

THIRTY-FIFTH MEETING

The thirty-fifth meeting was called at 4 P. M., May 30, L. R. Conradi in the chair. Prayer by R. A. Underwood.

The final report of the Committee on Distribution of Labor was presented, and amended and adopted as follows: -

40. That Eld. M. Shepard, of East Michigan, make Ontario his field of labor, and that Eld. W. H. Spear, of Ontario, make East Michigan his field of labor.

42. That Eld. W. H. Smith, of Pennsylvania, go to Prince Edward Island.

43. That Eld. J. W. Watt make Western Pennsylvania his field of labor.

44. That Eld. H. F. Ketring, of South America, make Kansas his field of labor.

45. That, in view of the various calls for Eld. E. W. Farnsworth's services, his place of labor be referred to the General Conference Committee; and, further, that all other cases pending be referred to the General Conference Committee for definite assignment.

The Finance Committee made a final report as follows:--

8. Resolved, That we recognize the Seventh-day Adventist Mission Board as the proper custodian of all ogeneral mission funds, and we recommend that all such funds be forwarded monthly, through the regular channels of churches and local and union conferences, to the treasurer of said Board.

9. That whenever a special call is made for donations, care be taken to give a concise and definite designation of such fund, and that all local and union conference secretaries be requested to make use of the designation so given, in forwarding such funds through the regular channels to the Mission Board.

10. We Recommend, That the forms and blanks for collecting funds, and the forms of our report blanks, be so revised and modified that all funds which are to be used for one and the same purpose, and which enter into the same account on the books of the Mission Board, be given a definite designation, to the end that fewer designations shall be made use of, thus saving a large amount of unnecessary and useless labor in making our church, conference, and Mission Board records. We nominate as a committee to prepare said blanks, the following named brethren: I. H. Evans, W. A. Wilcox, R. H. Cadwalader, W. H. Edwards, C. M. Everest, J. J. Ireland, C. N. Woodward.

11. We Recommend the adoption and use of such revised and modified blanks as shall be adopted by this committee, by all church and conference treasurers.

12. Resolved, That we approve of the action of the officers of

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the General Conference in using their influence in opening the way for the financial agent of the Southern Union Conference to solicit funds from our people generally for the work in the Southern field, and recommend that this be continued wherever satisfactory arrangements can be made.

This report was considered and adopted.

Smith Sharp: He wished, as Southern Union Financial Agent, to thank the brethren for the last resolution particularly. He always desired to work by arrangement with the conference presidents in any effort to lay the needs of the Southern field before the people. This resolution so generously adopted opened the way, and he wished to say to the presidents, to save time, that he might be expected at any of the meetings this season, without waiting for their invitation or arrangement.

Eld. A. G. Daniells asked permission to introduce a recommendation which some one had prepared on church letters. It was considered, and amended and adopted as follows:--

Whereas, For some years there has been a tendency on the part of many of the members of our churches to remove from the church to which they belong without transferring their membership, thus causing confusion in the matter of keeping accurate records of membership; therefore,--

We urge all the members of our churches everywhere to be more careful in respect to the transfer of their membership to the church where they reside.

And, further, We believe it would be advisable in cases where members do not report to their home church for a period of two years, and their whereabouts and standing can not, after due efforts, be ascertained, that their names be dropped from the church record; and, further,--

That we advise persons traveling or visiting to carry letters of recommendation from their home churches, and that when visiting distant fields this letter be endorsed by the president of the local conference, with date.

A resolution introduced regarding the preparation of a manual giving instruction on church order for the help of church elders, was referred to the General Conference Committee.

Before adjournment, I. H. Evans, the treasurer, announced that the Washington fund stood at \$96,703.79. The "Surprise Party" movement

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had stimulated the flow, so that since May 1, \$27,486.35 had been received, of which \$10,637.68 was for missions, the balance for the Washington work.

It was voted that Eld. G. A. Irwin be requested to report on his visit to the East Indies and the Philippines, at the closing evening service.

The Conference adjourned.

L. R. CONRADI, Chairman,

W. A. SPICER, Secretary.

### THIRTY-THIRD MEETING

The thirty-third meeting of the conference was called at 5:30 A.M., May 30, A.G. Daniells in the chair.

Prayer was offered by W.H. Thurston.

The Chair expressed the regret all felt that with so many things pressing for time, more time could not have been found for talks and addresses from workers. It would have been very satisfactory if in addition to reports, our missionaries could have given further accounts of experiences in their fields. The special order this morning was a memorial to our American brethren which our foreign delegates desired to present.

In behalf of the delegates, G.A. Irwin presented the opening part of the memorial and called the roll of the great mission fields,-- Europe, Africa, India, China, Japan and Korea, South America, Mexico and the West Indies, and Oceanica. Brethren from these fields responded with greetings and a statement of the needs of their fields.

Then, again, Brother Irwin read the closing words of the memorial, in which the delegates from abroad asked that their fields be visited during the next four years by some members of the General Conference Committee for the study of local problems and counseling with workers in the field. In behalf of the believers in their fields they thank the churches in America for sending to them the third angel's message.

A.J. Breed: It gives me great pleasure to stand on my feet and move,--

That we accept the memorial presented by these delegates from abroad, and that we assure them of our prayers and sympathies, and pledge them our hearty support in the great fields which they represent.

S.N. Haskell: He gladly seconded the motion. He could remember the time when we did not have a mission outside of America. We did not expect to have, as it was thought all nations would hear of the truth by

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people from all nations being gathered in this country. If any have questioned whether God is in this message or not, what we have seen on this ground ought to convince them of it--missionaries from all these fields telling of the progress of this message. When in the early days Sister White was shown that this truth would go to all countries, all were astonished. Now we see it fulfilled. Everything goes to show not only that God is in the work, but that the work of the third angel's message is closing. When the gospel of the kingdom is preached as a witness to all nations, then shall the end come. I thank God for it. We need not be fearful or disturbed. Suppose there are difficulties? If because we are nearing the shore we get among the breakers, why should we not thank God and take courage?

J.N.Loughborough: My heart is stirred with gladness that the message is going to the ends of the earth. When I embraced this truth we had three preachers, all told, and a few tracts. We had the Review as a little paper, sometimes published once in two weeks, sometimes once in three. I have been thinking since I have been on these grounds, something has happened. And something more is going to happen. We are on the eve of the loud cry of the third angel's message and the time of the latter rain. It is for us to keep our cups right side up.

The Chair called upon H.F.Ketring, who was present from Chile and Peru, to speak a few words.

H.F.Ketring: His heart was full this morning. On the West Coast of South America is a territory over four thousand miles long, stretching from north of the Equator to Cape Horn. The Lord has blessed in the work. When the truth gets hold of these Chileans and Peruvians they are as loyal and true to it as any in America. We have a little printing press in Valparaiso, and print three thousand papers each month. The paper pays its way, aside from the editor's work, who also labors otherwise. God is working in these lands.

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W.H.Wakeham: Spoke of Cairo, Egypt, as the great Mohammedan educational center. We ought to have some evangelistic worker studying Arabic here, and another studying Persian. It is a serious work getting such tongues as these and it is time, we feel, that some plans were being laid to enter the vast Moslem territory.

The motion to accept the memorial was adopted by a rising vote.

Voted, That the memorial presented by our delegates be used as the reading in the churches on the occasion of the midsummer offering for missions, the first Sabbath in July.

The meeting adjourned.

A.G.Daniells, Chairman.

W.A.Spicer, Secretary.

THIRTY-FOURTH MEETING

The thirty-fourth meeting was called at 8:30 A.M., May 30, L.R.Conrad in the chair.

M.C.Wilcox led in prayer.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

F.W.Field presented the following resolution:--

Whereas, The Lord has gone ~~out~~ before us into Korea, leading souls to accept the truth in that new field; and,--

Whereas, Korea is, geographically, commercially, and politically, closely connected with Japan; therefore,--

Resolved, That the Korean field be attached to the Japan mission under one management.

The resolution was adopted.

A.G.Daniells asked Brother Field to convey to our Korean brethren our greetings, and to tell them how the progress of the truth in Korea had thrilled our hearts with new hope. It has shown what the Lord can do in a little time. One day with him is as a thousand years, and he can do as much in a day as we might naturally look to see accomplished in many years.

The Committee on Plans presented a further report, as follows:--

75. We recommend, That the International Tract Society of Hamburg and the Pacific Press Publishing Company of California arrange for the publication of the larger Spanish books, and that we encourage authors, agents, and societies to co-operate in centralizing this work in these two places.

76. We recommend, The publication of the manuscript by Professor Caviness on Revelation, if approved by the representatives from the Spanish fields.

77. We recommend, That a committee consisting of J.W.Westphal, G. M. Brown, and H.F.Ketring, be asked to select portions of "Great Controversy" for translation into the Spanish language.

Believing the Scriptures thoroughly furnish us unto all good works not only in spiritual themes, but also in financial matters,--

78. We recommend, To the favorable consideration of our ministers and people, the study and adoption of the second tithe. The funds thus obtained to be used in educational, philanthropic, charitable, and missionary work.

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Whereas, The public press of the city of Washington both during the sessions of this convention and for several months preceding, have given full and impartial reports of our work and principles, thereby demonstrating their spirit of fairness and liberality; therefore,--

79. Resolved, That we extend to these papers our hearty thanks for their courteous consideration.

On motion to adopt, free discussion was had of recommendation 78. Brethren N.P. Nelson and O.A. Olsen spoke of personal blessings in following the plan. C. Santee reported it as being followed with good results in Southern California. The first tithe had increased also. Brethren Farnsworth and Irwin testified to the good results derived from the plan in Australia. Brethren Underwood, Wilcox, and Andross favored the recommendation as to study of the plan, yet feeling that the stress should be laid upon the obligation of the first tithe. Other brethren spoke in to the recommendation, the sentiment being that we must remember that it will take all to buy the field, and that very definitely and systematically we must bring into the Lord's treasury in tithes and offerings all that he enables us to bring.

The report of the committee was adopted.

Further resolutions were introduced and adopted as follows;--

Whereas, The Washington Training College has freely granted the use of ~~them~~ its buildings to the General Conference during this session; therefore,--

80. Resolved, That we express our thanks to the Washington Training College for their generous help in this respect.

81. Resolved, That we express our thanks to the railways for their courtesy in the granting of reduced rates to delegates attending the conference.

82. Resolved, That we extend our thanks to the various conferences which have supplied tents for use of the conference, paying the freight as well as loaning the tents freely.

Whereas, The book, "Christ's Object Lessons" contains truths of vital importance for this time,--

83. We recommend, That the book be studied anew by our people, and sold on its own merits, that our ministers do their utmost to renew the interest in this work, and that it be carried forward steadily and

continuously; and further,--

84. We recommend, That our schools be urged to lead out in this revival.

The Nominating Committee made a further and final report as follows:--

For members of the General Conference Committee: H.R.Salisbury, C.H.Jones, J.E.Froom.

*Members of the* ~~Legal trustees of the~~ Foreign Mission Board: A.G.Daniells, W.A.Spicer, S.N.Curtiss, H.W.Cottrell, I.H.Evans, G.A.Irwin, G.M.Chaffee, W.W.Prescott, C.H.Edwards.

The Finance Committee made a further report as follows:--

Whereas, The General Conference, and the General Conference Corporation, and the General Conference Association, each are in need of funds with which to meet obligations; and,--

Whereas, There are so many calls upon our people for donations for various enterprises that we do not feel to lay this burden directly upon them; therefore,--

We recommend, That the treasurer of the General Conference be instructed to place to the credit of the General Conference Corporation, the General Conference Association, and the indebtedness of the General Conference, fifteen per cent of the general funds, with the exception of the tithes, that come into the treasury of the General Conference.

In reply to a question, A.G.Daniells stated that the General Conference indebtedness was on old obligations incurred years ago in the employment of laborers, and the general conduct of the work. These deficits had been carried by the legal body, the General Conference Association. These should be gradually wiped out by current funds so that interest may be saved. As to the General Conference Association indebtedness, it was contracted in the years when the Association was helping to establish and finance missions and institutions. We do not operate on this basis now, and do not launch mission work or new enterprises with borrowed money. We have all seen a better way and faced about in our policy. He liked this plan of setting apart a percentage of regular income to wipe out these deficits.

I.H.Evans: This does not imply that one dollar given for any specific purpose shall be affected by this action. All such funds go exactly as specified. But there is the regular income from weekly offerings, Sabbath-school offerings, and general offerings, from which, in the interests of safe and progressive policy, a percentage is recommended to be applied on the past indebtedness. The Washington council, in October, 1903, recommended that this plan be followed. But the officers felt that they would not act upon it until it was before the brethren generally, so that all would understand it. As we clear away this interest-bearing deficit there will be all the more money flowing into the fields.

The following resolution was presented from the General Conference Committee:--

Whereas, It has been arranged that the Review and Herald Publishing Association shall make a credit to the General Conference Corporation of \$15,000 on the account owing to the Review and Herald by the International Training School Association; and,--

Whereas, Said Review and Herald Publishing Association was prepared to make this credit to the general Conference Corporation only with the understanding that said General Conference would endeavor to assist said Review and Herald Publishing Association if they came to need same; and,--

Whereas, Said Review and Herald Publishing Association have now requested said General Conference to provide a plan whereby this \$15,000 can be returned to said Association; therefore,--

We recommend, (1) That our people everywhere be requested to continue their contributions to the Washington Fund so that there may be an overflow in excess of the One Hundred Thousand Dollars for the Washington work.

(2) That the first \$15,000 received on the One Hundred Thousand Dollar Fund above the One Hundred Thousand Dollars be turned over to the Review and Herald Publishing Association.

Motion was made to adopt, and the following explanation was made of the recommendation:--

I.H.Evans: He explained that for many years the Review and Herald had carried large obligations for the old Battle Creek College,

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representing money advanced, on which the Review office had paid interest. He explained the efforts ~~of~~ the College had made at various times to reduce the amount owing the publishing house, which had given credits to reduce the account, and had entered into various arrangements to favor the College. All this simply amounted to the publishing house granting favors and making transfers until there was a balance of \$15,000 coming to it. At the College View council last September propositions were brought forward as to handling the College property, There ~~is~~ was proposed that the Review and Herald, of Washington, should forgive the ~~balance~~ balance of the debt. But they ~~agreed~~ ~~that~~ they could not give away their assets unconditionally. It was agreed that if the taking over of the business by the new association could be handled so that they would be able to build in Washington, they might be able to forgive the \$15,000 against the College property. But this was doubtful, they felt. The brethren in the council then said, Let us encourage all to make an overflow of contributions to this Washington fund so as to help the publishing work if need be, and then have the Review and Herald carry out the suggestion of giving the credit of \$15,000 to the General Conference Corporation, which has taken over the title to the College property. The College obligations would have to be paid anyway, and by this means the overflow on the hundred thousand dollar fund will not only help to establish the new publishing house in Washington, but by just that amount reduce the sum to be raised on the old College obligations.

A.G.Daniells: He was sorry for the necessity of the recommendation. He had hoped the new association would get on its feet without having to call for any help. But the difficulties in realizing on the old properties had hindered. The printing office must somehow get its business established in quarters where they can work to advantage, and we must stand ready to help them get a start. I still hope the matter will turn more favorably. And we may know the Review and Herald will not take a

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dollar more than is necessary.

W.W.Prescott: Called attention to the fact that the move of the publishing house was but a part of the general move to establish the headquarters in Washington, under the guidance and counsel of the spirit of prophecy. And he further wished all to see that this was not really proposing to give the publishing house anything to help it out of any hole it had fallen into. It is simply to give back to the publishing house what they had proposed to give to the General Conference if able to do so. And if the General Conference gets this \$15,000 it will actually pay bona fide obligations due from the General Conference to the publishing house on account of its claim against the College.

The recommendations were adopted.

The Committee on Distribution of Labor made the following further partial report:--

We recommend,--

29. That Elder C. McVagh, of Pennsylvania, make Ontario his field of labor.

30. That Elder B.F. Stureman, of East Michigan, labor in Quebec, under support of the East Michigan Conference.

31. That the Kansas Conference support an Italian laborer in Greater New York.

32. That Elder C.A.Hansen, of West Michigan, labor in India, the West Michigan Conference contributing \$1000 toward his support in that field.

33. That Elder E.E.Andross return to England, taking the presidency of the British Union Conference, made vacant by the removal of Elder Olsen.

34. That Elder Eugene Leland, of Ontario, be invited to take the presidency of the Vermont Conference.

35. That the Colorado Conference provide a Bible worker for Great Britain, with support.

36. That Brother Homer Carr, of New York, be invited to connect with the educational work in Ontario.