	98	
Interest Expense	5,777	43	
Deprec. Buildings & Ground Improv.	2,601	79	
Deprec. Buildings D.C. Clinic	1,020	00	
Deprec. Equipment	4,368	91	
General Expense	699	79	
Grounds Expense	305	90	
Insurance Expense	353	36	
Taxes	2,852	35	
Repairs Bldgs.	1,613	58	
Repairs Equipment	941	23	
Reserve, R. & H. Cafeteria Investment	5,243	22	
Special Appro. Atlanta Dental Home	7,150	00	
Bldgs. Improvement Expense		130 00	
Battle Creek San. Constituency Meeting	27,218	71	
Interest on Note Cancelled		72 38	
Loss on 810 Houston Property		<u>228 51</u>	
 Total Expense Year 1943			 <u>84,395 28</u>
 General Conference Corporation Gain			 77,312 08
 Washington Sanitarium Operating Gain			 <u>88,399 57</u>
 Increase in Corporation Net Worth Year 1943			 165,711 65

AUDITOR'S STATEMENT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have examined the books and accounting records of the General Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists for the year ended December 31, 1943, and in connection therewith checked vouchers representing receipt and disbursement of cash together with supporting evidence and authorization for payment. Investments in securities were verified by actual inspection of these documents and are valued in the Balance Sheet at the lower of cost or market at December 31, 1943. Cash deposited with the banks was in reconciliation with statements from the respective banks.

In my opinion, based upon this examination, the accompanying Balance Sheet and the Operating Statement present fairly the financial position of the General Conference Corporation at December 31, 1943, and the results of its operations for the year then ended.



Auditor

General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Takoma Park
Washington, D. C.
February 18, 1944

GENERAL CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION OF S. D. A.

BALANCE SHEET -- DECEMBER 31, 1943

ASSETS

Accounts Receivable		
General Conference Corporation		29 733 88
Real Estate	200 00	
Less Reserve	<u>200 00</u>	
Total Assets		29 733 88

LIABILITIES

Thompson Monument Fund	<u>60 00</u>	
Total Liabilities		60 00

NET WORTH

Net Worth January 1, 1943	27 814 85	
Increase Year 1943	<u>1 859 03</u>	
Net Worth December 31, 1943		<u>29 673 88</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Worth		29 733 88

INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1943

INCOME

Interest on Funds with G. C. Corporation	866 03	
Notes Payable Written Off	<u>995 00</u>	
Total Income		1 861 03

EXPENSE

Filing Non-profit Corporation Report		<u>2 00</u>
Income Exceeds Expense		1 859 03

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have audited the records of the General Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists for the year ended December 31, 1943, and hereby certify that in my opinion the accompanying Balance Sheet and the Income and Expense Statement correctly present the financial position of the Association at December 31, 1943.



Auditor
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Takoma Park, D. C.

January 28, 1944

NORTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE CORPORATION
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

The North American Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists, organized under the laws of the District of Columbia, has no known assets or liabilities. The corporation is being continued in order to care for wills, legacies, or bequests which may have been written in favor of this organization; and to adjust property interest which may still exist in the name of the North American Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists.

W. E. Nelson

President, Treasurer

Glaude Conard

Secretary

Certified to by:

W. E. Phillips

Auditor of the General Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists

April 11, 1944

Following the presentation of the Financial Statements, W.E.Nelson, the Treasurer, called attention to the increase in funds in the union and local conferences in North America as compared with the increase in the funds of the General Conference. In 1928, the net income of the General Conference was \$2,872,979.72; in 1943, it was \$5,385,017.38; a net income increase of 87%. In 1928, the net income of the local and union conferences in North America was \$4,212,803.79; in 1943 it was \$11,420,026.95; a net income increase of 171%. The ratio of union and local conference income to General Conference income in 1928 was 146%; in 1943, it was 212%. Elder Nelson spoke earnestly of the great needs of the world field. He stressed the fact that we have sustained heavy property losses, and that our workers and people have suffered severely in the countries that have been devastated by the war, and he urged the necessity of building up a fund in this time of prosperity in this country, for the rehabilitation of our work in those fields affected by the war, if and when the war shall cease.

Elder McElhany, following Elder Nelson, referred to the unprecedented financial prosperity that is attending our work in America at this time, and spoke of the danger he saw in the tendency as a result of this prosperity to greatly expand the work here at home. The expansions being planned, he said, would run into millions of dollars. The necessity of rehabilitating the work in the great fields outside of America, and of providing funds for the preaching of the message to the untold millions in the great mission divisions will call for other millions, and all this in the face of a probable depression such as we have not known before. He felt that we should pause and take time to counsel seriously concerning this matter, since the whole financial structure of the denomination might easily be wrecked by our planning in this period of inflated prosperity.

A number of the delegates spoke of their concern over some of the present trends in connection with our work, and of their hope that serious study may be given to the matters referred to.

Adjourned to 9:30 Wednesday morning, with the closing prayer by C.B.Haynes.

W.G.Turner, Chairman.
E.D.Dick, Secretary.
E.Zeidier, Recording Secretary.

THREE HUNDRED NINETY-NINTH MEETING

GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

April 12, 1944, 9:35 A.M.

The morning devotional hour was occupied by Dr. W.E. Macpherson, who presented an interesting, helpful and thought-provoking study. Men and women today, like those of past generations, while interesting themselves in progress and advancement, desire also happiness for themselves, and wish to secure so far as possible "freedom from worry over the hazardous circumstances of life." The thing above all others necessary to the individual soul, in order to escape anxiety and worry and to secure peace of mind, is an individual trust in God. Man in his finite wisdom is sometimes led by what appear to be contrary and obscure circumstances of life to regard God's ways and God's plans as unreasonable.

In Eccl. 7:29, it is recorded: "Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions." The Psalmist wrote: "They have joined themselves also unto Baal-peor and ate the sacrifices of the dead. Thus they provoked Him to anger with their inventions." Ps. 106: 28, 29. From these and other scriptures it is seen that very frequently much difficulty arises from the fact that instead of following in simplicity God's plan and working according to His commandments, men in their endeavor to solve their own difficulties have sought out many inventions.

While in no way discounting the advantages and facilities that medical science has placed at the disposal of sick and suffering humanity, Dr. Macpherson commended to us the exceeding and inestimable value of a simple trust in God, drawing attention among others to such scriptures as Ps. 37:3; "Trust in the Lord and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed;" and Prov. 28:25, "He that is of a proud heart is a fool; but he that putteth his trust in the Lord shall be prospered." and again, "It is better to trust in the Lord than to confide in men." The Doctor concluded his study with the reading of the 27th Psalm.

"Grace that is Greater than all Our Sin," was sung by A.E. Webb and L.B. Reynolds, at the close of the devotional service.

Following a short intermission, the business of the forenoon was taken up, after prayer by B.L. Anderson, recently from China, and a song, "Keep Looking Up," sung by B. Glanzer, who is connecting with the Voice of Prophecy as a member of the King's Heralds Quartet.

April 12, 1944

The large Committee on Financial Policies and Stabilization of Church Schools, that was appointed at the time of the 1942 Autumn Council, submitted a report, which was amended and adopted as follows:

REVISION OF TITHE PERCENTAGE SCHEDULE:

Attended Plan Conference

We recommend, That any local conference having the approval of the union conference committee be privileged to take advantage of the following plan:

1. That in the North American Division the percentage basis for sharing conference tithe with the General Conference for carrying on its mission work be increased in each bracket by 10 per cent, as in the following schedule, which will supersede the schedule now appearing on page 156 of the Working Policy; except for conferences which do not adopt this plan.

Up to	\$ 25,999.99	11%	40,000	to	\$ 49,999.99	21%	
\$ 26,000	to	26,999.99	12%	50,000	to	59,999.99	22%
27,000	"	27,999.99	13	60,000	"	69,999.99	23
28,000	"	28,999.99	14	70,000	"	79,999.99	24
29,000	"	29,999.99	15	80,000	"	89,999.99	25
30,000	"	31,999.99	16	90,000	"	99,999.99	26
32,000	"	33,999.99	17	100,000	"	109,999.99	27
34,000	"	35,999.99	18	110,000	"	119,999.99	28
36,000	"	37,999.99	19	120,000	"	129,999.99	29
38,000	"	39,999.99	20	130,000	Upward		30

2. That the General Conference appropriate to the local conferences through the unions from funds other than tithe an amount in each case equivalent to the increase in per cent of tithe resulting from the application of this revised schedule.

EXCHANGE OF FUNDS WITH UNIONS:

We recommend, That where union conference committees desire an exchange of union conference tithe funds for non-tithe funds with the General Conference, the Treasurer be authorized to make such exchange up to 10 per cent of their annual tithe.

FUND TO ASSIST SMALLER CONFERENCES:

We recommend, That in order to provide a fund to assist smaller conferences, the following plan be adopted:

1. That local conferences contribute 1% on annual tithe receipts in excess of \$200,000, that union conferences add 1% of the amount so contributed by the local conferences in its field, and that the General Conference contribute an amount equal to the total received from the union and local conferences.

2. That only local conferences with an annual tithe of less than \$125,000 shall benefit from this fund.

April 12, 1944

3. That this fund be disbursed by the Budget Committee at the time of the Autumn Council with due consideration being given to appropriations already being granted.

4. That the proposed plan to increase the per cent of tithe schedule and the creation of the fund to assist local conferences receiving an annual tithe of less than \$125,000 be made operative for the year 1945.

SUPPORT OF ELEMENTARY CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS:

(Note.--Paragraphs between asterisks * * are quoted from minutes of the 1942 Autumn Council, pages 678, 679.)

WHEREAS, Our elementary school work and its proper development under the direction of our conference organization is vital to the life and progress of the advent movement; and,

WHEREAS, It is necessary to provide adequately for our teachers' support in the elementary schools; and,

WHEREAS, Conferences are now providing summer work for a number of the elementary church school teachers; therefore,

We recommend, *1. That our conferences and churches provide summer employment for the elementary church school teachers as far as possible.*

2. That where church school teachers are not profitably employed during the summer vacation, they be paid at least \$7.00 weekly during the twelve weeks of non-employment; and when a teacher is sent by the conference to summer school she receive as much of the regular weekly allowance as may be agreed upon by the employing organization in addition to transportation, board, lodging and tuition, it being understood that the work taken by the teacher in the summer school is in accordance with the plan of the superintendent and of the local conference committee.

3. That this summer allowance be applicable only to those teachers who were employed for the previous school year and who are in line for continued employment unless for specific reasons they are notified to the contrary.

4. That where a teacher has received this allowance during the summer period but fails to accept employment for reasons other than illness at the beginning of the next school year, she refund the amount received during the summer.

5. That where a teacher is transferred from one conference to another during the summer period, the conference to which she is transferred pay the full summer allowance.

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6. That in order that our church school teachers may be treated similarly to other workers in the matter of graduated wage increases, the following plan be carried out:

That the minimum beginning wage for elementary church school teachers be in accordance with our regular wage scale adopted in April, 1943, which is (women) \$20.50 a week for the first year, and that those teachers who have completed two years of teacher training be advanced at the rate of \$1.50 a week annually, and that those who have completed four years of teacher training be advanced at the rate of \$2.00 a week annually for a period of at least three years. Thus the minimum wage for the first group at the beginning of the fourth year would be \$25.00, and the minimum wage for the second group at the beginning of the fourth year would be \$26.50.

7. That we especially urge the organizations employing church school teachers to continue salary increases to the successful, experienced teacher until the maximum is reached.

8. That these recommendations concerning the wage of the church school teacher take effect at the beginning of the school year 1944-45.

CONFERENCE CHURCH SCHOOL FUND:

We recommend, That the conference provide as a church school fund consisting of the church school comeback and other funds, an amount equivalent to 25% of the total teachers' salary in the conference for the current year including the summer salary allowance, and that each local conference committee distribute this fund in accordance with the needs of each school.

DISCONTINUANCE OF TEMPORARY PROVISIONS:

We recommend, That the local conferences remitting to the General Conference the extra three-fourths of one per cent of tithe be released from this temporary obligation after June 30, 1944; that the General Conference be released from appropriating 50 per cent of the \$37,500 which was appropriated for the year 1944; and that the union and local conferences carry the responsibility of developing the necessary funds to provide an amount equal to 25 per cent of the total salary of the teachers in the conference at the beginning of the school year, it being clear that according to this plan the assistance coming from the General Conference for the operation of church schools is confined to the 5 per cent of the mission offerings.

TEACHER PAYMENT PLAN:

WHEREAS, In assisting churches in the payment of their elementary church school teachers, some conferences have successfully followed a plan whereby the teacher is paid from the

April 12, 1944

conference treasury, remittances being made to the conference each month by the churches concerned for their share of the teachers' wage; therefore,

We recommend, That this plan be commended to our conferences for study and adoption where this is felt desirable.

DISTRIBUTION OF EDUCATIONAL COMEBACK:

We recommend, That, effective from July 1, 1944, the regular 5% Church School Educational Comeback now accruing for teachers' salaries be distributed on the basis of the total number of teachers employed in all of the union conferences instead of on the present basis, and that the total number of teachers employed at the beginning of the school year preceding the calendar year be the basis of this distribution. It is understood that conferences desiring to benefit from this distribution must meet at least the minimum wage rate provided by the wage scale.

INGATHERING GOALS:

We recommend, That a special committee be appointed to give study to increasing and readjusting the basic Ingathering goals, to report to the Autumn Council.

Adjourned to 7:30 P.M., with the closing prayer by
F.H. Robbins.

W.H. Branson, Chairman.
E.D. Dick, Secretary.
E. Zeidler, Recording Secretary.

FOUR HUNDREDTH MEETING
GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

April 12, 1944, 2:00 P.M.

The General Conference Committee met in executive session at 2:00 P.M., Wednesday, April 12.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

J L McElhany, W G Turner, W H Branson, L H Christian, J F Wright, E D Dick, T J Michael, H T Elliott, A W Cormack, W E Nelson, W H Williams, H H Cobban, J F Cummins, M L Rice, H L Rudy, N C Wilson, F H Robbins, J J Nethery, M V Campbell, V G Anderson, L K Dickson, E F Hackman, J W Turner, C L Bond, Miss Lois Burnett, H.D. Casebeer, W.P. Bradley, N.F. Brewer, W.H. Teesdale, J A Stevens, S A Wellman, W A Butler, H J Klooster, L L Moffitt, C B Haynes, W P Elliott, G W Wells, F Griggs, Dr H M Walton, L E Froom, G J Appel, W A Scharffenberg, Claude Conard, R A Anderson, R G Strickland, E W Dunbar, H A Morrison, H W Barrows, G E Peters, W E Murray, A W Peterson, E E Andross, J J Strahle, H M Blunden, H G Childs, H H Votaw, L Halswick, M C Taft, G E Nord.

OTHERS PRESENT:

The following groups were also present, having been invited to meet with the Committee: the local conference presidents, the union secretary-treasurers, the colored union secretaries, and the heads of institutions.

Prayer by L.K. Dickson.

CALLS FOR AND TRANSFERS OF WORKERS:

The time was spent in a discussion of the calls for and transfers of workers. Attention was directed to the large increase in the past few years in the calls for and transfer of workers in the North American Division, the number of such calls passing through the General Conference office having increased from 131 in 1940, to 428 in the year 1943. Taking into consideration the loss of time, the financial expense involved, and the effect upon the workers themselves, it was felt that such a large movement of workers in one year could not possibly be conducive to the best results.

April 12, 1944

Consideration was also given to various irregular methods used in the effort to secure workers, in violation of the established policy. A number of suggestions were made as to how the present situation might be remedied, and it was

VOTED, That the Chair be asked to appoint a representative committee to give this matter further consideration and make recommendation.

Committee appointed: J L McElhany, W H Branson, W G Turner, E D Dick, W E Nelson, H T Elliott, the union conference presidents, G E Peters, W A Nelson, C A Scriven, F A Mote, J L McConaughy, J D Smith, S E Wight, F O Sanders, H J Detwiler, D A Ochs, A E Millner, G V Bowers, F Griggs, I J Woodman.

J.L.McElhany, Chairman.
E.D.Dick, Secretary.
E.Zeidler, Recording Secretary.

FOUR HUNDRED FIRST MEETING
GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

April 12, 1944, 7:30 P.M.

"Just when I need Him Most" was sung to open the fifth session of the Council, and prayer was offered by G.A.Roberts.

SYMPATHY TO RELATIVES OF G.F.ENOCH:

Word was received of the death of Elder G.F.Enoch, who was one of the pioneer workers in India, where he and Sister Enoch labored for many years.

VOTED, That the Secretary be asked to convey our sympathy to Sister Enoch and other sorrowing relatives, and an expression of our appreciation of the faithful service of Brother Enoch in connection with our work at home and in the mission field.

MESSAGES OF GREETING:

Attention was called to the fact that a number of workers who have customarily been with us in these gatherings are not present at this time, being unable to come because of health conditions. It was

VOTED, To send our greetings to the following named persons: I.H.Evans, O.Montgomery, F.C.Gilbert, Dr. P.T.Magan and F.M.Wilcox.

Mention was made also of the leaders in our overseas fields, whose thoughts we know are with us at this time, and it was

VOTED, To send greetings from this Spring Meeting to the following field leaders: H.W.Lowe, of the British Union; G.A.Lindsay, of the Scandinavian conferences; A.V.Olson, of the Southern European Division; William McClements, of the African West Coast Union Mission; E.L.Branson, of the Middle East Union Mission; A.L.Ham, of the Southern Asia Division; C.W.Bozarth, of the Southern African Division; E.L.Longway, of the China Division; R.R.Figuhr, of the South American Division; Glenn Calkins, of the Inter-American Division; and C.H.Watson and E.B.Rudge, of the Australasian Division.

A recommendation from the Publishing Department was presented and adopted as follows:

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LITERATURE MINISTRY AND THEOLOGICAL CURRICULUM:

WHEREAS, From the writings of the Spirit of prophecy we have been given the following instruction:

"All who desire an opportunity for true ministry. . . will find in the colporteur work opportunities to speak upon many things pertaining to the future immortal life. The experience thus gained will be of the greatest value to those who are fitting themselves for the ministry. They will be educated in patience, kindness, affability, and helpfulness. Their words will be purified. They will be gifted with power to clothe the message of truth with a sacred beauty." Colporteur Evangelist, pp. 15, 16.

"Many of our young ministers and those fitting for the ministry would, if truly converted, do much good by working in the canvassing field. And by meeting the people and presenting to them our publications, they would gain an experience which they cannot gain by simply preaching. As they went from house to house they could converse with the people, carrying with them the fragrance of Christ's life. In thus endeavoring to bless others they would themselves be blessed; they would obtain an experience in faith; their knowledge of the Scriptures would greatly increase; and they would be constantly learning how to win souls to Christ." Colporteur Evangelist, p. 15.

"Some men whom God was calling to the work of the ministry have entered the field as colporteurs. . . .

"This will be an excellent experience for any who have the ministry in view.

"Those who are fitting for the ministry can engage in no other occupation that will give them so large an experience as will the colporteur work." Colporteur Evangelist, pp. 83, 84.

"Let those who have been in school go out into the field and put to practical use the knowledge they have gained. . . . Their talents will increase by exercise, and they will learn many practical lessons which they could not possibly learn in school. The education obtained in this practical way may properly be termed higher education." Colporteur Evangelist, p. 24; and,

WHEREAS, In practice throughout the long years of our publishing activities under the guidance of this instruction it has been demonstrated that the literature ministry is a valuable adjunct to regular college training in theology in preparing our ministers for successful service; therefore,

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We recommend, That our colleges in North America give recognition to this fact by approving this activity as supplementary to the Theological curriculum, and further, that they suggest a minimum of 400 hours as desirable in this supplemental training.

A series of recommendations from the Publishing Convention which was held just prior to this Spring Meeting, was presented and after being amended was adopted as follows:

LITERATURE FOR WORLD NEEDS:

WHEREAS, The tragedy of world events and the rapidly fulfilling prophecies of God's word, emphasize anew that the end of all things earthly is near at hand; and,

WHEREAS, These happenings have created a spirit of earnest inquiry in the hearts of the people as to the meaning of these solemn and tragic events; and,

WHEREAS, These conditions demand that in the publishing work our first emphasis be placed on message-filled, Biblical literature, thus fulfilling our obligation to preach the message with a loud voice; and,

WHEREAS, The books of the Spirit of prophecy are designed to meet the sophistries and delusions of these serious times; therefore,

We recommend, That all our fields in North America seek to expand the sale of our doctrinal books, giving first place to the works of Mrs. E.G. White and the book, Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation; and,

We further recommend, That our health literature be not neglected, but that care be exercised to maintain a well-balanced program, suggesting as a distribution standard the ratio of one third medical to two thirds religious books.

BOOK AND BIBLE HOUSE LEADERSHIP:

WHEREAS, Our more than fifty Book and Bible Houses in North America are conducting a literature business which now approximates three million dollars a year and is still capable of great expansion if the work is fostered under wise counsel and leadership; therefore,

We recommend, That the General Conference Session of 1945 give sympathetic study to the appointment of an associate secretary of the General Conference Publishing Department, whose particular duty shall be to foster the work of our Book and Bible Houses.

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THE COLPORTEUR AND SUSTENTATION:

WHEREAS, Under General Conference policies our "regular" colporteurs are made eligible for sustentation benefits; and,

WHEREAS, The records of the past are often quite inadequate to establish satisfactorily a colporteur's service period and thus his eligibility is called in question; therefore,

We recommend, That our field missionary secretaries endeavor to build up and place on record the information necessary to support the claim for sustentation of any present or past colporteurs who may reside and work in their territory, this information when prepared to be certified by the field missionary secretary, the Book and Bible House Secretary, and the conference president, and filed for future use should the occasion arise when it may be needed.

LICENSES AND CREDENTIALS:

We recommend, 1. That we reaffirm our practice that new recruits to the colporteur ministry be given an authorization card which shall be the only paper issued during the first three months of service in the colporteur work.

2. That should this training and proving period give evidence of success and faithfulness, a colporteur license be issued.

3. That after twelve months of satisfactory service colporteur credentials be issued.

4. That a student leaving school and desiring to enter upon full-time colporteur work, who has already served three months or more in the colporteur work during his educational course, may be issued a colporteur license immediately, without requiring further probationary service.

5. That all colporteur credentials be renewed in January of each year, and be recognized and announced at regular conference sessions.

FIELD MISSIONARY SECRETARY OFFICE SUPPLIES:

WHEREAS, The field missionary secretary is employed by the conference for the promotion of the colporteur work; therefore,

We recommend, That the conference furnish all office supplies used by the field missionary secretary, and meet the expenses incidental to his work.

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C.O.D. THREE-PAYMENT PLAN:

WHEREAS, It is recognized that the easy-payment plan does not lend itself satisfactorily to the needs of workers laboring in sparsely settled districts, because of transportation problems and the time and labor required in making collections; therefore,

We recommend, That the General Conference Publishing Department inaugurate a C.O.D. payment plan to operate in sparsely settled districts on the following basis:

1. The colporteur shall work under contract with the Book and Bible House.

2. All collections, whether made personally, C.O.D., or remitted by mail, shall be forwarded to the Book and Bible House and shall be credited to the account of the colporteur making the sale.

3. A drawing account amounting to 40% of all collections which are remitted to the Book and Bible House, shall be made available to the colporteur, the remittance to be made weekly by the Book and Bible House.

4. All books delivered C.O.D. through the post office shall be sent out from the Book and Bible House.

5. Any credit balance due the colporteur in excess of \$100.00 may be drawn by the colporteur at the end of each month at his discretion.

6. The Publishing Department shall furnish the blanks necessary for this method of selling.

MAGAZINE WORK:

WHEREAS, Our magazines, by their frequent and repeated visits to the homes of subscribers, fill a definite and unique place in the promotion of our teachings through the printed page; and,

WHEREAS, Recent experience has demonstrated the possibility of a great expansion of our literature program through this agency; therefore,

We recommend, That increasing emphasis be placed upon the value and benefits of the sale of our magazines in our colporteur ministry:

1. By training colporteurs to combine a magazine subscription with every order.

2. By selecting and training colporteurs to work for long-term subscriptions with such of our magazines as are adapted to this type of selling.

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3. By adopting as a desirable objective a circulation of magazines equal to 30% of the total colporteur sales.

THE COMBINATION PLAN:

WHEREAS, Combination selling of our books and magazines has been proved successful and is becoming quite general throughout the field; therefore,

We recommend, That all our field missionary secretaries or associates and their assistants bear responsibility for the promotion of magazines as well as books.

TITLE OF DEPARTMENT LEADERS:

WHEREAS, In all other departments of the work, the title of the department secretaries, from the General Conference down to the local conferences, remains the same and defines the nature of the work assigned to the individual; and,

WHEREAS, The term "Field Missionary Secretary" as now applied to the Publishing Department leader in both union and local conferences does not define in any way the specific nature of the work of the Publishing Department; therefore,

We recommend, That the designation "Publishing Department Secretary" be substituted for "Field Missionary Secretary," as now being used.

TITLE OF BOOK AND BIBLE HOUSE LEADERS:

We recommend, That the term "Manager" be applied to those in charge of our Book and Bible Houses.

REPORTING DESIGNATIONS:

We recommend, 1. That in the interest of uniformity in reporting, and to avoid confusion and misunderstanding, our colporteurs be designated in our reports as (a) Easy Payment Colporteurs, and (b) C.O.D. Colporteurs, thus eliminating the term "Regular" to designate the C.O.D. worker as heretofore.

2. That in reporting colporteur business, we use the terms "orders" and "deliveries" and discard the use of the word "sales" as heretofore used to designate orders.

3. That in computing the total number of colporteurs, only the names of those who work 40 or more hours per month shall be included in the monthly report. All reported hours less than 40 a month shall be totaled and divided by 40 and the resulting figure shall be added in computing the number of colporteurs.

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EDUCATIONAL:

WHEREAS, Our subscription book business is an effective means of bringing vital spiritual truths to the favorable attention of men and women in the higher walks of life; and,

WHEREAS, The colporteur who would do justice to the sacred truths he represents and the cultured people he is frequently dealing with, needs to be growing intellectually day by day; therefore,

Resolved, That we encourage our colporteurs to form the daily study habit, especially commending to their favorable consideration the courses in Salesmanship, Better English, Personal Evangelism, and Public Speaking, which are offered by the Home Study Institute.

POOLING EXPENSE OF PUBLISHING CONVENTION:

VOTED, That we approve of the following arrangements for pooling certain expenses of the delegates who attended the Publishing Convention:

That the expense included in the pool be, transportation by rail to and from Chicago, and hotel room for the actual period up to but not exceeding seven days.

That the following delegates constitute those whose expense shall be pooled:

1. Union Publishing Department secretaries and assistants.
2. Local Publishing Department secretaries and assistants.
3. Magazine leaders.
4. Book and Bible House managers and assistants.

The worker shall report to his conference in the regular way. The expense involved shall then be reported to the General Conference Publishing Department, which shall allocate the total expense over the entire field on an equal basis per delegate, and the General Conference Treasury shall make the necessary settlement with all organizations.

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The expense shall be equally divided between publishing houses and conferences, and the publishing houses shall pay one dollar per day for living expenses for each delegate included in the pool for a period not exceeding seven days.

Adjourned at 9:15 P.M., with the closing prayer by L.L.Moffitt.

W.H.Branson, Chairman.
E.D.Dick, Secretary.
E.Zeidler, Recording Secretary.

FOUR HUNDRED SECOND MEETING
GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

April 13, 1944, 9:35 A.M.

In the devotional hour Thursday morning, April 13, L.H.Christian spoke on "The Great Lesson of the Book of Deuteronomy." We have said much about the younger generation of Judges 2:10 that failed, he said. We need to study the younger generation that succeeded, as recorded in Deut. 1:39: "Moreover your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, and your children, which in that day had no knowledge between good and evil, they shall go in thither, and unto them will I give it, and they shall possess it." It is well to note the lessons to be learned from the exodus, but we also need to study the preparation made by Israel to enter Canaan. The great thing that gave God's people faith and power to cross the Jordan and possess the promised land, was Deuteronomy. The word means "the second law," that is, the law repeated.

In like manner the Advent message of Revelation 14 is to be repeated as in Revelation 18. The Spirit of prophecy says, "'Repeat the message, repeat the message' were the words spoken to me over and over again." Vol.9, p. 98. In the Review and Herald of April 19, 1906, we are told: "The messages that have been given in the past are to be revived." "Wake up the watchmen. Let everyone now come into working order." "Study the Word of God. Revive the evidences given in the past." The only sure way to revive the church is to revive the message. The best preparation for the task and struggle that is ahead of us is to "repeat the message" as a living hope and power in our lives and teaching.

Opportunity was given at the close of the study for testimonies, and a goodly number responded.

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Before entering upon the business of the forenoon session, prayer was offered by M.V. Campbell.

ATTENDANCE AT AUTUMN COUNCIL:

VOTED, That the local conference presidents, the colored union secretaries, the union treasurers and auditors, and the college presidents, be invited to attend the Autumn Council, which is scheduled for October 17-25, 1944.

RIVERSIDE SANITARIUM:

The committee appointed to study matters pertaining to the Riverside Sanitarium submitted the following report, which was adopted:

After consideration of the summary of the report made by a survey commission November 23, 1942, and after considerable discussion relative to the recent improvement in patronage at the Riverside Sanitarium,

We recommend, 1. That the Riverside Sanitarium be continued in its present location.

2. That immediate steps be taken to provide an adequate and satisfactory water supply.

3. That plans be worked out between the Southern Union Conference and the General Conference for the financing of the necessary buildings and equipment to meet the needs of the medical work in this location, and that steps be taken to erect a sanitarium building and provide other necessary equipment during this year.

4. That a committee be appointed to prepare plans for the inauguration of a school of nursing in connection with the proposed development of the Riverside Sanitarium.

SPECIAL DAYS AND OFFERINGS FOR 1945:

The Committee on the Calendar of Special Days and Offerings for 1945 submitted their report, which was adopted as follows:

Special Days for 1945 For which Programs are Provided

January 6	Home Missionary Day
January 27	Religious Liberty Day
February 3	Dorcas Day ~
March 3	Home-Foreign Day
March 17-24	Missionary Volunteer Day (March 17) and Week of Prayer

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April 7	Ingathering Day
April 21	Christian Home Day
May 5	Medical Missionary Day
June 2	Home Missionary Day
July 7	Home Missionary Day
July 21	Educational Day
August 4	Home Missionary Day
September 1	Home Missionary Day
September 15	Temperance Day
September 22	Sabbath School Rally Day
October 6	Colporteur Rally Day
October 13	Voice of Prophecy Day
November 3	Home Missionary Day
November 17-24	Week of Prayer and Sacrifice
December 1	Home Missionary Day

Dates of Campaigns in 1945

January 6-31	<u>Liberty Magazine Campaign</u>
February 24-March 3	<u>Signs of the Times Campaign</u>
April 7-May 19	<u>Official Ingathering Campaign</u>
September 1-8	<u>Missions Extension and Big Week</u>
October 20-27	<u>Watchman Magazine and Message</u>
	<u>Magazine Campaigns</u>
November 1-30	<u>Review and Herald Campaign</u>

Dates of Special Offerings in 1945

January 13	Second Sabbath Mission Offering
January 27	Religious Liberty Offering
February 10	Second Sabbath Mission Offering
March 10	Second Sabbath Mission Offering (Riverside Sanitarium Offering in the Colored Churches)
April 14	Second Sabbath Mission Offering
April 21	Elementary Schools Offering
May 12	Second Sabbath Mission Offering
June 9	Second Sabbath Mission Offering
July 14	Second Sabbath Mission Offering
July 21	Midsummer Offering for Missions
August 11	Second Sabbath Mission Offering
September 8	Missions Extension Offering
October 13	Voice of Prophecy Offering
November 10	Second Sabbath Mission Offering
November 24	Week of Prayer and Sacrifice Offering

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missions
Reconstruction
Fund*

Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings in 1945

March 31	Inter-American Division
June 30	General Conference Missions
September 29	Southern Asia Division
December 29	South American Division

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LA SIERRA COLLEGE--SENIOR COLLEGE STATUS:

Request was presented by the President of the Pacific Union Conference as coming from the union committee and the board of La Sierra College, that the college, which some years ago was authorized to offer fifteen grades of work, be now raised to full senior college status, and become a union conference institution. Statement was made that the Pacific Union Conference, with its constituency, its enrollment of pupils in its elementary schools and academies, and its favorable financial situation, is well able to support two senior colleges.

VOTED, That La Sierra College be authorized to offer sixteen grades of work, and to apply to the Accrediting Association for full senior college status, with the understanding that La Sierra College and Pacific Union College will be operated by the same board.

SOUTHERN JUNIOR COLLEGE--SENIOR COLLEGE STATUS:

E.F.Hackman, President of the Southern Union Conference, presented a request from the union committee and the board of Southern Junior College, that the college be advanced to senior college status. He outlines reasons why the college should be fully qualified to train workers for the southern field, rather than that they should be under the necessity of going to other schools for their last two years of college work. He explained that the union is able to give the increased subsidy for a senior college, and referred to plans for erecting buildings and supplying the increased facilities that will be necessary.

VOTED, That Southern Junior College be authorized to advance to the rank of a senior college, it being understood that they will offer fifteen grades of work beginning with the summer school in June, and sixteen grades at the beginning of the 1944-45 school year.

CALLS FOR TRANSFERS OF WORKERS:

A committee on Calls for Transfers of Workers, called for by an action taken by the Executive Committee in a meeting held April 12, was announced as follows:

J.L.McElhany, W.H.Branson, W.G.Turner, E.D.Dick, W.E. Nelson, H.T.Elliott, the union conference presidents, G.E.Peters, W.A.Nelson, C.A.Scriven, F.A.Mote, J.L.McConaughy, J.D.Smith, S.E.Wight, F.O.Sanders, H.J.Detwiler, D.A.Ochs, A.E.Millner, G.W.Bowers, F.Griggs, I.J.Woodman.

VOTED, That the following items on the Agenda be referred also to the above committee:

Discontinuing Service of Experienced Workers.

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Tenure of Leading Workers in Medical Institutions.

Calls for Students While Attending the Seminary.

VOTED, That the following items on the Agenda be referred to the next Autumn Council:

Sustentation Policy re Subsidiary Sustentation Allowance.

Sustentation Items.

ASSUMING SUPPORT OF MISSIONARY APPOINTEES:

Attention was called to the difficulties being experienced at the present time in finalizing the arrangements for missionary appointees to sail for their appointed fields, and the complications resulting with reference to the time when such appointees should be released by their employing organizations, and the time when the General Conference should assume their support. It was

VOTED, That a committee be appointed to give this matter consideration and report.

Committee appointed: W.E.Nelson, E.D.Dick, M.L.Rice, N.C.Wilson, J.J.Nethery, W.A.Nelson, G.E.Belleau.

HONORARY MISSIONARY CREDENTIALS:

Suggestion was made that while a minister who has spent years in service is, on retirement, issued an honorary ministerial credential, the experienced worker of long years of service in other lines than the ministry, receives no recognition of such service. It was

VOTED, That we authorize the issuance of honorary missionary credentials on retirement, to the experienced workers who are not qualified to receive honorary ministerial credentials.

CALENDAR REFORM AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY ISSUES:

H.H.Votaw and W.H.Hackett called attention to the renewed agitation on the Calendar Reform issue, and to the Sunday Bill and the Mail Censorship Bill which are before Congress, and stressed the importance of our people being informed concerning these issues, and the importance of their petitioning their representatives in Congress concerning them.

VOTED, That a committee be appointed by the Chair to give consideration to the matters presented, with a view to making recommendation as to how we may intelligently proceed in meeting these issues.

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Committee appointed: H.H.Votaw, chairman; C.B.Haynes, C.S.Longacre, B.G.Wilkinson, W.H.Hackett, Roger Altman, R.L. Benton, J.R.Ferren, L.K.Dickson.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO MISSIONARY APPOINTEES:

A committee that was appointed following the last Autumn Council, to give study to the outfitting allowance, and allowances on indebtedness of missionary appointees, submitted a report, which was amended and adopted as follows:

We recommend, That the policy providing for financial assistance to missionary appointees and other allowances now appearing in the General Conference Working Policy, pages 113 to 118, be revised to read as follows:

Pages 113 and 114, "Financial Assistance to Missionary Appointees"

2. In special cases arrangements may be made to help those who have indebtedness exceeding \$250.
3. The maximum amount by which any one appointees shall benefit shall be \$500. One fourth the amount appropriated shall be applied on the missionary's indebtedness each year for the first four years of service. The General Conference Committee is given discretionary powers in administering this policy to permit an appointee to go forward with an indebtedness of up to \$500, when the circumstances of the appointee and the urgency of the need for his services make this seem desirable.
4. It is also provided that an arrangement may be entered into with chosen prospective medical missionary appointees who are about to begin their junior year in the study of medicine whereby the appointee shall sign a definite contract with the General Conference, according to which he shall be placed under provisional appointment to the mission field, and shall be afforded assistance on the cost of his medical education during his junior and senior years by an advance at the rate of \$500 per year, and \$250 for his intern year, the \$1,250 thus advanced to be retired by the General Conference at the rate of \$250 per year during the first five years of the appointee's service in the mission field. If for any reason the appointee under contract does not enter upon mission service following internship, or withdraws from the contract before five years of service have been fulfilled, the loans thus made to him, or the amount due at the time of withdrawal shall become payable and be repaid to the General Conference at the rate of not less than \$250 per year.
 - a. Such appointees may be permitted to proceed to the field with an indebtedness not exceeding \$500 apart from deferred tuition notes which may have been signed with the Medical College.

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b. These prospective medical missionaries shall be recommended to the General Conference Committee for provisional appointment by the Appointees' Committee and shall be afforded financial assistance according to the policy outlined above.

Page 115, "Freight Insurance and Customs Charges," following Section 3:

3-a. In cases where appointees elect to take to the mission field less than the allowances provided for above, division committees shall compensate the appointee in cash up to the amount of the saving effected, it being understood that the amount paid for transportation of the goods taken and the allowance made in lieu of freight shall not be in excess of what the cost would have been had the maximum amount of freight been taken to the field by the missionary according to the policy.

Page 116, "Outfitting Allowances:"

In addition to paying the charges covered in the preceding paragraphs, an allowance is made to missionary appointees for the purpose of assisting them in purchasing new goods, paying excess railway and ocean freight, parcels post or express charges and any other expenses of that character.

Outfitting allowances to all fields are as follows:

Single workers, full term of service	\$180	(was \$150)
Less than full term	120	(was \$100)
Families without dependent children	\$360	(was \$300)
With children, for each dependent child	\$ 40	(was \$ 25, (with \$50 for (two or more)

Divisions appointing missionaries to serve within their own territories will adapt their policies in harmony with the general provisions of the above policy to care for such cases.

Page 117, "Medical Outfit:"

When passing to the General Conference calls for physicians, the division making the call shall at the same time give definite information as to whether medical equipment, medicines, books, and instruments should be secured by the appointee and the division shall specify what purchases are to be made, quantities of the various supplies, and the amount of money authorized for this purpose. This medical outfit shall belong to the mission field to which the appointee goes, and is to be inventoried as mission property. On the transfer of the medical missionary from one station to another, the disposition of the medical outfit shall be determined by the committee in the field.

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ASSISTANCE FOR GRADUATE DOCTORS:

In connection with the adoption of the foregoing report, suggestion was made that some plan similar to the plan for rendering financial assistance to medical missionary appointees in their junior and senior years of the study of medicine, be devised for helping graduate doctors who are willing to accept appointment to the mission field, but are prevented from doing so because of heavy indebtedness incurred in securing their medical education.

VOTED, That this suggestion be referred to the Minority Committee for study and possible action.

Adjourned to 9:35 Friday morning, with the closing prayer by E.E.Andross.

J.F.Wright, Chairman.
E.D.Dick, Secretary.
E.Zeidler, Recording Secretary.

FOUR HUNDRED THIRD MEETING

GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

April 14, 1944, 9:35 A.M.

In the devotional hour Friday morning, April 14, L.K. Dickson, president of the Pacific Union Conference, read as his text Matt. 9:36-38: "But when He saw the multitudes He was moved with compassion on them because they fainted and were scattered abroad as sheep having no shepherd. Then said He to His disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous but the laborers are few. Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth laborers into His harvest." He then told of the new vision he received of the great needs of the mission fields, as in response to an invitation from the General Conference had recently made a visit to the South American Division. He was impressed with the vastness of the field, and the comparatively few workers and meager means and facilities for compassing the needs. He felt that as yet we are only touching South America with the tips of our fingers. He spoke of the many large cities in which little has been done in the way of city evangelism because of lack of men and means for carrying on such a program. Tribute was paid to the workers in the field, whose self-sacrificing service is being greatly blessed, for the work is onward. The colporteur work in the Southern Continent, as in North America, is meeting with remarkable success. The work among the Indians of Peru, and on the Amazon in Brazil is outstanding.

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"It seemed to me," said Elder Dickson, "that as I traveled through that country, I saw unmistakable signs everywhere that God is stretching forth His hand to do a great and final work. Many of the barriers that confronted our earlier missionaries are gone. This is the time of opportunity. Everywhere there is an open door. The fields are ripe just now in a very definite way for the harvest. But there are at the same time omens that these opportunities may be snatched away very suddenly." "I believe," he said in closing, "that this enterprise we have entered upon, not only in South America but in all the world calls for a mightier faith than we have been exercising. I believe we must expand the borders of our work, and come to the help of the men who are holding the fort in many places. I believe if we step out by faith and lay larger plans, our people here in the homeland will respond to the call for more workers and more means, and we shall see not only new inspiration coming into our work, but we shall see the outpouring of God's Spirit."

After prayer by David Voth, at the beginning of the business part of the forenoon session, L.H.Christian, the chairman, read the following from Volume 9 of the Testimonies, p.274: "If the remnant people of God will walk before Him in humility and faith, He will carry out through them His eternal purpose, enabling them to work harmoniously in giving to the world the truth as it is in Jesus. Through the faith that His people exercise in Him, God will make known to the world that He is the true God."

SUPPORT OF MISSIONARY APPOINTEES:

The committee that was appointed to give consideration to the time when the General Conference should assume the support of missionary appointees under the present abnormal conditions that obtain, submitted a report, which was adopted as follows:

WHEREAS, Under normal conditions, foreign travel arrangements were easily made and passports, permits, and visas readily obtainable; and,

WHEREAS, Our policy based on these normal conditions provided that the General Conference begin to pay the salary of the missionary appointee one month before leaving the homeland; and,

WHEREAS, Under the present abnormal conditions, when travel arrangements are difficult, uncertain, and protracted, to the extent that the employing organization finds difficulty in using the appointee profitably or with certainty; therefore,

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We recommend, 1. That while the appointee shall continue under the direction of the employing organization, the General Conference shall meet half the salary from the time of clearance by the Appointees' Committee in the case of women, and from the time of draft board release in the case of men, until one month before actual departure, when the General Conference shall assume full support.

2. That where because of special difficulties the period of preparation is extended to six months from the time specified in paragraph 1, the case shall be reviewed and the appointment canceled unless it appears that there is definite prospect of early departure.

ITEMS REFERRED:

The Secretary stated that during the present council requests have been presented for the consideration of the following items:

1. The offering of literary work in connection with the College of Medical Evangelists.
2. Advancing the level of offerings of work given in our Canadian schools.
3. The offering of graduate work by certain of our senior colleges.

Since each of these items is such as to require wide counsel, the following recommendations from the General Conference officers concerning them were adopted:

We recommend, 1. That the Executive Committee be authorized to appoint a commission to give these matters careful study, and report to the next Autumn Council.

2. That senior colleges now offering graduate work be counseled not to offer graduate work beyond what is being offered this present school year; and that they be counseled further against offering any graduate work in Bible until the whole question of graduate work can be unitedly agreed upon.

CALLING AND TRANSFERRING WORKERS:

The Committee on Calling and Transferring Workers submitted a report, which being amended was adopted as follows:

We recommend, 1. That paragraph 4 in the General Conference Working Policy, in the section entitled, "Calling and Transferring Workers," and the subsection entitled, "Procedure in Calling Workers for Overseas Service," 1942 edition, pages 78 and 79, be revised to read as follows:

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"4. No call to a worker employed in a conference or institution is to go to the worker direct. Letters of call for workers shall be sent by the secretary of the General Conference to the union conference president with copy of the covering letter being also sent to the local conference president, or head of union institution. The union conference president shall send the letter of call for the worker to the local conference president or head of union institution to pass on to the worker, together with such counsel respecting the call as he may desire. It is understood that the letter to the candidate should reach his hands in every case, but that it be the privilege of a union or local conference president or head of an institution to pass on counsel respecting the call to the candidate at the time the letter is handed to him."

We recommend, 2. That paragraphs 2 and 3 in the General Conference Working Policy, in the section entitled, "Calling and Transferring Workers," and the subsection entitled, "Method of Calling and Transferring Laborers Within Division Fields," 1942 edition, pages 80 and 81, be revised to read as follows:

"2. Men in responsible positions shall be free to make inquiry from officers of institutions or organizations employing workers for whose services they are thinking of asking, for the purpose of counsel as to the suitability of such persons for the work in mind, and to ascertain whether or not their release could be arranged; but in no case shall inquiries be made, either directly or indirectly, to the individual worker, unless permission for such inquiry has been granted by the chairman of the board or the president of the conference in which conference or institution the worker is employed.

"3. Calls for individuals desired may be made in the regular way, as follows:

a. Within a union conference, interchange of laborers between local conferences or institutions shall be made through the union conference.

b. The union conference desiring a worker from a sister union shall request the General Conference or division committee to secure the release of such worker.

c. The General Conference or division committee before passing on a call by definite action, shall make inquiry, if it seems necessary, of the union and local conference or institution from which a worker is desired, as to qualification of the worker and the propriety of the transfer, and shall exercise its discretion as to whether or not the call shall be passed on.

d. In no case shall the call be made to the individual, but through the union and local conference or institution in which he is laboring. The letter of call for the

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worker shall be sent by the secretary of the General Conference to the union conference president with copy of the covering letter being also sent to the local conference president or head of union institution. The union conference president shall send the letter of call for the worker to the local conference president or head of union institution, together with such counsel respecting the call as he may desire to pass on to the worker. If and when the letter of call has been placed in the hands of the worker, his local conference president shall write to the president of the calling conference or institution giving the information that the worker has received the call. After such word has been received the officers of the calling conference or institution shall be privileged to correspond, or otherwise make contact, with the worker.

e. In all negotiations regarding the securing and transfer of laborers, we should exercise an unselfish and broad-minded spirit, and after the General or division committees have passed on the call, should see to it that the call reaches the worker desired, in order that he may become a factor in the decision affecting his own work. It is understood, however, that if in the judgment of the union or local leaders, the worker is not qualified for the work to be done, or cannot possibly be spared, the passing on of the call shall be deferred until correspondence can be had with the General Conference Secretarial Office.

f. Clear evidence of irregular approach to a worker before the call reaches him in the regular way, shall be considered by the General Conference Committee, a justifiable reason for declining to pass on the call.

g. It is to be understood that these regulations governing transfers among organizations in no wise preclude the right of the individual worker to make known his desire or burden to arrange a change of field."

We recommend, 3. That the Executive Committee be asked to arrange for editing the entire section of the Working Policy entitled, "Calling and Transferring Workers," with a view to including in the subsection entitled, "Methods of Calling Laborers Within Division Fields," such portions of the subsection entitled "Procedure in Calling Workers for Overseas Service," as are applicable.

We recommend, 4. That the Secretarial Department of the General Conference give study to the feasibility of a post-card system of passing on calls, somewhat after the system for transfer of church members, and report to the Autumn Council.

DISCONTINUING SERVICE OF EXPERIENCED WORKERS:

We recommend, That the matter of discontinuing service of experienced workers, and the dropping of successful institutional workers from employment be referred for study to a com-

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mittee to be appointed by the Executive Committee, to make report to the Autumn Council.

**CALLS FOR WORKERS WHO HAVE BEEN
STUDENTS AT THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY:**

We recommend, That where a worker who has attended the Theological Seminary is called within a year after the conclusion of such attendance, except in case of appointment to foreign service, the calling conference or institution shall reimburse the employing conference or institution for the amount of the salary and expense incurred by the worker during attendance at the Theological Seminary.

TENURE OF OFFICE OF OFFICERS OF MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS:

We recommend, That the tenure of office for elective officers of medical institutions be the same as for the officers of union conferences.

DISTRIBUTION OF LABOR:

The following partial report from the Committee on Distribution of Labor was adopted:

We recommend, 1. That the Atlantic Union and the New York Conference be requested to release Miss Madge Gould, of Union Springs Academy, to connect with the Central California Conference as music teacher at Fresno Academy.

2. That the Loma Linda Sanitarium be requested to release Miss Ethel Walder to connect with Pacific Union College as instructor in nursing education.

3. That the Columbia Union and the Ohio Conference be requested to release R.G. Burchfield to connect with the Lake Union to serve as secretary-treasurer of the Wisconsin Conference.

4. That the Lake Union and the Illinois Conference be requested to release M.N. Skadsheim to connect with the North Pacific Union as pastor-evangelist in the Montana Conference.

5. That the Central Union be requested to release Fred W. Schnepfer to connect with the Pacific Union to serve as business manager of Pacific Union College.

6. That the Columbia Union and the West Pennsylvania Conference be requested to release J.C. Summer to connect with the Central Union to serve as manager of the Colorado Conference Book and Bible House.

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7. That the Pacific Union and the Southern California Conference be requested to release Earl Gregg to connect with the Central Union to serve in the Kansas Conference Book and Bible House, as manager.
8. That the Southwestern Union Conference and Southwestern Junior College be requested to release Miss Marie Anderson to connect with Union College as registrar.
9. That the Loma Linda Sanitarium be requested to release Miss Verdelle Ellis to connect with the North Pacific Union and the Alaska Mission as a nurse in the Seldovia Hospital.
10. That the Northern Union and the Iowa Conference be requested to release J.A. Tucker to connect with the Southern Union to serve as a member of the faculty of Southern Junior College.
11. That the Central Union and the Colorado Conference be requested to release Fred Gihlein to connect with the Columbia Union to serve in the German work in the New Jersey Conference.
12. That the Southern Union and the Carolina Conference be requested to release W.O. Reynolds to connect with the Columbia Union for district work in the New Jersey Conference.
13. That the Columbia Union and the Ohio Conference be requested to release J.M. Hoffman to connect with the Southern Union as Union evangelist.
14. That the Columbia Union and the Ohio Conference be requested to release Joseph Spicer to connect with the Atlantic Union for Slovakian work in the Greater New York Conference; and that the Atlantic Union and the Greater New York Conference be requested to release Ludwig Ninaj to connect with the Columbia Union for Slovakian work in the Ohio Conference.
15. That the Pacific Union and the Southeastern California Conference be requested to release Nathaniel Banks to connect with the Southwestern Union for pastoral-evangelistic work in the Texas Conference.
16. That the Northern Union and the Minnesota Conference be requested to release C.B. Caldwell to connect with the Lake Union as secretary-treasurer of the Indiana Conference.
17. That Dr. Winston Nethery be invited to connect with the China Division for medical service.
18. That request be made of the Loma Linda Sanitarium for the temporary services of Mrs. Esther Gardiner for a period of six weeks to conduct a course in Community Cooking and Nutrition at the Theological Seminary, beginning June 25, in connection with the Health Evangelism Course.

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19. That request be made of the Central Union Conference and Union College for the temporary services of Mrs. Loretta Jarnes to conduct a course in physiology and hygiene at the Theological Seminary, June 25-August 23, in connection with the Health Evangelism Course.

Adjourned to Sunday morning, with the closing prayer by M.V.Campbell.

L.H.Christian, Chairman.
E.D.Dick, Secretary.
E.Zeidler, Recording Secretary.

THE SABBATH SERVICES

The Sabbath services of the Council were a means of blessing and spiritual refreshing to those in attendance. Friday evening Elder L.L.Moffitt had charge of the vesper service, when a very uplifting hour was spent by delegates and members together. Brother Moffitt referred to an advertisement that had attracted attention recently, which read: "1944 - What are YOU going to do to make this victory year?" The emphasis was on the you. He suggested that this was an appropriate and challenging question for us as Seventh-day Adventists to ask ourselves, particularly at this time, when we call to mind what took place in the sanctuary in heaven in 1844 and remember that we are now living in the time of the Investigative Judgment. 1944, Elder Moffitt stated, was not only a centenary year with the advent movement but also a jubilee year in that it was in 1894 that the Solusi Mission, our first overseas mission, was established. He told of the earnest labors of pioneer brethren who had participated in the beginnings of the work in Africa and directed attention to the marvelous spread of the message since those early days. He suggested that the hour has come for the fulfillment of the assurance given in Romans 9:28: "He will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness; because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth." The time has come for the loud cry of the message. We may go forward in the assurance given by Jesus: "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

Much of the time in this service was given over to a testimony meeting, in which the majority of those present were able to participate, telling of their confidence in the message and of their reconsecration to the Lord for the finishing of the work.

Elders J.A.Stevens and L.L.Moffitt led out in the Sabbath school which convened at 9:30 Sabbath morning. This proved to be an hour of helpful and enjoyable Bible study. D.E.Rebok conducted the review. He mentioned that 2,000 years ago a Chinese sage had taught that if one would teach well a new unknown lesson, he must base his teaching on an old or well known story.. The great lesson of the 20th chapter of 1 Kings was "Know God and have eternal life, know God and have eternal life," the same truth which was enunciated centuries before by Job when he wrote, "Acquaint thou thyself with God and be at peace." When King Ahab in his extremity turned to God, the Lord heard him and sent him aid, but in spite of this the King disregarded God's command and in consequence was rejected by the Lord.

Elder M.L.Rice taught the lesson for the day, on Naboth's vineyard. King Ahab's undoing was the sin of coveteousness. Coveteousness is inherently wrong; it is sin not because God wrote a commandment against it. God wrote a commandment against it because it is sin. The sin of coveteousness endangers all men, the rich as well as the poor. Though Ahab possessed ten twelfths of the country over which he ruled, yet he coveted

Naboth's little vineyard. Naboth had good reasons for declining the King's request, but King Ahab was not content. Covetousness kills contentment in the heart and leads to added transgression. To His hearers, Jesus said, "Beware of coveteousness" and the Scriptures say that coveteousness "is idolatry." Applying the lesson in a practical way, Brother Rice reminded us that even workers and leaders in the cause of God are in danger of cherishing the spirit of coveteousness. Although resisting the temptation to covet money and wealth and material gain for ourselves, we may at the same time transgress the commandment by entertaining an inordinate desire to advance our own interests or the interests of our own institution or our own field. We may sin in this respect by even coveting in a selfish way success for our own plans and opinions. We must learn to look on the work as a whole, working together co-operatively with fellow laborers for the good of all its parts.

Jezebel was the one who incited Ahab to do wrong. Since he could not attain his end by fair means, she encouraged him to resort to foul methods. So today, we as workers in the cause, may fall into the error of employing or permitting others to do for us and for our plans and our objectives, what we ourselves would be ashamed to do openly. Jezebel brought religion into her deceitfulness and undoubtedly much is done today in the name of religion that is entirely contrary to its principles. Chapter 21, verse 18, of 1 Kings speaks of the vineyard that Ahab had taken and it is still called Naboth's vineyard. God sees things as they are and not as they are said to be. In yielding to a spirit of coveteousness, Ahab had sold himself to work evil, and in doing so he had caused Israel to sin. Workers and leaders in the cause are doubly responsible to do right and to follow right methods that thereby they may set a right example before the people.

During the Sabbath school hour, Elder Stevens spoke of the gradual growth of the membership of our Sabbath schools in the world field. The total membership at the close of the third quarter of 1943 was approximately 642,000, showing a gain of about 3,000 as compared with the same quarter of the previous year. The Sabbath school offerings for the year 1943 amounted to \$2,500,000 in North America, and it is likely that when all the returns for 1943 are in hand for all the world the Sabbath school offerings for that year will approximate the surprising sum of \$3,000,000. The Thirteenth Sabbath offering taken on Christmas Day, which was the last Sabbath of 1943, was nearly \$200,000. For the first two months of 1944, the offerings received were \$60,000 in advance of the amounts received for the same period of 1943. Two of every three new members baptized into the truth are first members of the Sabbath school. The Spirit of prophecy has stated that the supreme objective of the Sabbath school is the winning of souls.

The Sabbath morning preaching service was taken by Elder J.L. McElhany. In extending a welcome to our laymembers in his opening remarks, Elder McElhany stated that he desired to direct his message of the morning especially to leaders and workers, taking as his text Hebrews 10:35: "Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward." He emphasized the value of the message of the coming of the Lord as present truth. It is time, he said, to preach the second coming of Jesus with new fervor and with renewed power. Not only in our churches and in connection with our evangelistic efforts but also in our schools and colleges and indeed in the academies and church schools the blessed message of a soon-coming Saviour should be given a new emphasis lest our members be led almost imperceptibly and unconsciously perhaps to cast away their confidence in this fundamental tenet of the third angel's message.

Brother McElhany appealed earnestly to our leaders and workers in all departments of our work to unite in exalting the truth of the coming of the Lord.

(Brother McElhany's sermon will appear in an early number of the Review.)

The Sabbath afternoon hour was devoted to the consideration of aspects of our foreign missionary program, with Elder E.D. Dick in charge of the service. Elder O.A. Skau told of conditions and of the development of the work in the Southern Asia Division, from which he has recently returned; and Elder George Appel represented the millions living within the boundaries of the China Division. The sections of the world field from which these two brethren had come to us have in them about one half of the population of the whole world. While drawing attention to the great unfinished task in Southern Asia, Brother Skau said that he believed also that the Lord had set His hand to the finishing of the work in needy India. For instance, during the census period 1921-1931, the literacy in India showed a gain of only one per cent in the ten-year period. At that rate, it would have taken one thousand years for the population to become literate, but a change has taken place. According to the 1943 Indian Yearbook, the gain in literacy in the recent census period, 1931-1941, was not one per cent, but one hundred and one and a half. Such an increase in the rate of progress in this respect is phenomenal.

There is much unrest among the peoples of India today, but even this, Brother Skau believes, is being used of the Lord to prepare the people for the message of truth for these times. Seventy-one years ago, through the Spirit of prophecy, the following message came to the church: "God will move upon men in unimportant positions to declare the message of truth. Many such will be seen hastening hither and thither, constrained by the Spirit of God, to give light to those in darkness." This is exactly, said Brother Skau, what is taking place in India today. Many people from the lowly walks of life have manifested their interest in the truth by accepting it themselves and then devot-

ing their time and energies to bringing it to the attention of others.

As an example he told of a case of a mill owner, an intelligent and talented man who by his life indicated that he was in business for the purpose of extending a knowledge of the message of truth to those about him. He would establish a mill in a certain section and after setting up the necessary machinery would train workers in the business of running the mill. When the mill was in readiness for operation, he would sound each morning a bugle call so that the people of the district would know to bring their grain in baskets to be ground. After the people had assembled, he would before transacting business with them give them a short talk concerning the message. Then, after praying with them, he would start the mill and go forward with the work of the day. This man's workers invariably became Seventh-day Adventists. After a time, he sells out the mill to one or more of these Adventist workers and they continue the good work in that district while he moves to another, and establishes another mill, and so from place to place he goes doing a good work for the people of each community and at the same time giving them the message of truth. Speaking with Brother Skau, at one place where he met him and in answer to the question, What are you going to do now that you have established this mill in this place, he answered, "I am leaving the mill with these people, and am moving over into another section where there is a Hindu community of people who have never heard the story of Christ." Later, Brother Skau visited that section, and found in this new place that this humble mill owner had built a church with his own funds, and in that church there was awaiting the visiting minister a fine group of people. The little building was crowded to the doors.

There are others,--farmers, land owners, doctors, nurses, preachers,--who, yielded to the claims of the third angel's message, themselves become advocates of the truth and preachers of the message. The colporteur work is having good success in many parts of India, and the reports of what is being accomplished in the Ingathering and Sabbath school and other lines of endeavor are very encouraging. There is yet a great work to be done in India. As workers, however, we may be of good courage as we go forward in the work, remembering the unfailing promise of the Lord. We have been told by the servant of the Lord that the church on earth united with the church in heaven can accomplish all things.

There is not found in the Word of God any counsel to stand still, said Brother Appel, and as we review His providential leadings in the work in China during these trying years of inflation and disrupted communications, caused by the war, we have in faith used what little we have had and He has blessed far beyond our expectations. The medical work has grown so that there are eleven major institutions and many dispensaries and clinics. The medical institution in Chungking is paying

from \$50,000 to \$100,000 tithe and helping other mission projects. The young men and women who have gone out from our training school are Esthers and Daniels in this cause today. Ingathering funds are coming in beyond our fondest expectations. Subscriptions for the Signs of the Times had reached 46,000 in November. These papers are being printed on hand and foot power presses at our college at Dabao. Indication is that the baptisms for 1943 will be double the number for 1942. The tithe income is increasing in proportion to the living costs.

Even though the high cost of living has brought hardship to many of our believers, our people are faithful in returning to the Lord their tithes and offerings. As an illustration of this faithfulness, Brother Appel told the following experience. A very poor sister was ^{regular} member of the Sabbath school. Then for several weeks she did not come and the pastor and one of the church elders went to call on her. On leaving they took with them \$30.00 from the Poor Fund, as they felt sure she was in want. Upon hearing no response to their knocking, they opened the door but saw no one on the inside. There was very little furniture, a stove was there, but no fuel. On calling her by name, they heard in reply a weak voice calling them to the attic. On climbing the ladder they found her lying on the floor on a bed of rags. "Oh, I am so happy you have come, Pastor," she said, as she greeted them. "Yes, we have missed you for several Sabbaths and thinking you were in need of help, we have brought you \$30.00," the Pastor replied. "Oh, I am not so happy about that, though I do appreciate it, but I am especially glad because I have something that I want to give you." Then, reaching under her pillow, she drew out a small sack and handed it to the Pastor. It contained \$80.00 tithe which she had carefully saved for the Lord, but had been too sick to take to the chapel.

said Brother Appel,

The workers in China, are of good courage as they unitedly work for souls. Pray for the work in China.

FOUR HUNDRED FOURTH MEETING
GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

April 16, 1944, 9:35 A.M.

G.E. Peters, who led the devotion^{al} service Sunday morning, took for his text 2 Chron. 20:20: "Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper." Following are some of the thoughts presented, in Elder Peter's own words:

This text constitutes a most wonderful admonition for God's people today as we confront the enemy of souls and earnestly labor for a lost world. There are two ways of believing. When the Eunuch requested baptism, Philip said: "If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest." The other kind of belief is mentioned in James 2:19: "The devils also believe and tremble." The belief with all the heart leads to action. The other kind of belief ends in trembling. Those who believe the Lord will not be shaken as a reed in the wind. They are established.

Believe in the Lord that He has power to keep us from falling (Jude 24). Believe that He is able to keep that which we have committed unto Him against that day (2 Tim. 1:12). That He is able to present us faultless before the presence of His glory (Jude 24). Believe in the Lord,--that He is able to finish the work in peace or in war. Believe that He is able to protect our loved ones in warn-torn areas.

"Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper." The Spirit of prophecy does not take the place of the Bible. It illuminates the Word. Satan can not intimidate or deter the individual who believes fully in the Spirit of prophecy. The Spirit of prophecy and the great Advent Message united in 1844. Since that time individuals, churches and conferences have received instruction from the Lord through that agency. Belief and acceptance of the instruction that has come to us in this way have brought success and prosperity in the work of this movement in all lands. "Believe in the Lord . . . so shall ye be established. Believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper." The work of this denomination has succeeded because we believe the Bible. It has prospered because we have believed and accepted the Spirit of prophecy.

As the business of the morning session was begun, attention was called to the seriousness of the situation that will confront our colleges, and particularly the medical college, as well as many of our boys, by the new ruling of Selective Service

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that there will be no more deferments of premedical and pre-dental students under twenty-six years of age, after July 1. Another serious situation was spoken of, with reference to the effect upon the work of our publishing houses, the Southern Publishing House being especially affected, by the further reduction in the paper that will be made available in 1944.

An earnest season of prayer was engaged in, asking God to overrule in these situations, if it could be according to His will, and remembering also our brethren in Europe, who are passing through difficult experiences, as related in letters just received.

EMPLOYMENT OF AGED PERSONS:

VOTED, That the item on the Agenda, Employment of Aged Persons, be referred to a committee, to report to the next Autumn Council.

DISTRIBUTION OF LABOR:

A further report from the Committee on Distribution of Labor was presented, and adopted as follows:

We recommend, 1. That the North Pacific Union Conference and Walla Walla College be requested to release Stanley Walker to connect with Pacific Union College as associate professor of music, teaching pipe organ.

2. That the Central Union and the Colorado Conference be requested to release Miss Carol Klooster to connect with Pacific Union College as instructor of piano.

3. That the Lake Union Conference and Emmanuel Missionary College be requested to release Mrs. Leona Burman to connect with Pacific Union College Preparatory School as instructor in English.

4. That the North Pacific Union Conference and Walla Walla College be requested to release John Bauer to connect with Pacific Union College as manager of the college store.

5. That the North Pacific Union Conference and Walla Walla College be requested to release Miss Alice Neilsen to connect with Pacific Union College as Normal Director.

6. That the Lake Union and the Michigan Conference be requested to release E.D. Brantley to connect with the Southern Union as assistant Publishing Department Secretary of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

7. That the Atlantic Union and the Southern New England Conference be requested to release J.A. Jarry, to connect with the Southern Union as Publishing Department Secretary of the Florida Conference.

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8. That the Central Union and the Colorado Conference be requested to release Jerry Pettis to connect with the Voice of Prophecy to serve as publicity director, announcer, and director of the Bible schools.

9. That the Columbia Union and the Ohio Conference be requested to release G.L. Stauffer to connect with the Southern Union as singing evangelist.

10. That the Northern Union and the South Dakota Conference be requested to release Miss Clara Roper to connect with the North Pacific Union and the Oregon Conference as preceptress at Laurelwood Academy.

11. That the Atlantic Union and the New York Conference be requested to release Lee Eusey to connect with the Northern Union and the Iowa Conference to serve as farm manager at Oak Park Academy.

12. That the Lake Union and the Illinois Conference be requested to release Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Conquest to connect with the Northern Union and the South Dakota Conference as preceptor and preceptress respectively, of Plainview Academy.

13. That the Pacific Union and the Southeastern California Conference be requested to release Leland Hesselstine to connect with the Canadian Union for evangelistic work in the British Columbia Conference.

14. That the Central Union and the Nebraska Conference be requested to release J.J. Williamson to connect with the Canadian Union for evangelistic work in the British Columbia Conference.

15. That the Lake Union and the Wisconsin Conference be requested to release P.M. Lewis to connect with the Central Union to serve as Publishing Department Secretary of the Missouri Conference.

16. That the Southwestern Union and Southwestern Junior College be requested to release Miss Esther Ambs to connect with Pacific Union College as head of the Home Economics Department.

17. That the Central Union Conference and Union College be requested to release H.A. Miller to connect with Pacific Union College as head of the music department.

18. That we request the Lake Union and the Illinois Conference to release F.E. Van Sickle, and that he be placed under appointment to serve as secretary-treasurer of the Caribbean Union Conference in the Inter-American Division.

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APPOINTMENTS AND ITINERARIES:

VOTED, That we approve of the following appointments and itineraries:

T.J.Michael, Commencement at Atlantic Union College, May 28.

N.F.Brewer, Meetings with churches in East Pennsylvania, April 29-May 14.

H.D.Casebeer, Spanish and Indian churches in Oklahoma, Arizona and Colorado, en route to and from the Rio Grande Spanish camp meeting, during June and July.

W.H.Teesdale, North Pacific Union, Pacific Union, and Spanish school in New Mexico, returning by way of Union College for Commencement May 21.

J.E.Weaver, College and educational board meeting, including Commencement at Southwestern Junior College, May 26-29.

R.G.Strickland, Baccalaureate sermon at Atlantic Union College, Sabbath, May 27.

R.A.Anderson, Evangelistic Council in Florida, in May, exact time to be arranged.

L.E.Froom, Dedication service at Atlantic Union College, May 19, while in Atlantic Union on other business.

W.P.Bradley, Youth's Congress, Philadelphia, June 3.

F.C.Carrier, Pacific Union, to assist in Temperance Campaign, the month of May.

D.E.Rebok, Commencement address, Southern Junior College, May 28.

L.H.Wood, Union College and Shelton Academy, in connection with another trip authorized.

CAMP PASTORS' INSTITUTES:

The committee that was appointed on the Camp Pastors' Institutes submitted the following report, which was adopted:

We recommend, 1. That the Camp Pastors' general institute already authorized, be held in Chicago, May 15-18, and that following this general institute the union conferences be urged, in place of the three regional Camp Pastors' institutes, to arrange for union institutes at convenient times and places as their needs require.

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2. That O.A. Skau, Everett N. Dick and J.A. Buckwalter be invited to the general Camp Pastors' Institute in Chicago.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER COUNCIL:

The Missionary Volunteer Department being desirous of having a council of their union Missionary Volunteer Secretaries, and inasmuch as these secretaries will be in attendance at the Camp Pastors' Institute, it was

VOTED, That we authorize the holding of a Missionary Volunteer Union Secretaries' Council, in Chicago, prior to the Camp Pastors' Institute.

CALENDAR REFORM AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY:

The Committee on Calendar Reform and other Religious Liberty items submitted their report, which was amended and adopted as follows:

WHEREAS, We see in the present developments taking place in the legislative halls of this and other countries, evidence that renewed efforts are being made to vitiate the teachings of God's word for this time; and,

WHEREAS, It is only by the most vigilant and earnest effort that we can hope under the blessing of God for continued freedom of worship and liberty to teach our message; and,

WHEREAS, The divinely established seven-day cycle has since creation been the method used by man in measuring time and in establishing the identity of His day of religious worship; and,

WHEREAS, Though there have been changes in the form of the calendar from time to time, the seven-day cycle has never been disturbed, and no days have been lost from the week; and,

WHEREAS, There is now being advocated a so-called world calendar which, because of the insertion of a blank day or days, will result in utter confusion of the divinely established weekly cycle and cause the day of rest regularly observed by all churches to wander from its original position, and will bring extreme inconvenience, embarrassment, and suffering to those who conscientiously observe a definite day of the week as the Sabbath; therefore,

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Resolved, That we respectfully request the President of the General Conference to petition the President and the Secretary of State of the United States to resist any proposal for a new world calendar containing provisions that will destroy the divinely established seven-day cycle through the institution of a blank day or days, should such a proposal be submitted at any time, or through any agency, to any international conference at which the United States is represented. And further,

We recommend, 1. That each local conference committee petition and the members of each church in the United States write individual letters to their respective Senators and Representatives in Congress to oppose any legislation which may be presented containing provisions for a change in the divinely established weekly cycle of the calendar, and that our local conferences and church members request their Senators and Representatives to vote against any proposal authorizing representatives of the United States at any international conference to present or speak in behalf of any calendar reform program which would change the divinely established weekly cycle.

2. That the General Conference apprise the world field of the dangers of this calendar reform evil and encourage our organizations abroad to lodge suitable protests with the proper authorities, against calendar changes which would disturb the identity of the days of the week.

3. That the Religious Liberty Department be instructed to prepare new and up-to-date literature on the history of the calendar, showing the evils of any calendar reform program which destroys the divinely established seven-day cycle established at creation, and that the widest possible circulation be given this literature throughout the United States, in order that our believers may be adequately informed and thoroughly equipped to discuss this matter intelligently with their fellow citizens.

4. That we seek to bring this matter to the attention of the leaders of all religious and civic bodies, endeavoring to enlist their support in opposing the proposed calendar changes.

5. That because of the issues now before us, and in view of legislation now pending, including the Barbers' Sunday Bill for the District of Columbia and the Mail Censorship Bill, as well as the calendar reform issue, the Religious Liberty Department be authorized to establish a comprehensive program to guide local churches in the exercise of their constitutional privilege of petitioning Congress on matters involving religious liberty.

6. That we most definitely urge upon our local conference committees the vital necessity for their earnest and diligent co-operation along religious liberty lines if we are to

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stem the present swelling tide of discriminatory legislation, since the efforts of the General department secretaries can obviously avail little without the enthusiastic and whole-hearted personal support of our entire constituency during these days of crisis.

AVOIDANCE OF POLITICAL CONTROWERSY:

The following recommendation, on Avoidance of Political Controversy was introduced, and adopted:

WHEREAS, We approve of every gospel worker and church member exercising his or her franchise as a citizen in voting for candidates for civil office, as personal judgment and sense of duty may indicate; nevertheless, we have received the following instruction penned by the Spirit of prophecy years ago at various periods, when there was a strong urge in the world to draw us to take sides in political contests:

"If anyone shall seek to draw workers into debate or controversy on political and other questions, take no heed to either persuasion or challenge. . . . 'Preach the word.' "--"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 6, p. 122.

"Those who teach the Bible in our churches and in our schools are not at liberty to unite in making apparent their prejudice for or against political men or measures, because, by so doing, they stir up the minds of others, leading each to advocate his favorite theory." "Division will be brought into the church." -- "Gospel Workers," p. 391.

"Christ calls upon His followers to come into unity on the pure gospel principles, which are plainly revealed in the word of God." "We cannot with safety take part in any political schemes." "You are not called upon by God to engage in politics. 'All ye are brethren,' Christ declares." "His people are to possess the elements of reconciliation. Is it their work to make enemies in the political world? --No, no. They are to stand as subjects of Christ's kingdom." "Do not take part in political strife." --"Fundamentals of Christian Education," pp. 475-483.

"There is in this excitement [a controversial political contest] just what separates those of the same faith." --"Testimonies to Ministers," p. 333.

We therefore recommend, That as gospel workers we bear in mind that our appointment and credentials call upon us to represent the church by bearing the gospel message of salvation to men. We cannot represent the church in agitating political

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differences and controversies, as the church has declared no position regarding policies by which men shall direct and administer political affairs. Our call is to "preach the word"--the gospel of Christ's salvation--to men of every shade of political affiliation. To all men of all persuasions, we are to confess with the apostle Paul: "We are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." 2. Cor. 5:20. As the ambassador of a country dares not mix personally into political affairs or controversies in the country to which he is sent, so we as ambassadors of the kingdom of heaven are to represent God's grace and love to every sinner, and dare not engage in the controversies that divide men with reference to political parties and policies where moral issues are not involved.

Adjourned to 1:30 P.M. Closing prayer by R.L.Benton.

W.G.Turner, Chairman.
E.D.Dick, Secretary.
E.Zeidler, Recording Secretary.

FOUR HUNDRED FIFTH MEETING
GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
April 16, 1944, 1:30 P.M.

"Just When I Need Him Most," was sung to open the meeting, and prayer was offered by M.L.Rice.

ANNUITIES AND TRUST AGREEMENTS:

The first item of business was a report from a committee on Annuities and Trust Agreements, which was adopted as follows:

WHEREAS, We believe that there are thousands of dollars not accruing to the benefit of the cause of God which might be made available through a more definite and uniform annuity policy; therefore

We recommend, 1. That annuity application forms, together with age-rate schedules and other promotion material, be provided by the General Conference Corporation to officers of local and union conferences and institutions.

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2. That these applications be filled out and signed by the applicant and countersigned by the officers of the local conference or local institution when the application originates there, and forwarded to the union conference to be countersigned by ^{one of} its officers, and then forwarded to the General Conference Corporation for the annuity bond to be issued. General institutions shall send applications direct to the General Conference Corporation.

3. That applicants be urged to agree that the residuum accrue to the benefit of the denomination without specification.

4. That the residuum so received be allocated on the following basis:

a. 60% to the local conference in which the annuitant maintained a permanent residence when the annuity was issued.

b. 10% to the union conference in which the annuitant maintained a permanent residence when the annuity was issued.

c. 30% to the General Conference Corporation.

d. In cases where the application originates with a local, union, or general institution, the institution receive the 60% of the residuum instead of the local conference.

5. That although we urge the applicant to follow the policy above enunciated of giving to the general fund, we recognize the right of the individual to specify the beneficiaries.

6. That the excess paid the annuitant above 2% per annum on the purchase price of the annuity be deducted before the distribution is made.

7. That the General Conference Corporation prepare age-rate schedules and other details in connection with the carrying out of this plan, which shall become operative immediately, and be subject to review at the time of the Autumn Council.

8. That organizations which in the future shall issue ~~trust agreements or annuities~~ be required to hold United States Government securities in an amount equal to these obligations, and that those institutions that have these outstanding at the present time be encouraged to comply as soon as possible.

9. That an active promotion campaign encouraging our people of advanced age to purchase annuities be launched through the Review and Herald and our union conference papers.

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10. That this plan be understood as applicable only in the United States of America.

ITEMS REFERRED:

The item on the Agenda, "Clarification of travel policy for Students while attending the Theological Seminary," was referred to the next Autumn Council.

The item, "Self-supporting Institutions in the Year Book," was referred to the General Conference officers and the union conference presidents, to report at the Autumn Council.

MILITARY CHAPLAINCIES:

Request had been received for a reconsideration of our former action on the question of our ministers applying for army chaplaincies, which action had declined to officially counsel or encourage our men to accept such commissions, leaving such decisions to individual conviction. On May 20, 1943, a rather extensive statement was adopted, setting forth the reasons for the position taken.

There was a full and free discussion of the whole question, during which it was brought out that some of our ministers who have had sincere convictions that they should go into the military services as chaplains, have refrained from applying for a chaplaincy, feeling that if they did so, on the basis of this statement in the action of May 20 they would be under denominational censure as having violated a principle of the denomination. It was

VOTED, To rescind that portion of the action of May 20, 1943, which sets forth the reasons for our attitude on the question of military chaplaincies, retaining only the statement of general policy, which read as follows:

"Voted, That in response to the request for counsel on the part of some of our ministers regarding applying for and accepting commissions as chaplains in the United States military services, and the request of the United States Army Chief of Chaplains for us to make immediate nomination of three of our men for such military commissions, we reaffirm our historical position on this matter, which is to the effect that we cannot as a religious body counsel or encourage our men to apply for or accept military commissions, but must leave such decisions to be made on the basis of individual convictions."

In view of the fact that a copy of the statement as contained in the action of May 20, 1943, was sent to all our ministers, it was

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VOTED, That a copy of this action just taken be sent to all our ministers in North America, in order that all may understand that no man is placed under denominational censure for following his individual convictions in this matter.

APPRECIATION:

The following resolution of appreciation was adopted:

Resolved, That we express our sincere appreciation to the management of the Stevens Hotel for the generous and pleasant appointments which they have made available to us for our public meetings and committees; and further

That we express to the staff of the Stevens Hotel, through the management, our united gratitude for the courteous and efficient service they have rendered to us during our stay here.

RESOLUTION OF GRATITUDE TO GOD:

The following resolution of gratitude to God was adopted by a standing vote:

Resolved, That we hereby express and record our deep and heartfelt gratitude to God for His overshadowing and protecting care, for His presence with us in our counsel meetings, and for His help and blessing as we have endeavored to solve the perplexing questions that have come before us.

The Spring Meeting adjourned sine die, with the benediction by H.L.Rudy.

J.L.McElhany, Chairman.
E.D.Dick, Secretary.
E.Zeidler, Recording Secretary.