

THE Welcome Visitor

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

VOL. 11

MOUNT VERNON, OHIO, P. O., (ACADEMIA, OHIO), DECEMBER 4, 1907.

No. 47

THE OHIO CONFERENCE

DUTY

LAUNCH out into the deep,
The awful depths of the world's despair:
Hearts that are breaking and eyes that weep.
Sorrow and ruin and death are there.
And the sea is wide, and the pitiless tide
Bears on its bosom a way — away,
Beauty and youth in relentless ruth
To its dark abyss for aye — for aye.
But the Master's voice comes over thesea;
"Let down your nets for a draught" for me!
He stands in our midst on our wreck-strewn
strand,
And sweet and royal is his command.
His pleading call
Is to each — to all;
And wherever the royal call is heard,
There hang the nets of the royal Word.
Trust to the nets and not to your skill,
Trust to the royal Master's will!
Let down your nets each day, each hour,
For the word of a King is a word of power,
And the King's own voice comes over the
sea.
"Let down your nets for a draught" for me,
— Sunday Magazine.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER

DECEMBER 14-21 will mark the week of prayer for the year 1907. The need of such a season for prayer and self-examination was never more apparent than at the present time. Satan is surely working in every conceivable way to destroy God's remnant people. The shaking time is here when those who are not rooted and grounded in the fundamental principles of the Third Angel's Message will fall under the power of the great adversary. Apostacies, fanaticism and a spirit of indifference on the part of many, reveal the movements of the enemy, and should cause the people of God to press together and preserve the order clearly set forth in the "Testimonies to the Church."

Desiring to assist as far as possible in making the coming week of prayer a great blessing to the cause of God and his people in the Ohio Conference, the following assignments of labor have been arranged by the Committee:—

Elder A. C. Shannon, Toledo, Clyde and Norwalk.

Elder Francis M. Fairchild, Springfield, Laura and Piqua.

Elder C. T. Redfield, Columbus and Powell.

Elder R. R. Kennedy, Wheelersburg, Chillicothe and Beaver.

Elder R. G. Patterson, Cleveland, Lagrange and Youngstown.

Elder W. E. Bidwell, Elgin, Sherwood and Cygnet.

Elder F. D. Starr, Mount Vernon.

Dr. H. M. Jump, Bowling Green, Pemberville and Dowling.

Dr. J. W. Venen, Marion, Corsica and Mansfield.

John P. Gaede, Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton.

Fred H. Henderson, Zanesville and Newark.

G. P. Gaede, Middlefield and Chagrin Falls.

John J. Marietta, Akron, Ravenna and Medina.

Walter C. Moffett, Derwent, Barnesville and Cambridge.

Lee R. Williams, Walnut Grove, Lima and Findlay.

William and Cora Campbell, New Philadelphia, Massillon, Canton and Alliance.

Fred M. Fairchild, Delaware and Bellefontaine.

G. C. Quillin, Killbuck, Coshocton, and Pleasant Hill.

John W. Shultz, Charloe, Defiance, and Liberty Center.

N. S. Miller, Hamler and Greenspring.

Anna E. Smith, Wilmington.

M. Hortense Howell, Leesburg.

Cora B. Gibson, Camden and Clarksfield.

Ella M. Talmage, Waterford.

Anna C. Rice, Washington C. H.

Ida M. Walters, Marysville.

Bessie E. Acton, Hicksville and Farmer.

H. H. BURKHOLDER.

SHOWERS OF BLESSING FOR ALL

THE time for especially seeking the Lord is just before us. Overhead are bright spiritual clouds heavily loaded with showers of blessing for each one of us. All heaven is intensely interested in the spiritual welfare of every believer, but unless we are individually prepared to receive of the heavenly

anointing, all will be in vain so far as we are concerned.

Surely it is high time that every one of us placed ourselves in that relation to God that he can entrust us with his Holy Spirit, thus preparing us for finishing the work of warning the world—a work that must be done before Jesus comes.

Do not all need this heavenly anointing? Shall we let anything stand in the way of our obtaining the evidence that God, for Christ's sake, has pardoned all our transgressions, and that we have in Jesus a high priest and intercessor in the heavenly sanctuary who is in fact ministering "for us?"

It does seem that the most important thing in all the world for us is to so humble our hearts by *thorough confession* that the Holy Spirit may take possession of the soul temple, and shed abroad in our hearts the love of God, which will be seen in our love for the brethren, and for sinners for whom Christ died, as promised us. Read Rom. 5:1-5.

We can begin now to prepare for the coming week of prayer. The best place will be found alone with God in the closet, in the woods, or the hay mow, out by the straw-stack, just anywhere where we can pour out our soul's repentance and confession to Jesus, the friend of sinners. And as we "pray" let us "forgive." It will not matter so much to us then even though some brother has wronged us. If the burden of the soul is to get right with God, other matters will seem trivial as compared with this, and will right themselves. Heartfelt confessions will follow, if true humbling of soul is experienced *alone with God*.

What do we need more than this? Why not humble our *own* hearts before God now? Jesus did. He strove not for place or position or honor. He humbled *himself*. We do not want God to humble us. This he has left for us to do. Remember Saul's experience. God humbled him, but it was a bitter experience for Saul, with no salvation in it. Let us begin now, dear brethren and sisters, to seek the Lord for a deeper experience in heavenly things. The Lord is coming. Everything in our world indicates

this. This is the message for this time; we are the instruments foretold by the prophets through whom God will finish his work in the earth in righteousness. Let us lose no time in doing thorough work for eternity. It will have been through much humble seeking of God in prayer that the people mentioned below have become prepared to do that written of them:—

"I heard those clothed with the armor speak forth the truth with great power. It had effect. Many had been bound; some wives by their husbands, and some children by their parents. The honest who had been prevented from hearing the truth, now eagerly laid hold upon it. All fear of their relatives was gone, and the truth alone was exalted to them. They had been hungering and thirsting for truth; it was dearer and more precious than life. I asked what had made this great change. An angel answered, 'It is the latter rain, the refreshing from the presence of the Lord, the loud cry of the third angel.'"—"Early Writings," p. 133. T. E. BOWEN.

THE CONFERENCE HELD AT PHILADELPHIA

COMMITTEE on Distribution of Labor reported as follows:—

1. That the Indiana Conference be requested to release J. M. Reese and that he take the presidency of the West Virginia Conference.

2. That the Indiana Conference be requested to release Elder C. J. Buhals and that he make New Jersey his field of labor.

That we invite the Indiana Conference to send a laborer to West Virginia and support him for one year.

4. That Brother C. B. Haynes, of the New Jersey Conference, make the Chesapeake Conference his field of labor.

5. That Fred M. Fairchild, of the Ohio Conference, be invited to make the Chesapeake Conference his field of labor.

6. That Elder A. R. Bell, of the New Jersey Conference, be invited to labor in the East Pennsylvania Conference.

7. That Eldor George W. Spies, of East Pennsylvania Conference, make New Jersey his field of labor.

8. That Miss Anna C. Rice, of the Ohio Conference, be invited to connect with the Virginia Conference.

9. That all other transfers of laborers be referred to the Executive Committee of the Columbia Union Conference, and in view of the recent organization of this Union Conference we request the Executive Committee and

workers in the several local conferences to heartily co-operate in making such transfers as the Executive Committee of this Union Conference may recommend.

Signed—

MORRIS LUKENS, *Chairman.*

B. F. KNEELAND, *Sec.*

Report of Committee on Credentials and Licenses

For Credentials: W. J. Fitzgerald, H. H. Burkholder.

That all other names be referred to the Executive Committee of the Columbia Union Conference.

Signed—

H. H. BURKHOLDER, *Chairman.*

A. R. BELL, *Sec.*

Report of Committee on Plans and Recommendations

1. *Whereas*, The blessing of the Lord has attended the work of the various conferences in this field during the past biennial term so that marked advancement has been made in carrying the Message to the people of the great cities in this field, we therefore express our gratitude to our heavenly Father for his many blessings, and that we reconsecrate ourselves to his service and that we implore his blessing and guidance during the coming term.

2. *Whereas*, The territory of the Atlantic Union States has been divided into two Unions, Ohio uniting with the Columbia Union Conference, therefore in order to make the administration more efficient in developing the cause of the Message in these populous fields, therefore—

We recommend, That as a Union and Conferences represented we call for the consecration of every resource to service and that we earnestly press our work into unentered portions of our field and in the great centers of population in order that the warning of the Lord's soon coming may reach every community in our Union.

3. *Resolved*, That we arrange for the full departmental organization of our work by making provision for the Publishing, Educational, Young People's Missionary Volunteers, Medical Missionary and Religious Liberty Departments and that persons be chosen to the oversight of these departments.

4. *We recommend*, That we unite in strengthening and building up the distributing agencies of the Publishing Department, that they shall lay hold definitely upon every individual who has espoused the cause of the Third Angel's Message, and enlist him as an active factor in distributing our publications, giving him the necessary instructions and training.

To this end, *we recommend*:—

(a.) That a Field Missionary Secretary be appointed in each Conference to take supervision in the field of the circulation of periodicals, tracts, trade, and forty per cent. books. The duties of the Field Secretary shall be the selection, instruction and direction of the workers; the holding of institutes in the interest of home missionary work; the organization of missionary work; the increasing of the clubs of our papers and the sale of literature provided especially for home workers; and auditing librarians' books.

(b.) The Field Missionary Secretary shall be appointed and directed by the State Conference Committee and supported by the Conference, and hold the same relation to the Tract and Missionary Department as the Field Missionary Agent.

(c.) That the Field Missionary Secretary co-operate with the Tract Society, making the Tract Society his headquarters, if possible, and assist the Tract Society when not in the field,

(d.) That a general Missionary Secretary be appointed to take general supervision of this work in the Columbia Union Conference.

(e.) That the General Missionary Secretary be supported by the Columbia Union Conference and the wholesale house.

(f.) That the General Missionary Secretary make the wholesale house his headquarters if possible.

(5.) *Whereas*, a uniform system of accounting is desirable in order to unify the work of measures and simplify auditing and facilitate the transfer of treasurers from conference to conference, thus increasing their efficiency and enabling the conference presidents to comprehend the status of the office in any conference to which they may be called, therefore—

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to bring about such changes in this Union as will secure such uniform system.

6. *Resolved*, That State Treasurers and others handling funds that should go to the Conference treasury be earnestly requested to forward the same at the end of each month.

7. *Whereas*, in the large cities on the Atlantic coast there are two million Jews,—

Whereas, The Spirit of Prophecy has said that, "The time has come when the Jews are to be given light and there are to be a multitude convinced of the truth who will take their position for God and who will proclaim the immutability of the law of God with wonderful power," therefore—

Resolved, That we do all we can to encourage our people in this Union

Conference to co-operate in the work of giving the truth to the Jews.

8. *Whereas*, There are many of the better classes of Jews that can be best reached by personal correspondence, therefore,—

Resolved, That we encourage our churches to send the names of the Jewish business and professional men in their cities and towns to the Jewish Department of the Central New England Conference, South Lancaster, Mass.

9. *Whereas*, There is at the present time a movement on foot among certain Jewish churches to depart from the observance of the seventh-day Sabbath and to affiliate with the Sunday keeping churches, thus giving us an opportunity to work especially with the classes of Jews thus becoming involved with the opposers of the truth, therefore—

Resolved, As far as we can, we place the magazine *Liberty* in the hands of Jewish rabbis, doctors and judges in connection with Jewish literature.

10. *Whereas*, The elders and deacons of our churches hold positions of great responsibility, and—

Whereas, It is essential to hold institutes, conventions, etc., for the instruction of ministers, teachers, physicians, canvassers and Sabbath-school workers to fit them for efficient service, therefore—

Resolved, That we encourage the Conferences of this Union to hold institutes for church elders and deacons to instruct them more fully in their important duties.

11. *Resolved*, That we heartily approve the recommendation of the General Conference Committee requesting all our people in the United States to devote as far as possible the first week of December to the sale of the Missionary Special of the *Signs of the Times*.

12. *Whereas*, There are over three million Italians in the Atlantic and Columbia Union Conferences, therefore—

Resolved, That we recommend to each Conference where Italians are located the use of *L'Ultimo Messaggio*. The Last Message, and that we urge our brethren to use clubs of the same.

13. Recognizing that we have lost much to the cause of God by our lack of attention to the young, therefore—

Resolved, That we put forth more vigorous and systematic efforts through our newly organized Missionary Volunteer Department to enlist our youth in the service of God where they are and to encourage our young people to obtain a preparation in our

schools for some branch of the work.

14. Recognizing the need of something being done to assist our sanitariums in securing a better patronage—

We recommend, That the attention of those in need of this help be called to these institutions.

15. *Whereas*, The Lord has gone before this people opening doors in all nations so that there is an opportunity to teach the truths of the Third Angel's Message to all the world, and—

Whereas, We believe that this Message is to go to all the world in this generation, and—

Whereas, the funds received by the Mission Board are not sufficient to warrant the enlargement of our missionary operations as the opening providences of God demand, therefore,—

Resolved, (1.) That we pledge ourselves to endeavor to greatly increase the donations to foreign missions.

(2.) That we undertake to raise for foreign mission work an amount equal to ten cents per week per capita for our church membership.

(3.) That we assume the responsibility of collecting the above specified sum of money in our territories, and forwarding the same month by month to the Mission Board Treasury.

(4.) That for the present we favor the Sabbath-school donation and the annual and Mid-Summer Offerings of each conference being applied on the above fund to make the average of ten cents per week per church member.

16. *Whereas*, The scriptures teach that the tithe is reserved for the gospel ministry, and—

Whereas, The Union and local conferences in the United States recognize the importance of sharing their tithe with the mission fields of the world, and—

Whereas, It is evident from the tithes reported by different conferences that our funds for mission fields would be largely increased if full tithe were paid by all the members in our conferences, therefore—

Resolved, That we urge each conference in this Union to make a most earnest effort to secure the payment of a full tithe in every church, and further—

Resolved, That a special appeal be made by every conference to the church officers to give this matter personal, prayerful attention until they are sure every member is paying a true tithe to the cause.

17. *Whereas*, A Union Conference paper is essential to the working efficiency of all its departments, therefore—

Resolved, That this Union Conference publish a weekly paper; and be it further—

Resolved, That the Executive Committee of the Union Conference advise with the Executive of the Ohio Conference relative to making the WELCOME VISITOR the official organ of the Columbia Union Conference.

Resolved, That the operating expense of the Union paper be mutually shared by the several conferences of the Union in proportion to their membership.

18. *Whereas*, The Mount Vernon College is located within the Columbia Union Conference,—

We recommend, That we make it the training school for this Union and that the young people of this territory be encouraged to avail themselves of the privileges offered by this institution.

Report of Committee on Nomination

For President, W. J. Fitzgerald.

For Vice-President, H. H. Burkholder.

For Secretary and Treasurer, E. R. Brown.

For Auditor, E. R. Brown.

For Executive Committee as follows: W. J. Fitzgerald, H. H. Burkholder, E. R. Brown, B. F. Kneeland, Morris Lukens, C. F. McVagh, H. H. Herrell, L. E. Sufficool, President East Pennsylvania Conference (to be elected), J. B. Clymer, A. C. Shannon, D. W. Reavis, Dr. G. W. Bayley, and an additional member to be selected by Executive Committee.

CHESAPEAKE CONFERENCE, NOTICE

At the Union Conference meeting held in Philadelphia November 14-24, 1907, it was decided to divide the Atlantic Union and form a new union conference; namely, the Columbia Union Conference. This division comprises the following conferences: Ohio, West Pennsylvania, Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia, West Virginia, and Chesapeake Conference.

It was voted that we make the WELCOME VISITOR the official organ of the Columbia Union Conference in place of the *Atlantic Union Gleaner* of the old Atlantic Union Conference.

Sample copies of this paper will be sent to all our people for a time, and it is hoped that all will subscribe for it, the price to be only twenty-five cents a year. MORRIS LUKENS.

MISSIONARY RALLY

THERE will be a Sabbath-school Convention and Missionary Rally, Sabbath and Sunday, December 7 and 8, at Baltimore, Md.

It is hoped that Professor Kern, the General Conference Secretary of the Young People's Society, and T. D. Richardson, the General Missionary Agent of the Columbia Union Conference, will be in attendance.

The next general meeting in this conference will be held at Ford's Store, Md., December 12-15.

MORRIS LUKENS.

READERS IN WEST PENNSYLVANIA, ATTENTION

SAMPLE copies of the WELCOME VISITOR are being sent to all the Sabbath-keeping homes in West Pennsylvania for a few weeks. A word of explanation is due. We want you to become acquainted with the paper, as from this time forward it takes the place of the *Gleaner* as the official channel of communication with our churches and people. We are now in the Columbia Union Conference and hereafter all the laborers' reports from West Pennsylvania and all official notices and announcements to the churches will appear in the WELCOME VISITOR. No pains will be spared to make the VISITOR worthy of a welcome every week. Although the paper is enlarged the price will remain the same, twenty-five cents per year. Send West Pennsylvania subscriptions direct to the Tract Society office at Corydon.

Laborers are requested to report regularly to the VISITOR, and to unite with the church officers in canvassing every family for subscriptions. The price has been placed within the reach of all, and while this will mean some loss in publication, it will save an immense amount of writing and postage if we can be sure of reaching all our people by announcements printed in the VISITOR. In order to know what is going on in West Pennsylvania, subscribe for the WELCOME VISITOR.

C. F. McVAGH.

A LIMITED number of the *Review and Herald* containing the week of prayer readings have been received at the Tract Society. Any of our isolated people who desire one can send their request to the Tract Society, and one will be forwarded free of charge.

The Welcome Visitor

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE

Ohio Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Mt. Vernon, O., P. O. (Academia, O.)

Price, 25 Cents a Year in Advance.

BESSIE E. RUSSELL Editor

Entered as Second Class Matter September 6, 1906.
at the Postoffice at Mt. Vernon, O., under the
Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Sabbath begins Dec. 6 at 4:38 P. M.

THE week of prayer will be December 14-21.

THE readers of the VISITOR will be pained to learn of the sudden death of Elder W. D. Curtis, which occurred Saturday night, November 23. Elder Curtis visited the College just a few days before his death, and his last talk was given in the College chapel Wednesday evening, November 20. His words of counsel and admonition were much appreciated. We extend our deepest sympathy to the bereaved family and relatives.

WE are glad to comply with the request to send sample copies of the WELCOME VISITOR to our new relations in the Columbia Union Conference, whose names have been sent us. We shall be equally pleased to add their names to our subscription list.

We know that occasionally typographical errors have been found after the paper has been printed, and several times it has fallen below our standard, yet we are encouraged by the many evidences of appreciation of our efforts to please our patrons. However, to make the VISITOR just what its readers want, it is necessary for the workers in the field to supply the material. It is the experiences of these laborers that are of the most interest to those who are at home busy "holding the ropes." The hearts of these brethren are with those who have left all to become "fishers of men," and it is their reports which make the conference paper a success. So we shall expect the workers in all the conferences of the Columbia Union, to make their department interesting to their constituency.

We also extend to the different churches an invitation to report their special services, conventions, etc.,

which will be published as space permits.

It will be our constant effort, and no pains will be spared, to make the WELCOME VISITOR a household friend.

EDITOR.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETING

THE regular mid-winter committee meeting will be held at Charfield Penn., Jan. 8-12, 1908. All the conference laborers are requested to attend this council. The location of our next camp-meeting and other important plans for working West Pennsylvania will be discussed at this meeting. In addition to all the ministers in this conference, Elder W. J. Fitzgerald, president of the Columbia Union Conference, will be in attendance. A regular general meeting will be held in the Charfield church at the same time. I hope that all our people will begin to pray definitely that the Holy Spirit may direct all the plans, and I am sure the members of the Charfield church will work to make this important meeting count for the advancement of the truth in that city.

C. F. McVAGH.

A PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE WELCOME VISITOR

THE advisability of having a Union Conference paper was a question that came in for a share of attention at the recent organization of the Columbia Union Conference at Philadelphia. There was a prevailing sentiment in favor of such an organ, and it was decided to ask the WELCOME VISITOR to enlarge its sphere of usefulness and in keeping with the spirit of the conference which it has so long and so well represented, contribute of its strength to the upbuilding of the cause of God in needy fields outside of its own local borders.

This request received favorable consideration by the Ohio delegation and at a subsequent meeting of the Union Conference Executive Committee it was finally agreed that after Jan. 1, 1908, the WELCOME VISITOR should become the medium of communication for the Columbia Union Conference, retaining its present name and subscription price, but would be enlarged from a four to an eight page paper.

The proposed change will greatly enlarge the VISITOR family, and bring in a new order of things that we hope will be mutually enjoyed by all directly concerned.

H. H. BURKHOLDER.