

THE Welcome Visitor

"Surely I Come Quickly. Even So, Come, Lord Jesus."

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THE OHIO CONFERENCE.

THE OHIO CAMP-MEETING FOR 1906

THE GROUNDS.

THE forty-third annual camp-meeting of The Ohio Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was held at Troy, Miami Co., O., Aug. 16-26, 1906. The camp was located on the fair grounds of Miami County which were in almost all respects ideal for such a meeting. There was a pleasant combination of shady and sunny places, so that all could be satisfied with the location of their tents. The soil in this locality is of such a structure that although there may be excessively heavy rains there will practically be no mud. At times this feature was very much appreciated by those attending the meeting.

Our different companies of believers were probably all represented on the ground during a portion if not throughout the meeting. As the people arrived on the grounds they were assigned to their location by the persons having that work in charge, and when the hour arrived for the opening meeting at 7:30 P. M., August 16, a fair sized audience assembled in the pavilion.

THE MEETING BEGINS.

Elder H. H. Burkholder, president of The Ohio Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, delivered the first sermon of the meeting. After congratulating the people on the happy selection of grounds and expressing the appreciation of the officers of the Conference for the spirit of cordiality which had marked the con-

duct of the business men of Troy and the people of the surrounding country, the speaker read the words addressed by Moses to his father-in-law, Jethro, in Num. 10:29, "Come thou with us and we will do thee good."

In the course of his remarks, the elder very earnestly invited all in the vicinity who might be interested to attend the meetings, to hear the sermons and instruction given from the word of God, and the thrilling testimonies of God's people in evidence of the goodness of our heavenly Father to those who in humbleness of heart endeavor to walk in the way of his commandments. "Only good could come to any individual who would come with us, and walk in the light of God's truth."

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17,

Was employed in setting in operation the plans which had been made for conducting the meeting, and getting the work into routine order that no time might be lost while in camp. In the afternoon Elder Burkholder gave us some instruction from the scriptures respecting the manner of observance of the Sabbath, and asked that as far as possible all would indeed seek to place themselves in such relation to the Lord as to insure his presence and blessing during the holy Sabbath. A meeting for prayer, to begin a few minutes before sunset, was appointed and many met at that time to ask the Lord's special blessing throughout the day.

SABBATH, AUGUST 18.

The services of the Sabbath were conducted by Elder F. C. Gilbert, who is a converted Jew.

As we listened to his appeals to accept the Saviour, whose name he had at one time only heard and used in curses and profanity, our hearts were touched with sympathy for his downtrodden brethren. A Jew generally receives no consideration from the so-called Christian. As an example, observe the treatment which this unfortunate people is now receiving at the hands of the Russian government. It has been their misfortune ever since Christianity became the dominant religion of the civilized, progressive world to be the mark for religious fanaticism. Many of us have heard them called "Christ killers" and other similar epithets.

As a class, the Jews think that Christianity consists of two tenets of belief which every Jew knows to be wrong, namely, non-observance of the Sabbath and the eating of swine's flesh. Elder Gilbert urged upon his hearers their duty to the Jews to show Israel that neither Christ nor his apostles by precept or example ever taught that men ought not to keep the Sabbath or should eat the flesh of swine.

And the work for the salvation of lost Israel has already been begun and is now being advanced as rapidly as possible. Elder Gilbert told us that the Hebrews are now studying the New Testament, and mentioned one company of three hundred which regularly meets in Boston, Mass., for the study of the scriptures with regard to Jesus Christ and his mission. It is the sincere wish of every Seventh-day Adventist that the Jews may be reclaimed from the errors of their ancestors; and if the positions taken by Brother Gilbert are

correct, the lost house of Israel will accept Jesus in the last of the last days. To the mind of the speaker, the present attitude of the Jews is one of the most prominent signs of the soon coming of the Lord, for the Bible states that the lost sheep of Israel will return in the last days.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19,

Was Religious Liberty day. The services of the day were in charge of Brother C. A. Pedicord. They consisted of an investigation by Elder Gilbert of the constitutional right of the American citizen to worship as he wishes; and a study of Christian liberty, given by Elder Underwood, showing that the true Christians are the only *free* men in the world; Elder J. G. Lamson also preached an interesting and instructive sermon on similar lines. A large audience, including many visitors; listened to these addresses, and, as often occurs, some were drawn to the truth while others thought there was no occasion for any anxiety about this matter in our nation.

This day was given to an earnest consideration of the canvassing work. The work of the canvasser is second to none in the promulgation of the Message. Brother Carl Weeks, our State Canvassing Agent, had charge of the services. A number of good testimonies were given by experienced canvassers. It did all good to hear about the work done by the faithful canvasser in giving the truth to the people. We long for the time when there will be many canvassers in the field carrying our good, soul saving literature to those who are in darkness.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21,

Was Educational Day. Owing to the illness of the Educational Secretary, J. E. Shultz, Elder Burkholder had charge of the services. The work of our church schools was under consideration.

Several well written papers were read by persons having practical experience in this line of work. These papers were discussed by different speakers. In this way we were enabled to gain an insight into the work of the church school that many had never before had. The work of these teachers is perhaps the most important that is done by any of our workers. The training of children's minds must be along such lines as will make for their eternal good, if the teacher wishes to do *all* the good possible. When we remember the saying of the Roman Catholic Church that if the church can have the child for the first seven years of its life and that then the protestants can have it without danger of its apostatizing, we can obtain a better understanding of how important is this work of educating our children if we would have them remain true to right principles.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22.

The forenoon meeting of this day was given up to our old brethren and sisters, and was known as the Pioneers' Meeting. Our aged friends started the work of the Message in the early days and by their self-sacrificing labors made possible the great work which our Conference is now conducting. The lives of these dear old people and their early work in the Message are an inspiration to the younger men and women upon whom the burden of the work has fallen.

The afternoon service was for the benefit of Mount Vernon College. Prof. J. B. Clymer, president of the College, conducted the service. After making some brief remarks, the leader suggested that one of the most helpful services that could be given the school at the time would be the testimonies of former students, and the remainder of the meeting was occupied with the testimonies of those who had formerly attended the College.

To hear these freely given remarks of praise and thanksgiving to God for benefits derived from the associations and work of the College filled the hearts of the teachers present with gratitude to the Lord for the privilege of working for young men and women actuated by such noble purposes as our students are. It made us feel that under God our work had been productive of good, and it inspires us with courage to bend all our energies to the work that the coming year may be more successful than any previous one has been.

From the date of this meeting an enthusiasm for the College seemed to take possession of the camp, and all persons did all they could to advance the good work. By the close of the camp-meeting nearly all the rooms in the main building had been reserved. It now appears that the first month of school will fill us full of students. But don't let this bright prospect of a full school deter any one who desires to come from writing to the school stating what they wish, being assured that all will be done that can be to insure their being with us this year.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23.

This was Medical Missionary day. The services were in charge of Dr. Howard Jump. This line of work is one of the most important in bringing the truth before people who are unacquainted with it. In our Conference we now have a number of sanitariums and treatment rooms which minister to the needs of sick and suffering humanity. Their work was described and the good accomplished well justifies the outlay of means.

Letters were read from our medical missionaries in other lands, and it made us glad that we had had the privilege of giving assistance in maintaining these consecrated men and women who have given up so much that they may have the opportunity of

bringing a knowledge of the truth to the unfortunate people of heathen lands.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24.

The regular appointment for this day had been the consideration of the Young People's work, but, owing to illness of Elder B. L. House, who had the work in charge, a change was made from the program, and the school work, as being along similar lines, was given further consideration. Elder George Enoch told the young people that he thought it imperative that they have thorough preparation, including college training, before going into the foreign field. The speaker told us that as bright and apt minds are found among the peoples of heathen or semi-heathen lands as we find in our home land, and it is of paramount importance that our young people gain the training and facility of thought which comes from a study of several years' duration in our schools before entering upon the mission work.

This may seem like taking too much time for preparation, but a statement of Elder Evans in conversation with the writer explains why strong courses are needed. The elder said that practical experience has proved beyond question that it is the college trained men and women who do the best work in foreign lands. The studious habits, the faculty of thinking correctly and of executing their plans acquired in college, will, when applied to the work in foreign lands, make them far more successful than they could be without such training. This is a principle which is now recognized all over the world, and even our large business enterprises are demanding college trained men to enter their employ in a business capacity.

SABBATH, AUGUST 25.

This day was given to a special seeking of the Lord. After the Sabbath-school in the morning,

Elder Enoch addressed the people. His sermon was a plea for the people of God to better prepare themselves for concluding the work that has been given us. All things are now ready in the earth for a speedy closing up of our mission and then the Lord will come to take us home,—an end for which all Adventists devoutly long.

The afternoon service was conducted by Elder I. H. Evans. It became a social meeting and after the bearing of testimonies, those who had never made a profession of religion were invited to surrender, and become children of God. A large number accepted the call and for the first time acknowledged their obligations to God, while many whose first love had grown cold reconsecrated themselves to the Lord and his service.

The service was adjourned to the banks of the Miami River which flowed not far from the camp, and the baptismal rite was celebrated. Twenty-eight willing persons received this sacred ordinance at about the close of the Sabbath. All present felt that the results of this day would live long in the future lives of the people present.

In the evening Elder Underwood gave a sermon on the new earth. He thinks that in the earth, as it came from the hand of God, there were no frigid zones such as are found in the present earth. Two thousand miles north of here, where the frost is out of the ground for but a brief season, the elder said he had seen the fossil remains of the pineapple and banana which never flourish in climates where even slight frosts are felt. In the earth restored, we have the word of God that there will be no deserts, and that there will be no sea. Add to this a climatic change that would make the frigid zones habitable, and our planet could maintain a population much larger than it does in the condition in which we find it now.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26.

This day the Sabbath question was considered not only for the benefit of our own people but also for visitors. A goodly number of these were in attendance and gave close attention to the arguments presented by different speakers.

In the forenoon Elder I. H. Evans preached on the law of God. He showed from the Bible that it was not the ten commandments which were abolished at Christ's death, but the ceremonial law. The ten commandments are an exposition of God's character, and as God never changes, the law cannot change. It is a perfect law, immutable from age to age, and will continue eternally. The revolt against the law of God in which the earth has been involved will be of short duration as compared with eternity.

The law must be perpetual, unchanging, for it is the fundamental law of the universe. It is the constitution of the government of God. A constitution of a nation cannot be easily changed if there is to be good, strong government. Men must know what they can depend upon. How much more important that God's law should be immutable when the whole universe is dependent upon it!

In the afternoon Elder A. C. Shannon further considered the question of the Sabbath. His sermon showed the attitude of Christ during his earthly life toward the Sabbath. Christ kept the Sabbath and never sanctioned any departure from it. The first Sabbath after the crucifixion was kept "according to the commandment." The examples of the different disciples of Christ were cited to prove that they kept the Sabbath after the resurrection, in some instances as much as thirty years afterward. Finding no evidence of Sunday sacredness in the lives of Christ's early followers, the speaker briefly noticed the source from which it does come—the Roman Church. Thus we are irresistibly forced

to the conclusion that the position held by the vast majority of Protestants regarding the Sabbath is unscriptural and even unchristian.

In the evening, Elder D. E. Lindsey spoke on the Sabbath in its relation to the Third Angel's Message. One of the special features of those who accept the Message is said to be the keeping of the commandments of God. All Christians admit the validity of all the law excepting the fourth commandment, but in the Third Angel's Message we have a people who keep the commandments. And this is what Seventh-day Adventists do. They keep all the law. In so doing they find a blessedness which they are unable to describe, and which to be understood must be experienced.

Several of the strangers who listened to these sermons expressed themselves as having heard the question in an entirely new light, and said they saw that we have the truth regarding the Sabbath. Troy will now be a good field to work and in which to build up a church. A tent company has been left and will develop the interest aroused.

MONDAY, AUGUST 27.

A farewell social meeting was held in the morning in which many expressed gratitude to God for the good received from this meeting. They were of strong courage to get into active service and press the work of the Message to a triumphant conclusion, that Jesus may soon come and end this night of sin, suffering and woe which has now held the human race for so many thousand years. Let all put their whole energies into the work, that we may soon find the Message finished in the earth. Then, the Lord will come to take us home. And let us all meet there even though not permitted to meet again here.

N. T. LOUGHHEAD.

The camp-meeting was all we had hoped for.

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ISSUED WEEKLY BY THE

Ohio Conference of Seventh-day
Adventists

Price, 25 Cents a Year in Advance.

BESSIE E. RUSSELL - Editor.

Academia, Ohio. September 5, 1906.

Sabbath begins Sept. 7 at 6:24 P. M.

THE Sabbath-school donations at the camp-ground amounted to \$68.75.

THE instruction given by Elders Evans and Gilbert was much appreciated. All were glad to have them present with us.

ELDERS J. G. LAMSON and E. K. Slade, of the East Michigan Conference took an active part in the young people's meetings and rendered valuable help.

THE children's meetings, in charge of Sister Katharine Miller, and the Kindergarten, in charge of Sister Deborah Secor, were well attended. We hope for full reports for our next paper.

ELDER D. E. LINDSEY has accepted a call to the presidency of the Quebec Conference. His many friends in Ohio wish him abundant success in his new field of labor, and will pray the Lord to sustain him under all circumstances.

THE postoffice at Academia has been discontinued, and all communications intended for the Ohio Conference, Ohio Tract Society, or any person connected with the conference office should be addressed to the postoffice at Mount Vernon, O., Box 187.

ELDER B. L. HOUSE was called to Columbus by the very serious illness of his father. For this reason the program prepared for the young people could not be fully carried out. However, the meetings were well attended, and the Lord blessed in every service.

WE regret to announce the death of Elder S. H. Lane, which occurred very unexpectedly August 20. He had not been feeling well for some time but it was not considered serious. Elder Lane had many friends in Ohio, who deeply mourn his death.

THE young people on the camp-ground raised \$100 for Brother Charles Belgrave, now working in British Guiana, to assist him in attending the Mount Vernon College this year. This brother expects to give his life to the Hindustani children in the West Indies.

THE spirit of harmony and good will that was so apparent on the camp-ground can but be an indication that the remnant people desire to put away everything that will hinder the work of God in their own lives and the success of the Third Angel's Message.

EDUCATIONAL DAY was a success, although Brother James Shultz was ill and could not be present all the time. Many expressed themselves as having a better understanding of what the Lord required of them. We hope to publish the papers read as space in the VISITOR permits.

ELDER ENOCH, president of the West Indian Conference, touched the hearts of his hearers as he presented the needs of his field, and we are glad that a substantial evidence was given of their interest in the success of the proposed training school. Over \$500 were raised in cash and pledges. Some will help later on.

WE are pleased to tell the readers of the VISITOR that the Sabbath-school report of the quarter ending June 30, 1906, was the best received at this office for some years. The enrollment in the Sabbath-schools, including the Home Department, was 1,807. The total contributions amounted to \$683.49. Donations to Missions, \$392.63, not including donations to the Orphan Homes, and other special donations.