

TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE:—

Your Committee on Organization Presents a Partial Report, Recommending,

1. That the perfecting of plans for the organization of District Union Conferences be carried forward as rapidly as possible during this session of the General Conference.

2. That the Delegates from each district appoint three of their number to act with the Committee on Organization in the framing of a Constitution and working plans.

3. That all questions regarding the change of district territorial lines be referred to the Committee on Constitutions and Plans.

4. That in the framing of the Constitutions and working plans, provisions be made for the use by the district organizations that are strong financially, of such parts of their income only, as are necessary for the administration of the District Union Conferences, and that the balance be forwarded to the General Conference for the maintenance of its administration, and to assist weaker conferences and missions.

Your Committee on the More Equal Distribution of Funds
Respectfully Submits the Following
Recommendations:—

1. We recommend to our Conferences, as far as they are able and consider that it would be a blessing to do so, to pay a second tithe to the general cause for its mission work.

2. We further recommend to such Conferences as are able and willing to do so, that they send a number of their laborers into the mission field and support them there, operating as far as consistent through the Boards having charge of the different fields to which the laborers are sent.

3. We recommend that, as far as consistent, the General Conference, the union Conferences, and the local Conferences agree beforehand with their tried and accredited laborers as to the salaries which shall be paid them, and that no portion of their wages be held back.

4. We recommend that our Conferences everywhere be urged to adopt and further develop *the Ten-Cent-a-Week Plan* for the support of our foreign work, as inaugurated by the Foreign Mission Board last year.

We recommend that all who especially labor in word and doctrine in our colleges and academies in the training of workers for the field, be supported from the tithe.

SIGNED.

I. H. EVANS.

W. C. WHITE.

L. R. CONRADI.

C. W. FLAIZ.

DR. J. C. OTTOSEN.

N. P. NELSON.

J. D. GOWELL.

R. A. UNDERWOOD.

P. T. MAGAN, Secretary.

GENERAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.

Ninth Meeting, April 9, 10:30 A.M.

ELDER O.A.OLSEN in the chair. After the opening hymn, Elder A.G.Haughey led in prayer.

The Chair: Several days ago a meeting of the Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association was called, and adjourned to this hour. Elder Irwin, the president of that Association, will now come forward.

G.A.Irwin: We are here ready to proceed with the Review and Herald stockholders' meeting, as adjourned the other day. It is a question in the minds of some, whether we are ready---whether some other business might not take precedence of this, and we allow this meeting to be adjourned to a ~~me~~ later day.

S.H.Lane: In view of the fact that there are several important matters which should receive attention by the General Conference as soon as possible, which will have an important bearing on the decisions reached by the stockholders, I move that the meeting of the stockholders of the Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association be adjourned to 10:30 a.m., April 16---one week from to-day.

This motion was seconded, and carried unanimously.

The Chair (O.A.Olsen): This opens the way for the General Conference to proceed with its work. We all acknowledge that the Lord is with us, and has been instructing and leading us day by day. While it may appear in some ways that we have not made very much headway, yet I think we have made excellent progress, and the Lord day by day is shedding more light on the way before us. I am very desirous that the good

Amendment: "That the delegates from the several General Conference Districts be asked to go forward in the perfecting of plans for the organization of District Union Conferences as rapidly as possible during this session of the General Conference."

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amended and adapted. see attached slips.
2. That the Delegates from each district appoint three of their number to act with the Committee on Organization in the framing of a Constitution and working plans.

adopted
3. That all questions regarding the change of district territorial lines be referred to the Committee on Constitutions and Plans.

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4. That in the framing of the Constitutions and working plans, provisions be made for the use by the district organizations that are strong financially, of such parts of their income only, as are necessary for the administration of the District Union Conferences, and that the balance be forwarded to the General Conference for the maintenance of its administration, and to assist weaker conferences and missions.

adopted

Additional Partial Report Com. on Organization.

1. That the General Conference Committee be composed of representative men connected with the different parts of the work in all parts of the world.

2. That the General Conference Committee as thus constituted should take the place of all the present boards and committees except in the case of the essential legal corporations.

3. That the General Conference Committee should be empowered to organize itself and to appoint all necessary agents and committees for the conduct of its work.

Spirit of the Lord may continue with us. Let us all be in earnest prayer to-day. Matters will be up before us in this meeting that will be of the ~~most~~ greatest importance to our future work, and we all desire that God shall lead in the decisions that shall be made.

The minutes of yesterday's proceedings are found on pp. 138--144 of this morning's BULLETIN (Extra No. 6). If corrections should be made, please notify the Secretary.

The ^{partial} report of the Committee of Organization, as rendered yesterday, has been printed on slips and distributed to the delegates. ~~Minutes~~
~~in my possession~~ It is also found on page 139 of the BULLETIN. What is your pleasure regarding this report? Insert full report

It was moved and seconded to adopt the report by the consideration of each item separately. This was a repetition of the motion made yesterday. The Secretary read the first recommendation, as follows:

~~"1. We recommend to our Conference, as far as they~~

"1. That the perfecting of plans for the organization of District Union Conferences be carried forward as rapidly as possible during this session of the General Conference."

Watson Ziegler: What effect will these Union Conferences have, if any, upon the present General Conference organization and the Foreign Mission Board? Will they exist as separate and distinct organizations from the Union Conferences?

The Chair: The chairman of the Committee will please explain.

W.C.White: If I refer to our Australasian Union Conference in answer to these questions, it is because an illustration can sometimes be made in fewer words and more effectively than an abstract explanation. I would therefore present the fact that in the working of the Australasian Union Conference, we recognize the General Conference and the Foreign

Mission Board, and our existence as a Union Conference ^{does} ~~did~~ not necessarily affect them in any of their organic conditions and relations.

J.W.Watt: Is it the mind of the Committee that these organizations be ~~made~~ perfected while here, by the delegates representing the various Conferences in the District; or will it call for a special meeting in the District to perfect the organization?

W.C.White: ~~Your Committee~~ thought this was a matter which should be left with the delegates from each District. Conditions are different. Our friends from the Southern States, after meeting and giving the matter full consideration, were unanimous in belief that it was for the best interests of the cause in the South that they should complete their organization here. The delegates from District No. 6, in considering the same question, thought it would be for the best interests of their work to lay the framework here, publish that plan and send it to the brethren in their District, and then arrange for a District Conference to be held within a few weeks after the close of this Conference. So far as your Committee are concerned, ~~we~~ we thought representatives from each District could decide this matter better after counsel among themselves.

M.Mackintosh: Does the Australasian Union Conference send a tithe of their tithe to the General Conference?

W.C.White: Yes, sir.

J.H.Morrison: Will the District delegates themselves carry forward this work of organizing into Union Conferences?

The Chair: Each District delegation is to plan, arrange, and decide as they choose.

J.H.Morrison: The way this first recommendation reads does not seem to me to be very clear; ~~for it might be taken to mean either of two things, -- that the General Conference as a body is to do this work, or~~ first,

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G.C.P. --39--40--

~~second, the delegates of the District are to do the work themselves.~~ I would therefore offer the following as an amendment to the first recommendation: "That the delegates from the several General Conference Districts be asked to go forward in the perfecting of plans for the organization of District Union Conferences as rapidly as possible during this session of the General Conference."

H.W.Cottrell: I second that motion to amend.

The question was put, and the amendment carried.

~~G.B.Thompson: Must the plans formed by the Districts be submitted to the body? or can they form plans, and not submit them to the General Conference?~~

~~The Chair: The next recommendation practically answers that question.~~

The first recommendation, as amended, passed unanimously.

Chair. The Secretary read the second recommendation, as follows:

"That the delegates from each District appoint three of their number to act with the Committee on Organization in the framing of a constitution and working plans."

W.C.White: We know you will each wish to frame constitutions which suit the peculiar requirements of your local field. It is also true that you will ^{wish} ~~want~~ to have these constitutions as uniform as possible without destroying their effectiveness;

Therefore, we that that after considering the Constitution, that you would be pleased to have three from each District meet with the Committee on Organization and discuss the matters of unification and of the Constitution before their final adoption and revision.

~~W. S. Wheeler: As some of the Districts are large and some are small, in the Committee of Organization the small Districts might be well represented and the large districts not so fully represented, I would offer an amendment to this question that one delegate from each State Conference comprised in the District, act with the Committee on Organization.~~

W. C. White. I would say on that, brethren, that your Committee on Organization is being held back by our inability to do their work, and if they find it almost impossible to do the business, I do not know what we should do. ~~the work of~~ find time ~~adopt this recommendation.~~

The question of the adoption of the second paragraph was called for and adopted unanimously.

The Chair: The Secretary will read the second recommendation.

~~2. "That all questions regarding the change of District territorial lines be referred to the Committee on Constitutions and Plans."~~

3. "That all questions regarding the change of District territorial lines be referred to the Committee on Constitutions and Plans."

The question of the adoption of this paragraph was called for and carried unanimously.

The Chair: the Secretary will read the fourth recommendation.

4. "That in the framing of the Constitutions and working plans, provisions be made for the use by the District organizations that are strong financially, of such parts of their income only, as are necessary for the administration of the District Union Conferences, and that the

balance be forwarded to the General Conference for the maintenance of its administration, and to assist weaker Conferences and missions."

Questions as to the meaning of certain parts of this recommendation were asked by Elders C. McReynolds, J. H. Morrison, J. M. Rees, C. W. Flaiz and Watson Zeigler, which were answered by the Chairman and the Chairman of the Committee on Organization.

Geo. A. Snyder: I understood the other day that one of the objects of this large committee that was appointed was that it should subdivide itself into other committees, who would consider these matters, and these matters would be reported back to the large committee before being reported to the Conference. Now we vote to-day to have this report. Will this committee follow this plan right along, and report to the General Conference, or will they report back to the large committee before the report is brought before the Conference?

The Chair: There seems to be a difference of opinion as to whether they should report to the large committee or to the Conference. It was the mind of some of the committee that these committees would report to the large committee, and the large committee report in here. But you voted to have it come direct this morning. So the report is before you.

W.C.White: I wish to suggest that this question be left to the united judgment of the three brethren who are chairmen of our meetings. I think Brethren Irwin, Olsen, and Daniells can decide from day to day how it is best to bring these matters in, and we can save ourselves all worry about it.

Upon motion, it was voted to adjourn until 3 P.M.

G.A.Irwin, Chairman.

L.A.HOOPES, Secretary.

The question was called for.

~~W.H.Thurston: If it is passed, it does away with the Foreign Mission Board. If that is true, I should be pleased to know the object of taking that step.~~

~~W.C.White: I will say that your committee did not intend, nor do they discern, that this recommendation has anything to do with the status of the Foreign Mission Board, except that we hope through these organizations to raise lots more money for the foreign mission work than was ever raised before.~~

The Chair: The question is called for. All in favor of adopting the fourth paragraph of this report, manifest it by saying, Aye; contrary, No. It is unanimously carried.

Full Report
The Chair: The report of the Committee on Finance is before you. A motion has been made and seconded that it be adopted by considering each paragraph separately.

The Secretary: I believe there is no recorded motion. ~~The motion was to have it printed on slips.~~

The Chair: Well, what is the pleasure of the Conference on this report?

W.T.Knox: I move that we adopt the report by considering each item separately.

J.H.Morrison: I second the motion.

The Chair: The Secretary will read the first item.

The Secretary [Reading]: "Your Committee on the More Equal Distribution of Funds respectfully submits the following recommendations:--"

"1. We recommend to our Conferences, as far as they are able and consider that it would be a blessing to do so, to pay a second tithe to the general cause for its mission work."

The Chair: This paragraph is now before you for consideration.

What is your pleasure?

A. O. Burrill: I would like to inquire in regard to this section, who is to be the judge about paying the second tithe, the Conference in session or the Conference committee?

P. T. Magan: The recommendation says, "The Conference." It does not say the Conference committee, because it is certainly the province of the people to decide that thing. But I believe, brethren, we all want to keep before us the principle which Professor Prescott laid down a moment ago. Now it is absolutely impossible to draw a recommendation so ironclad that it will be impossible for people to get out of it things that were never intended; and the harder you try to do that thing, the more some one else will try to get around it. But I believe that the Lord has laid down a general principle for us, that we are to take a step forward now, and send our dollars where formerly we have sent our cents. Now I believe if every Conference and every soul will throw their whole hearts into it to do that thing, that the whole thing will be easy. But if we work on the other plan, we are no better off than we were before.

Watson Ziegler: I am heartily in favor of doing everything in the province of this people for the furtherance of the cause in foreign fields. That has been the sentiment of my heart all the way. And in this recommendation of paying more money into the General Conference or that purpose, it recommends that they do it, and that it will be a blessing to do it. But while we are considering this, while we are reorganizing, there is another thing that we want all to carefully keep before us, and that is the principle laid down by Elder Jones, that if we are not careful we will get more offices, have more consumers of what we already have. The tithe is just so much as it is. We want to arrange in this meeting to have money to go into these foreign fields, We want to arrange to have ~~hassman~~ more producers and if possible less

consumers. When I speak of this I speak of creating offices where men turn the crank; and it is absolutely necessary that this work be done. I would have to do it myself if I were there. No matter who the man is, it is a matter of fact that we have too many consumers for the amount of machinery we have as related to the number of producers. I hope we will all think of this carefully while we are framing the new organization.

S.H.Lane: I think it is very fortunate indeed that the recommendation refers to the Conference, and not to the Conference Committee. The fact is, and I think we all recognize it, that the more thoroughly a Conference Committee keeps in touch with the people of the Conference, the more successful will that Committee be. Indeed, friends, I should not want to change, and would not change it if it were in my power, to the Conference Committee; for if the people decide that a second tithe shall be paid, and that understand it fully, then if the Conference committee will proceed to pay that second tithe, there is not a brother in that Conference that loves the truth but what will ^{see} ~~say~~ that that second tithe is supplied. Any man who goes out and ~~and~~ labors among the people, and brings souls into the truth of God, and builds up the Conference, the people stand by, and they will see that he does not want for a dollar. So by all means let us leave it to the Conference; and when the Conference takes hold of it, the people become engaged in it, they will be responsible for it; and I can assure you that we have the best and most liberal-hearted people in the world. So let us trust them.

R.A.Underwood: I also am glad that it refers to the people; but there is another thought I would like to call attention to. It is expressed in the proverb, "Like priest like people." And if the laborers as well as the Conference Committee in each Conference will throw their influence strongly in favor of sending away more of our funds and reaching out into these destitute fields, the people will all say Amen. I hope our good brethren will all realize that this is something that we ought to keep before us all the time. If we lay before our brethren

the needs of the work in the fields beyond our own territory, the people will see it just about the same as we see it; and my experience in laboring among our people is that just about as far as we go they will go. So when this comes before our Conferences, ~~and~~ for their decision and for their action, I believe that the whole action of our brethren will largely depend upon the spirit that we take to them and to those Conferences with reference to this that we are now recommending.

The vote on the first recommendation was called, and the question was carried unanimously.

The Chair: The secretary will read the second paragraph.

The Secretary: [reading]: "2. We further recommend to such Conferences as are able and willing to do so, that they send a number of their laborers into the mission field and support them there, operating as far as consistent through the Boards having charge of the different fields to which laborers are sent."

Geo. Watson: I would like to ask why it would not be just as well for the president in the Conference, or those having charge of the mission fields, to audit the accounts of such laborers, and send the audit to the States from which the laborers were sent, and let them send the money direct to that party in the field.

The Chair: As for that matter, that can be arranged in the best way. ~~That does not change the principle.~~

M. Mackintosh: I am glad to have the privilege of speaking in favor of this recommendation. I am heartily in favor of it. I believe that what we need is less machinery and a clear-cut ^{connection} ~~union~~ with all our laborers in the field. ~~I believe in my soul that if we had the machinery out of the way, and if these union Conferences would take up the work of caring for all their men wherever they may be in different parts of the world, they would lose the use of the word foreign, and would~~

~~have no further use for it, would not need it at all. Let these men in the foreign field send back their report, not to go through the paper of the foreign board, but let the report come straight back to the people among whom they have been laboring; and if such an appeal would come from one of our brethren that we have sent from the State of Colorado, an appeal to the children that he has in God in that State, he will get ten dollars from the field when there is but one dollar secured from the field to-day. I only wish that we could do away with the Foreign Mission Board, that we could stop the necessity for this money going through the hands of the General Conference at all, and educate our Union Conference people to become so acquainted with the field that they would know its wants, and be able to audit the accounts of the laborers there; and we simply have secretaries to forward the funds to the necessary parts of the field, and look after the transportation, etc., to all parts of the world. Let us do away with this word foreign, and do away with so much machinery, and I believe in my very soul that it will put dollars and dollars into the treasury where we have cents to-day. These are the facts, and you all know it. I am not attaching blame to any one when I say this. But let us give the people a direct connection with the men that we have sent out to other fields, and God will bless in it, and the work will go forward more rapidly.~~

~~J.W.Watt: I suppose that it is the intent of this recommendation that the laborers sent out from Conferences be supported by the tithe; but it is not so stated definitely here. I was fearing that advantage might be taken of that, and some Conferences might feel that they could use the annual offerings and the first-day offerings as a means of support. I suppose the intent is that they should be supported by the tithe.~~ ✓

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5. We recommend that all who especially labor in word and doctrine in our colleges and academies in the training of workers for the field, be supported from the tithe.

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P. T. MAGAN, Secretary.

O.A.Olsen: Was the Chairman of the Committee anything to say?

I. H. Evans: That was our understanding; that the tithe would support these laborers and not for the States to take up offerings to support them. We need all that we can get in the offerings to carry on the large force of workers we have in the fields, and the increased workers we must send; but we think if some of the States would contribute a man or several men, and pay them from their tithes, the State would not be poor, and when it sent its workers out, it would not have to support them at home; and it would take the very funds that would pay them at home, and simply continue their work in another field; so the State would not be financially worse off, but they would simply give other needy fields the benefit of labor ~~in that~~ ~~work~~ of the individual worker. That is what we had in mind.

O. A. Olsen: Then you would support these laborers from the regular State Conference funds?

I. H. Evans: Yes.

W. H. Thurston: I have no objections whatever, for if this is adopted that the State should send the money to the proper person direct in the mission fields; but this brother that spoke here a few minutes ago brought in the Foreign Mission Board. Now if we are going to set aside the Foreign Mission Board, brethren, I believe we ought to do it fairly, honestly, and so that everybody will know what we are trying to do. It seems to me in this recommendation that we have just passed, there is that in it that is to do away with the Foreign Mission Board. It does not say so in so many words. Perhaps this brother has never labored in a foreign missionfield; perhaps he has; but I wish to state right here, that we who are laboring in foreign mission fields have been very much encouraged by the Foreign Mission Board, working with the Foreign Mission Board, and with the

encouragement they have rendered us. I wish to say further, that the last two years that the work that has been undertaken by the Foreign Mission Board to raise missions, has been increased, and the donations the last quarter is the largest donation that has ever been raised since it was organized. Over \$52,000.00 ~~was received~~ was received last quarter by the Foreign Mission Board for foreign mission work. So, brethren, if this is going to deal with the Foreign Mission Board, to set that aside, I wish we could come right out in plain words and say so, and consider it as such. If it is true, let us say so; but if it has nothing to do with the Foreign Mission Board, let that settle it, and let it stand where it is, and doing the work which it is doing, and which the Lord is blessing it in doing, as he is at the present time.

W. C. White: I think, brethren, you have observed already that in the work of the Committees there has been a united and uniform effort that our work shall be constructive and not destructive, and if you will read in each of these recommendations that which is obvious, and intended by the Committee, only; other matters relating to organization of boards will be brought forward in its right order, in such a way that there is no misunderstanding, and that can be discussed to advantage; so please read in these recommendations, only that which is obvious, and do not try to read into that, something that is not there, and we will save lots of time.

G. G. Rupert: There is one point I am interested in in this resolution, ~~and~~ not so much in the machinery part, but the expression of the resolution itself, that we furnish laborers to foreign fields, and I do not want this Conference to lose sight of it. ~~That is, we do not want to give you our means, and don't care whether it goes through a machine or not, or where it goes; but we want to give you our means and our laborers. We want to see this truth~~

got out of these old Conferences into new fields. That is what we want. I believe the machinery part of it will adjust itself sooner or later; but we want the spirit of the message, and we want to sacrifice in our Conferences for the truth. ~~We do not want you to get part of our tithes; we want to furnish men with the tithe, ~~xx~~ but I say, speaking from my personal experience, I feel that it would be a pleasure to give a man and support him in foreign fields, and I believe many of our Conferences, if many laborers were taken out of them today, and our treasury depleted in proportion with the laborers, that God would raise up other laborers in these Conferences, and more men, and let them be an educator and a supplier, both of means and men, e--that is what we want. The machinery part of the Foreign Mission Board, when it comes time, I believe if it is not useful, it will be very clearly indicated to us, and then we can adjust that part; but let us now lose the spirit of the message in sending means and men into foreign fields.~~

F. M. Wilcox: There are two ways, it seems to me, in carrying out this resolution, that you have got to work in foreign fields. In the first place, if the individual Conferences sending laborers to foreign fields will create a bond of sympathy that has been lacking in the past; and in the second place, the Conferences in sending men out to foreign fields to support them, themselves, instead of allowing the Foreign Mission Board laborers, they don't want to do as they have done many times in the past,---be inclined to send their workers that they can best get along without; but they will send their best workers. I know that when I was Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board,---and I am sure that other Conference workers know, that often times those who were recommended to the Foreign Mission Board for work in foreign fields, were those who the Conferences could best spare at home. I say it without any reflection whatever upon

~~our workers in foreign fields; they have done well; but I believe this will be changed, and that our Conferences will send out to the foreign fields those whom they can best trust, and who are most responsible. Another point I would like to speak of is the matter of the Conferences supporting these laborers directly. It seems to me that the idea of equalization of salaries and wages that has been advanced in this Conference---that such a divided plan as that, will ~~work~~ militate against it. It seems to me the local committee in each mission field, the same as the Conference Committee in each Conference, ought to take that matter under advisement, and settle with the laborer according to the peculiar conditions obtaining in those mission fields.~~

M. C. Wilcox: I am glad this resolution is before us, and I hope that all our Conferences will remember the words of the Lord, Jesus, that it is more blessed to give than to receive. There is a great big blessing in this for our Conferences, and for our great churches especially in our large Conferences. Now it is true that we are multiplying laborers continually, and we are multiplying laborers and labor among those who ought to be our forces instead of our field. Our churches ought to be a force in this great work of carrying forward the message of the Lord; but it is getting to be a great fact that many of our churches, and especially our large churches, are becoming the fields of labor for our ministers instead of the force of ministers, in carrying forward this message. I believe that our churches ought to be so educated that these large Conferences, numbering three, four, five, and six thousand, ought to be carrying on vigorous evangelistic work; and, praise God for it, they may be doing that so that the churches shall be continually developing laborers, and self-supporting laborers, and when these laborers are developed, and we can trust them, then, and send them out to regions beyond, and all of them get filled with the spirit of missionary work, and see the possi-

bilities of our Conferences, that we shall be anxious to give, and give, and give, more continually, and to see the added double, which God is willing to give to the giver.

Luther Warren: I can see in this recommendation, if it is carried out, a fine help for our churches. I have felt for some time, that if we could add new territory, as one of the brethren has suggested, and make that the home field, that it could not fail to produce a greater interest among our people in the churches. I have suggested this at our last meeting in ^{our} the Conference, that if Nebraska could add, say, Portugal, or Spain, to its home field, we added Wyoming this last Conference, and we now consider that a part of the field just as much as Nebraska; we expect to provide for it just as much as we would ~~take~~ for Nebraska, and to look after its needs;)--now if we could add Portugal to the Nebraska Conference, then we should expect that it should receive its proper share, just the same as Wyoming, or just the same as Nebraska, and that if Spain should be added to Iowa, say, then wouldn't the brethren in Iowa feel that Spain must be entered? ^{Then would be} There ~~is~~ a part of the Conference that has not been entered. ^{Must it not be entered, and means and men} sent to the most needy part of the Conference? I am glad that we are contemplating carrying out part of the message given to us and sent to us; but it does seem to me, brethren, we are taking a short step. I thought ~~think~~, with the messages coming to us, and the enthusiasm ~~think~~ ~~think~~ ~~think~~ of all the brethren who have spoken upon these matters, and what the brethren have brought before the Conference,---I surely ~~think~~ ~~think~~---when the recommendations were brought in, the very first recommendation, would be that one-half of the funds in the home field shall be used in foreign fields. We have had a long way, the large share, the lion's share, in the home field, and given this where they have heard the truth again and again;---surely, one-half, at the very

55c follows.

start, of all the funds, of all the tithe in the State Conference, will be sent to foreign fields, and one-half of the laborers. Why not? When we have so much that has been done in the home field, why not see the needs of the foreign field, if we believe, brethren, that we are in the very close of the work, and that the time has come for it to go with the mighty power of the Lord---do as much? And I am afraid,-- I can hope better things; but I am afraid, that when we get away from this enthusiasm of this Conference, and get home, where we can only see our home field, and see this ~~fix~~ need, and that need, and the other need in the home field, that we will be in danger of narrowing down, and the Conferences that can consistently do this, will be found to be but few. I can see plainly, that there will be no use of iron-clad resolutions if the brethren are not willing. Of course, if it was done unwillingly, it would not be any help; but it has seemed to me that we ought to get hold of the idea that God is leading out, and says, "Add new territory." I do not see why we should not add some of these fields that have not been entered at all, or are not covered by the Foreign Mission Board; I do not see why Spain, and Portugal, and China, and some other of these fields that have never been entered, should not be added to the home field, and become a part of the home field, and be supported and worked by the home field.

Chair O. A. Olsen: The question is called for on the adoption of recommendation No. 2. All in favor of this recommendation, manifest it by saying, Aye. Those opposed, No. It is CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Chair: Now, this recommendation is before you.

R. F. Andrews: I have been requested to ask our Chairman to announce more distinctly the names of the speakers, so that all of us may understand who is talking. And while I am on my feet, I would request that whoever speaks speaks so that we can hear, so that we can say, Amen.

The question was called for, and was carried unanimously.

No. 4 was then called for, and read.

O. A. Olsen: Now, this recommendation is before the Conference.

F. Jencks: I would offer this as a substitute:

"We recommend that our Conferences everywhere be urged to adopt and preach the plan of the second tithe for the support of our missionaries, and charitable work, in harmony with Recommendation 1; and that all other plans inconsistent therewith be dropped."

I. H. Evans: I am much interested in regard to the work in foreign fields and the securing of funds to carry on that work. I think we all agree that there is a vast work to be done by us as a people in the regions beyond. The vast majority of the ~~population~~ population of the world lies outside of the organized territory, and it will take a great many men and laborers to carry on the work in a strong manner in these fields.

~~For many years the Foreign Mission Board, through the General Conference, has been trying to operate in these fields. Their funds have been limited always. They have only been able to send out a few men. In the last two years there has been a new condition of things coming in among us. At the last General Conference, several of our conferences agreed that they would send out some of their own laborers and support them from the tithe. This has been done. But the funds of the Foreign Mission Board were so limited that we could not pay the workers that we had in the field. At the last General Conference our Board was owing thirty-five thousand dol.~~

lars to the workers in those fields, besides about fifteen thousand dollars to the various publishing houses in the denomination; making a debt then resting upon the Board of over fifty thousand dollars.

The Foreign Mission Board, being disappointed in getting the donation that we had thought of getting at the last General Conference, studied to plan how they could secure contributions to this field. It was suggested that we take up the ten-cent-a-week offering, and we believe that if we could universally adopt that, we would be enabled to raise sufficient funds to carry our work with a greater degree of vigor. It is known that if each of us would pay about ten cents a week, it would aggregate a large sum of money. We would have about three hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars every year to use in foreign fields.

Now, to show that plan wise, you only need to study the financial reports of the Foreign Mission Board from quarter to quarter. Since its adoption, the finances of the Foreign Mission Board have rapidly risen, and we have been enabled to carry our work and pay our men regularly and systematically, and we have been enabled to pay all of our old obligations of fifty thousand dollars resting upon us two years ago; and to-day we have sufficient to pay our audit, and still enough left to pay our men from month to month in advance, instead of having our foreign fields always behind in the pay-roll.

This last quarter our donations have been the largest in the history of the denomination, aggregating \$52,671.35. Now, this is encouraging to those who have to be responsible for the support of the work.

It is argued by some that this is not an equal apportionment; that the rich are able to give more, that many of the poor are not able to give this amount. Now, I think that is probably so. But our plan has been that each church should endeavor to raise that amount, and not hold

each individual responsible to ~~make~~ pay his full quota. If each church will try to raise an amount to aggregate ten cents a week, why, the rich can give their dollar, and the poor man and the poor widow may only be able to give one cent or two cents. But let each church aggregate that amount. Many of the people can give more when they give in small contributions. They never see a large amount of money. When it comes to the annual offering, they can give but a trifle. If they should study to economize, plan from week to week to save a few pennies, in the year it would be quite a sum, and they would not be depriving themselves of life's necessities. Then those that are able can give larger sums.

There are constant calls, in various directions, to reach out and take in the charities of those that are able to give large sums of money. We believe if all would take hold of this plan, and study it closely, nobody need be afraid that the Foreign Mission Board is going to get too much money, nor going to get more than its share. Why, we could raise not only what we have at the present time, but we would treble it and quadruple it, and we would be enabled then to do much more than we are doing now.

(Voice: I would like to inquire if we are going to carry on the first-day offerings with this.)

(I. H. Evans: The question is if we are going to carry on the first-day offerings with this. This is the first-day offering. It takes the place of all others. If we would all take hold of it, we could raise in this denomination three hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars for foreign missions. It ^{would} equal a second tithe, almost. It would equal a second tithe after we had paid the first tithe.

~~Now~~, I might add here that the Foreign Mission Board is requested to collect funds to settle the Scandinavian indebtedness in Christiania. The indebtedness aggregates \$81,084. It has to be paid in semi-annual instalments of eleven thousand dollars, making twenty-two thousand dollars a

year that the Board has to raise. We will have to pay eleven thousand dollars the first day of July, and the money must leave the office here as soon as the 15th of June, in order to reach there at that date. That is a large indebtedness, but we believe, brethren, that our Board will be enabled to pay this, if we can only have the hearty cooperation of each on So, it seems to me, that instead of putting on the brake, ~~feeling~~ fearing that there is too much money going into the Foreign mission treasury, that we should all take hold and lift and do our very best.

(Voices: Amen!)

(Voices: "Question! Question!")

M. H. Brown: Did the offerings of \$52,000 include the annual offering?

I. H. Evans: Yes. I will give the amount of the annual offering. All will like to hear it. We have received up to date \$32,979.32. ~~of~~ ~~which~~ \$26,208.66 was sent straight to the Foreign Mission Board, to be used where needed. \$5,190.90 was a contribution to the publishing house, and was so specified. \$15,079.76 was specified to go to Skodsborg. The Foreign Mission Board has already paid ~~to~~ to Skodsborg \$3,000 out of its treasury, that has not been reimbursed. We have already paid the first instalment on the publishing house, but the next, as I said, is due July 1.

J. H. Morrison: I am in favor of this recommendation; and it is one thing to vote to recommend something, and another to do it. In the offerings in District 4, we have found that instead of being ten cents a week they were only four; whereas if we had six cents more per member, it would bring it up to about one hundred thousand dollars. I would like to see this done.

Ten cents a week is a good deal for a poor person, and is a very small amount for a wealthy person. The Bible says "tithes and offerings does it not? Have we as ministers talked offerings as much as we have tithes? There are men worth hundreds and thousands of dollars, and these should be liberal in their offerings, besides paying their tithe. The ten-cents-a-week plan will bring in thousands of dollars; but is it not a fact that if we make that plan too prominent, there will be those who will be satisfied when coming up to that standard, when they are really under obligation to the Lord to do more than that, because they are entrusted with abundance? If we cling to Bible standards---tithes and offerings, and do not fix any standard ourselves, I believe God's treasure-house will be filled more quickly. It is just as important that we preaching offerings, as tithes.

W.C.White: This is one of the things of which it can be said: "The letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life." I believe in the ten-cents-a-week plan, and in the second tithe. I can advocate them both, because one will be a stepping-stone to the other. When I first heard of this ten-cents-a-week plan, I considered the theory of it, and I was not pleased with it. But I have been brought into contact with churches who are working it, and I must say that the fruits of the tree are good. I find, however, that our wealthy people do not confine themselves to ten cents, but put in their ~~quarters~~ ^{and half dollars} quarters, and dollars; and I also find that the poor people do not feel that they can not put in a nickel when they do not have the dime. It will take time to get the second tithe worked up. This plan of ~~ten~~ ten cents a week is already introduced. It takes thousands of dollars to introduce a new plan. This one is well under way, and is working well; let us use it as a stepping-stone to do something better. God bless it.

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~~When you preach, talk missions. I find that in the churches which I have ~~not~~ visited in California, where I have only felt free to take a few minutes after the discourse, I have tried to ~~make~~ get our brethren to go with me to see some of these fields for a few minutes; and as they saw the needs of the work in other lands, their hearts were touched, and they gave freely. They would come to me at the close of the meeting, and say, "This is the largest collection to-day that we have ever taken in this church for foreign missions." Brethren, talk missions. Tell the sweet side. Get our people interested and wishing that they were over there in that destitute field; and then the first thing they will do is to put their money in it, and they will themselves follow later on.~~

C.W.Flaiz: I believe if these recommendations are followed out, it will open up the springs of benevolence among our people everywhere. ~~infinitesimal~~ If our brethren know that these funds go direct to these foreign fields, and are used there, it will increase their confidence wonderfully in this work. When they see the work being vigorously prosecuted in foreign lands, I have no question in my mind but what the second tithe will come in naturally and easily. The First-day offerings developed into the ten-cents a week plan; and is it too much to expect that just as systematic benevolence developed into the tithing system, so the ten-cents-a-week plan will develop finally into the second tithe for foreign missions? I believe the second tithe will come in in time. The Lord is moving on hearts everywhere to take up this plan.

G.B.Thompson: I am in favor of all of these recommendations. The hope of our foreign mission work is not in these delegates, but it is in the farmers and mechanics and widows and children and orphans of this denomination, who are scattered all over the world. With this ten-cents-a-week plan, we can go to them with something which gives them all a chance

to help. For that reason, I am in favor of it. In my labors among the churches, I find the fruits of the plan are good. I met a brother in a church the other day, who told me he had commended the ten-cents-a-week plan, and that the Lord had blessed him so abundantly that he was now able to lay by a dollar a week for foreign missions. He said: "You would be surprised to see the pile of money I have in the bureau-drawer for foreign missions." I believe God will bless us, if we go before the people with this plan. I know the Lord does not say just how much we shall give. Some have objected to the plan on that ground. But God does specify when he says the tenth. If we save ten cents a week for a time, perhaps we can make it a quarter, and keep on making advance moves, and God will bless us. Ten cents a week is a good deal better than about a cent or two cents. I hope we will all go home and push the plan, making it a success.

J.O. Corliss: I have tried to listen very patiently and candidly to what has been said upon this point. I have felt that perhaps there was a misapprehension upon the minds of some who have spoken. I understand that this recommendation does not anticipate asking the brethren to pay personally two tithes. It does not ask that; but the second tithe is simply from the Conference organization---the Treasurer of the Conference shall send a second tithe of the amount received, for the support of the foreign work. If we keep up the ten-cents-a-week plan, it does not ask our brethren to do any more personally than they have been doing the last two years. From my personal knowledge and experience where I have been in the work, I know it has raised the contributions away ~~now~~ above what they were before, and the brethren there feel that it is the best plan ever adopted. Inasmuch as it will not ask the brethren personally to do any more than they have been done, I think it is well for us to think very seriously before we drop this ~~now~~ plan

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which has worked so well among us.

~~Minutes of the meeting of the church council held on~~

Recommendation 4 was voted upon, and heartily passed.

W.C.White: I move that we do now adjourn. If permitted to give my reason, I would say that important committees have been appointed for this hour, and I know there are persons ~~who~~ wishing to speak upon this more fully than we are willing to hear at this hour.

P.G.Stanley: I second the motion.

Before adjournment, the Chairman ~~was~~ called attention to the sacredness of the house of God, and the importance of our maintaining the utmost decorum; that in the multiplicity of business and the great congregation, ~~we~~ we are liable to lose sight of these things.

~~Minutes of the meeting of the church council held on~~ Voted to adjourn. Benediction by Elder W.T.Knox.

O.A.OLSEN,
Chairman.

L.A.HOOPES,
Secretary.