

THE Welcome Visitor

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

VOL. 11 MOUNT VERNON, OHIO, P. O., (ACADEMIA, OHIO), FEBRUARY 27, 1907. No. 8

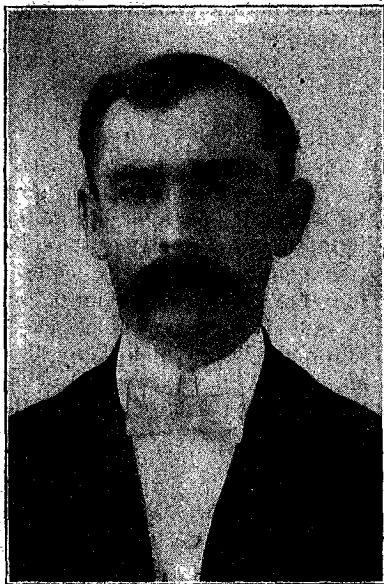
THE OHIO CONFERENCE

REPORT OF CONFERENCE

Concluded

Thursday, 2:30 P. M.

ELDER BURKHOLDER. — I have the pleasure and honor of introducing to this Forty-fifth Session of the Ohio Conference our first Conference president, Brother Oliver Mears. He it was whom the Lord called to this position of trust when this cause was in its infancy in Ohio. There were few believers in the State at that time, and Brother Mears was often known to drive through miles of dense forests that were only penetrated by mere trails to visit some faithful family whom God had impressed with the message of Revelation 14.



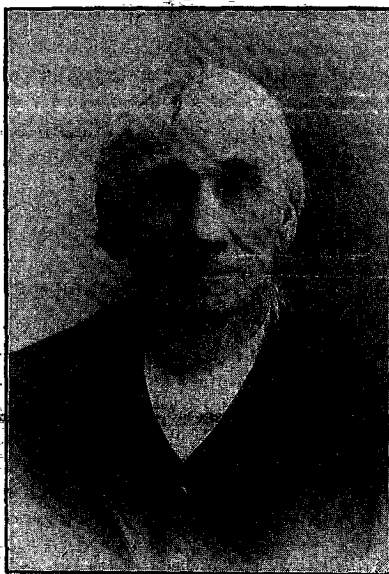
ELDER H. H. BURKHOLDER

He took the work when it went slow and hard, and has nobly sacrificed and labored to advance the cause of God. I thank the Lord that he has preserved him so long, and that he has the privilege of standing before this Conference, in this, his old home town, to see the advancement of the truth to which he gave his early days. Believing that all appreciate his presence and desire to know something

about the early history of this work, Brother Mears will be given an opportunity to address you.

Voice.—How old is he?

Elder Burkholder.—Brother Mears, they would like to know your age.



OLIVER MEARS

Brother Mears.—I am nothing but a boy. I read without glasses, walk without a cane, and am straight as an arrow. I am eighty-seven years of age. My father was a Presbyterian, and raised us accordingly. When I was a boy, I learned the commandments, and I said to myself, "The Bible says, 'The seventh day is the Sabbath,' and we keep Sunday." I always thought the seventh day was the Sabbath, and I never could find that God ever changed it. I had never belonged to any church. I was a reader and a historian. I was reading about the wars between Carthage and Rome, and the career of Hannibal.

I had a younger brother. He came in one evening at ten o'clock and said, "There is a man preaching down at the school house."

"Who is he?"

"I don't know."

"What is he preaching about?"

"The Bible."

"Well," I said, "I will go down and hear him."

When I went down, the old school house was filled full. He preached from the seventh of Daniel about the four universal kingdoms. He had not gone far when my eyes began to snap. I ate his sermon like a hungry man eats his dinner. I said, "I can see it now. I can understand it now. I know why Hannibal's career ended as it did. God has said there should be but four universal kingdoms." I attended those meetings and the question held to me, "I see they have the truth, what are you going to do about it?" I was going along one day with a pipe in my mouth. I threw my pipe on the ground, but it did not break; so I put my foot on it, and I haven't touched it since then. I went into the house and took my tobacco can and threw the tobacco into the fire. I said to my wife, "You can have that can." She looked up, and I never will forget that look. I said, "It is time to change. God's people must be a godly people, and God's house must be a house of prayer. I have made up my mind that it is time for me to be a child of God." The good woman looked up with tears in her eyes and said, "I am ready to go with you."

We knew what it was to take care of company. Brother and Sister White made their home with us when they labored near us, and when they would be passing through the State, would often jump off the cars to tarry at my house all night. Elder Waggoner came to visit me once. He had no means. He hadn't a suit of clothes in which it was fit to stand before a congregation. I said, "Let us go up to the clothing store." He said, "I haven't any money." We went up there. I said, "Here is a minister of the gospel. He would like to have a respectable pair of pants and a vest."

"He shall have them at cost," he said.

Elder Waggoner said, "I haven't any money." I paid for it.

I organized the first church that was ever organized in the Ohio Conference. I traveled all over for years, riding miles in a lumber wagon to attend meetings. Something had to be done. Some one had to push this work. At that time, you could count all the ministers in the State on the

fingers of one hand. It went that way for years. A minister would come and raise up a company and go away; then when they were left without a leader, they would come to me and say, "Brother Mears, you must look after us. Those who are backsliding must be hunted up." Somebody had to go, and Brother Mears was the one. At General Conference they would say to Elder White, "Well, what are you going to do down in Ohio?"

"Go to Brother Mears and he will set you at work," he would reply, "and if every thing doesn't come out right, he will have to take a whipping." He called me a "missionary wheel horse."

It will be forty-nine years next month since I heard the Message, and since that time there has never been a doubt, never a waver. I have always wondered how I lived. I would work my farm, and then go away to visit little companies for three or four weeks.

We were going to have a camp-meeting, and we wanted a large tent. The cost of a tent at that time was \$400. I said, "I will give \$100 to help buy a tent." A maiden lady who had saved a few hundred dollars said, "I will give another." Two other brethren said they would give \$50 each. The remainder was raised by the other members. It was a good tent that was shipped here, and we held the first camp-meeting ever held by Seventh-day Adventists in Ohio.

I used to go to Battle Creek three or four times a year. Then I had Ohio to look after. Some one had to look after it.

In a few years, Elder Waggoner came down to our place. He said, "Something must be done for the children." I thought the matter over, and the next Sabbath I got up and told them what Elder Waggoner had said, and proposed that every Sabbath after meeting prayer should be offered to God that he would save the children. I said, "Bear the children in your arms to their Saviour, and may the Lord come in and convert them. We had about four meetings like that, when one Sabbath after prayer had been offered, a little girl stood up and said, "I want to be a child of God." There was not a child that did not follow her example. There were not many people in the house who did not weep. Prayer can sway the arm that rules the universe.

Brethren, trust in God and move forward. I tell you, we must trust him. We need to pray. The Lord hears the prayers of his people. There is power in prayer. I expect to meet God's people in the heavenly kingdom, and I hope I will meet you there.

I have neither friends nor home, but ere long the trump shall sound, this old world will quake, and they that sleep in Jesus will arise and the angels will lead us to his feet where we shall all sing the song of redeeming love.

Thursday 3:00 P. M.

Chair.—The time has now come to call our meeting of the Association. We will call upon the secretary for the minutes of the last meeting.

Minutes were read and approved.

Chair.—The Nominating Committee now has a report to render.

Secretary of Committee reads: Your Committee on Nominations would respectfully submit the following named persons for members of the Executive Committee of the Ohio Conference Association of the Seventh-day Adventist Church: H. H. Burkholder, R. R. Kennedy, C. V. Hamer, G. C. Quillin, F. M. Fairchild, R. G. Patterson, A. C. Shannon.

It was moved and properly seconded that the persons named be elected. Carried.

On motion the Association adjourned *sine die*.

The report of the Committee on Credentials and Licenses was as follows:

For Ministerial Credentials: W. E. Bidwell, H. H. Burkholder, F. M. Fairchild, W. H. Granger, B. L. House, R. R. Kennedy, M. C. Kirkendall, J. O. Miller, R. G. Patterson, C. A. Pedicord, C. T. Redfield, A. C. Shannon, J. E. Shultz, C. A. Smith, J. G. Wood.

For Ministerial License: Fred M. Fairchild, G. P. Gaede, J. P. Gaede, F. H. Henderson, H. M. Jump, N. S. Miller, W. C. Moffett, J. W. Shultz, C. E. Weeks.

For Missionary Credentials: W. M. Campbell, Mrs. W. M. Campbell, Cora E. Gibson, C. V. Hamer, M. Hortense Howell, Catherine E. Miller, L. C. Mitchell, Anna C. Rice, Bessie E. Russell, Anna E. Smith, Ella M. Talmage, Ida M. Walters.

7:00 P. M.

This hour was occupied by Elder W. J. Stone. He preached a very interesting and timely discourse in which he showed the rapid development of this Message which evinces its final triumph. His discourse was followed by a short social service.

Before adjourning it was moved, "That we heartily thank the members of the Clyde church for their hearty welcome and considerate entertainment of the delegates to this, the Forty-fifth Annual Conference of the Seventh-day Adventists of Ohio; also the citizens of Clyde for the kindly as-

sistance rendered." After being duly seconded, the motion prevailed.

After singing the Doxology, and prayer, the conference adjourned.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DAY

THE young people of the Mount Vernon Church and College, acting in harmony with the request of the General Conference, observed Sabbath, January 26, as Young People's Day. In all about thirty-five took part.

The Bible and Testimony Study, "The Work of Young People," was first on the program and laid a good foundation for the day's work, showing clearly that the young people of our denomination are to be used of God in these days to close up his work in the earth.

The College chapel was filled to its capacity in the forenoon, and all present seemed deeply impressed by the truths presented. It was indeed gratifying to see the interest that was manifested by those taking part. Many grand and good thoughts were brought out in the readings, and we trust found a place in the hearts of our young people, and that they will be inspired to do more and more for God.

The afternoon meeting, though not so largely attended, was no less interesting and instructive. In the papers prepared were many good thoughts, and it could be seen that the ones writing were filled with a desire to be a blessing and help in this dark, sinful world.

Brother J. O. Miller being present talked on the "Duties of the Church to the Young People's Society," and brought out many rich thoughts showing that as the church is made up of individuals, our duty must come to us as individuals and not as a body.

Prof. and Mrs. Welsh favored us with a duet. The writer being chosen by the church to take charge of the Young People's work of the church, assisted in the program and spoke for a few moments on the object of this organization and what may be accomplished. Also as to the relation of the Young People's Society to the church, showing that the Society is a part of the church.

Our meeting closed just as the Sabbath was closing and we trust all went to their homes feeling that they had received a blessing and with determination to be a blessing. Our Motto is—"The Advent Message to all the World in this Generation."

W. J. WALTER.

"YE see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only."

MISCELLANEOUS

Zanesville

DEAR VISITOR: I am glad to report progress in the Lord's work. Since the organization of the church, eight have been added, thus making a present membership of nineteen. A number are keeping the Sabbath whom we hope will unite with us soon.

I have had the pleasure of visiting some of the city officials with Liberty. I do not remember when I was before so agreeably surprised. Every one thanked me for calling on them. The mayor and judge of police court informed me that they had studied into this question of civil and religious liberty enough to know that a union of church and state would be witnessed in this country before long, if there was nothing done to hinder it. Shall we who know these things stand still, and not give the warning against the image of the beast in the United States of America?

That we may all awake to the consideration of this question, is my prayer.

F. H. HENDERSON.

"ASK NOT TO BE EXCUSED"

FROM writing a letter to United States senators from your State remonstrating against H. R. 16,483 known as the Wadsworth Sunday Bill for the District of Columbia. It will be remembered that the bill has already passed the House of Representatives, and is now in the hands of the Senate committee for the District of Columbia.

This bill may be acted upon by this committee most any day and recommended favorably to the Senate.

It will also be remembered that the Fifty-ninth Congress closes the fourth of March. While we are hoping that the bill will die in the hands of the District of Columbia Senate Committee, it could, however, in the closing hours of Congress be acted upon and passed very quickly.

It should be understood that statesmen are pleased to know the wishes of their constituents. It has been demonstrated that earnest letters do have a salutary effect upon statesmen by calling their attention to evils underlying any proposed measure or emphasizing the evils of which they already have a knowledge.

It will be seen that should any action on the bill be deferred until the last day or two of Congress nearly every Seventh-day Adventist in the United States would have time to write a short and pointed but courteous letter to the senators from

his respective State making a most earnest protest against the proposed Sunday Bill for the District of Columbia. Let no one "ask to be excused" from writing his senators and do so AT ONCE.

K. C. RUSSELL.

GENERAL MEETING FOR DISTRICT 4

THERE will be a district meeting at Lagrange, beginning March 1, and continuing thereafter over Sabbath and Sunday. We are planning to make the meeting a success. The brethren at Lagrange will do all they can to make it pleasant for those who may attend. Questions of interest will be discussed, and we most earnestly pray that our heavenly Father will visit us. Our brethren at Bellville, Camden, Clyde, Green Spring, Locust Point, Mansfield, North Fairfield, Norwalk, Spencer, Troy and Wadsworth are expected to be with us.

If there ever was a time in the history of God's people when help was needed, it is now. The Spirit of God is being withdrawn from the earth, and the nations are angry. The judgments of God are abroad in the land, and the cities of the nations are falling.

Elders Burkholder, Patterson, and Shultz have been invited to attend the meeting, and we have every reason to believe that success will attend our efforts.

FRANCIS M. FAIRCHILD.

TITHE RECEIPTS.

JANUARY, 1907.

Akron.....	\$137.91
Alliance.....	24.48
Ashland.....	3.00
Barneville.....	.....
Beaver.....	9.25
Bellefontaine.....	20.98
Bellville.....	19.20
Bowling Green.....	42.05
Brokaw.....	8.00
Broughton.....	.....
Camden.....	37.89
Canton.....	6.00
Chagrin Falls.....	19.29
Charloe.....	3.96
Chillicothe.....	.....
Cincinnati.....	94.13
Cleveland.....	.....
Clyde.....	59.50
Columbiana.....	12.00
Columbus.....	132.93
Conneaut.....	4.39
Corsica.....	37.85
Coshocton.....	25.52
Cygnat.....	77.66
Dayton.....	96.48
Defiance.....	15.30
Delaware.....	30.48
Dowling.....	.....
Dresden-Triway.....	12.79
Dunkirk.....	11.06
East Liverpool.....	34.00

Elgin.....	56.31
Fairfield.....	.....
Farmer.....	13.70
Findlay.....	21.19
Green Spring.....	13.85
Hamilton.....	32.46
Hamler.....	136.69
Hicksville.....	32.49
Home Dept.....	35
Jackson.....	1.75
Jefferson.....	37.45
Killbuck.....	31.51
La Grange.....	91.07
Lake View.....	6.35
Laura.....	26.77
Leesburg.....	17.85
Lewistown.....	1.54
Liberty Center.....	49.48
Lima.....	15.91
Locust Point.....	.....
Mansfield.....	26.83
Marion.....	30.68
Marshfield.....	31.52
Marysville.....	.....
Massillon.....	49.39
Medina.....	5.00
Melgs.....	9.95
Mendon.....	2.00
Middlefield.....	16.70
Morrow.....	.....
Mount Vernon.....	165.65
Nashville.....	20.00
Newark.....	115.32
Norwalk.....	48.96
Ohio City.....	.....
Ollyett.....	.....
Pemberville.....	.....
Plata.....	.....
Pleasant Hill.....	24.28
Powell.....	28.28
Reedsville.....	2.08
Rio Grand.....	5.00
Rows.....	8.50
Sidney.....	.....
Sherwood.....	.....
Six Points.....	5.86
Spencer.....	29.00
Springfield.....	105.02
Toledo.....	33.67
Troy.....	.....
Van Wert.....	16.32
Wadsworth.....	2.00
Walnut Grove.....	72.00
Washington C. H.....	.....
Waterford.....	23.30
Wellsville.....	.....
Wengerlawn.....	.....
West Mansfield.....	10.00
Wheelerburg.....	100.58
Wilmington.....	144.01
Youngstown.....	27.38
Zanesville.....	9.00
Isolated Sabbath Keepers.....	178.59

Total.....\$2,845.63
C. V. HAMER, Treas.

TOTAL RECEIPTS, ALL SOURCES, January, 1907.

Tithe.....	\$2,845.63
Ohio Tract Society.....	632.09
First-day Offerings.....	76.80
Weekly Offerings.....	.....
Sabbath-school Donations.....	240.94
Y. P. Society.....	65.13
Southern Field.....	.....
Collection for Blind.....	.....
\$150,000 Fund.....	1,042.56
Annual Offering.....	493.58
China.....	2.00
International Pub. Assn.....	1.50
West Indian Training School.....	30.00
India.....
Blind Fund.....
Total.....	\$5,456.34

C. V. HAMER, Treas.

The Welcome Visitor

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BESSIE E. RUSSELL - Editor.

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at the Postoffice at Mt. Vernon, O., under the
Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Sabbath begins Mar. 1 at 5:52 P. M.

BROTHER CARL FAIRCHILD has been quite ill at his home in Zanesville.

BROTHER HENRY DEFLUITER, of Cleveland, contemplates moving to Lagrange.

SISTER MAUDE FENGELLY, of the Ontario Conference, has connected with the office as stenographer.

WE have just been favored with a short call from Elder Grainger, pastor of the Columbus church.

BROTHER M. S. BALDWIN, who is so well known in Ohio, has removed with his family from Campobello, S. C., to Dayton, Tenn.

ELDER C. P. HASKELL of Geneva, O., is visiting his daughter, Mrs. Janet W. Ryan, of South Lancaster, Mass.

ELDERS A. G. HAUGHEY, W. D. Hickman and B. F. Kneeland, of the West Michigan Conference, made a short call at the office recently.

BROTHER L. C. MITCHELL who has been confined at his home with quite a severe attack of mumps is slightly improved, and hopes to be back soon.

THE VISITOR has just received a copy of the new Year Book for 1907, which we believe to be the best and most complete directory ever gotten out. All our people should have it. Price 25 cents.

THE home of Sister Bertha Brown, of Clyde, was destroyed by fire on the night of February 19. The family was only aroused when the door had been broken in by the neighbors who had entered to rescue them. We sympathize with these friends in the loss of their home.

WE have just learned that Brother Harold Cobban, a former Mount Vernon College student, who has been assisting Elder I. H. Evans in the Treasury Department of the General Conference, has been called to the office of secretary and treasurer of the West Indian Union.

SISTER W. E. BENDER, of Buffalo, N. Y., known to so many of our Ohio people, was quite seriously injured in a railroad accident near Erie, Pa. She has recovered sufficiently to be released from the hospital, and will locate in Wellington, O. We are glad to welcome her into our midst.

WRITING from Karmatar, India, a few weeks ago, Elder W. W. Miller says, "I baptized four Santals this week. The place of baptism was beautiful. The green rice fields were in front of us, and a huge rock formed the background. About one hundred natives were present. They kept the best of order."

IT will be learned with regret that Dr. A. W. George, our missionary in Constantinople, has, through failing health been obliged to abandon the sanitarium work recently begun, with the prospects of good success, in that city. And now the sad news comes that the effort to regain his health in the highlands of Switzerland was unsuccessful and that death has brought an end to his sufferings. This seems doubly sad as no one is available to enter upon the work he left in Constantinople.

THE Educational Department feels more than pleased with the promptness with which our Sabbath-school secretaries have sent in their reports for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1906. All reports, save twelve, have been received, and the hope is entertained that when the secretaries, who have been delinquent, read the following poem by Mrs. Minnie M. Fletcher, their reports will be forthcoming:—

I received the blank you sent me,
Filed it out, and now return,
And will try to answer questions,
Which you ask, that you may learn
Something of our school so pleasant
Which here meets from week to week,
Sitting at the feet of Jesus,
Striving his commands to keep.

Only six months in the past year
Have I secretary been,
And you ask, "Do I enjoy it?"
I will truly tell you then.
I would like to see some other
Fill the place instead of me,
But you know there's joy in being
Where the Lord would have us be.

"No experience?" Not exactly,
In the years that hurried by,
Fifty-five to me allotted,
I've been called upon to try
More than once to keep the minutes
Of all things both done and said,
Songs and prayers and lessons studied.
Also scripture lessons lead.

Yes our school is very pleasant;
Each one tries to do his part,
Living out the message pondered,
With a pure and earnest heart.

DISTRICT MEETING

A GENERAL meeting for the Toledo district, Number 5, will be held at Hamler March 8-10. In view of the increasing importance of the work and its demands upon us, this meeting will, we trust, under divine guidance result in a greater interest and devotion to this closing work.

Several Conference laborers will be in attendance, and we hope that the churches and companies in the district will be well represented.

W. E. BIDWELL, Dist. Supt.

STUDIES IN GOSPEL HISTORY

A SERIES of forty-five lessons on the life of Christ, by Prof. M. E. Kern, of Union College. This book was adopted by the Educational Convention last summer for use in our schools and colleges and the edition just finished is a revision of that part of the author's "Lessons in New Testament History" treating on the life of Christ.

Notes, copious library references, outline maps, and illustrations, make the study of the life of Christ, as here outlined, one of fascinating interest when taken up either privately or in the class room.

The book contains 364 pages, is attractively bound in cloth, and will be sent anywhere, postpaid, on receipt of price, 75 cts. Discount to schools.

Remember, this book is arranged for use in church-schools, academies, and colleges.

Order of the Union College Press, box 37, College View, Neb., or the Ohio Tract Society, Mount Vernon, O.

OBITUARY

SHAW.—Died at her home in Toledo, Mrs. E. E. Shaw, Wednesday evening Jan. 9, at the age of 52 years and 25 days. She leaves a husband, two sons and three daughters, who "believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him." They "sorrow not, even as others which have no hope." She was formerly a member of the Methodist Church, but for many years has been a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. "The grace of God that bringeth salvation" taught her to look "for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." As we think of her devotion to the cause she loved, we are reminded of the Master's words, "She hath done what she could." Until "he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet" to "gather together his elect from the four winds," we hold fast the promise, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from hence forth: that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them."

A. C. SHANNON