

THE Welcome Visitor

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

VOL. 11 MOUNT VERNON, OHIO, P. O., (ACADEMIA, OHIO), DECEMBER 25, 1907. No. 50

THE OHIO CONFERENCE

NOTICE TO THE LOCAL CHURCH ELDERS

AS we are nearing the close of another calendar year, I would suggest that you take special pains to look up your absent members. If you find names on your church roll who do not report and whose whereabouts are unknown to the church, steps should be taken to drop such persons because they are of no practical benefit to the church, nor the church to them.

On the other hand, when an estimate is made of what should be done or has been done by the church, the active, faithful workers get a 2½ or 3 per cent. credit instead of a 75 or 100 per cent. which is justly due them. This condition of things is a discredit to the church and a constant source of discouragement to the energetic, persevering worker. I am fully persuaded that there must be seen among Seventh-day Adventists a brushing up on church discipline and order. We have been too lax, and as a result I fear that some have been led to think that they would be admitted into the better land on the credit of the church rather than on the direct results of their own good records. This deception should be removed as speedily as possible, and emphasis placed on the fact that salvation is a personal matter and that the prospects of obtaining this precious boon are in proportion to the individual effort put forth in that direction.

It often happens that after a call is made for help to speed the cause of present truth to all the world (like the recent call for \$150,000) and the help is finally furnished by the truth-loving, self-sacrificing ones paying three or four times the allotted share of all, the only active part some individuals take in the matter is to sing with the others the song of jubilee, hoping in this way to share in the credit.

But let it be remembered that the records that are kept above are the ones that will be consulted in the final judgment, and the credit in these books is placed where it justly belongs.

As we near the end of our journey and the closing conflicts in the controversy, there is a greater need of organizing and drilling than ever before. It is just as essential to know how to keep rank as to know that the time has come for the proclamation of the Third Angel's Message to all the world. A private who gets over zealous and breaks ranks and rushes ahead, or falls behind for lack of interest, is in the greatest danger of becoming a special target of the enemy and of also losing his own soul.

In the multitude of counselors there is safety: in union there is strength. United we stand; divided we fall.

We are glad to announce that during the coming year institutes will be held in various parts of the Ohio Conference for the benefit of local church officers. We have seen the need of this for several years, and feel well pleased that the time has come when such a plan is to be carried into effect.

I would also suggest in closing that, if needed, you call upon or write your District Superintendent to audit your church books. The matter of auditing the records of the local church treasurer by a competent person should not be neglected. It is justly due the church to know how the work is done and the faithful, pains-taking treasurer should be protected against suspicion from every source.

H. H. BURKHOLDER.

SPECIAL NOTICES!

THE forty-sixth annual session of the Ohio Conference will be held in the Seventh-day Adventist church, Ohio and Fair Streets, Columbus, Jan. 20-24, 1908. The first meeting of the session will be held Monday, the 20th, at 7:00 P. M.

H. H. BURKHOLDER.

THE Ohio Conference Association of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will hold its annual meeting for the election of officers, and to transact such other business as will be necessary at that time in the Seventh-day Adventist church, Ohio and Fair Streets, Columbus, at the time of reg-

ular annual session of the Ohio Conference, Jan. 20-24, 1908. The first meeting will be held Tuesday, January 21, at 3 P. M.

H. H. BURKHOLDER, *Pres.*

C. V. HAMER, *Sec.*

THERE will be a meeting of the patrons of the Mount Vernon College in the Seventh-day Adventist church, Ohio and Fair Streets, Columbus, Tuesday, January 21, 1908, at 7 o'clock P. M. The election of officers and other necessary business will be transacted at this time.

H. H. BURKHOLDER, *Pres.*

C. V. HAMER, *Sec.*

THE ELECTION OF DELEGATES

THE election of delegates is a matter that should now receive prompt attention by the organized churches of the Ohio Conference. Each church is entitled to one delegate for its organization, without respect to numbers, and to one additional delegate for each twenty-five members.

Officers will be elected, a future policy outlined, and other matters of importance will demand the attention of the delegates at this session. The business interests of the cause we love are of sufficient importance to demand careful thought and the exercise of our best judgment.

With these thoughts in mind I would like to suggest that in the selection of delegates, the qualifications of an individual to fill this place of responsibility should always be considered paramount to his ability to meet his own traveling expenses. Then, too, if the delegate is to represent and act for the whole church, why should not his traveling expenses be mutually shared by the church? I believe the results of such a course would, in the end, be far more satisfactory than otherwise.

It is earnestly desired that each local church be well represented; and that such steps may be taken and plans laid by this conference that will strengthen the work at home and abroad and hasten the day of our coming King.

The names of all delegates should be forwarded as early as possible to C. V. Hamer, Box 187, Mount Vernon, O.
H. H. BURKHOLDER.

DISTRICTS FIVE AND SIX

DEAR VISITOR: December 3 I left home to take up my district work. I stayed that night with Brother Mackin, finding them well and of good courage. The next morning I went on to Conant, there I found all of good courage in spite of all the enemy has tried to do by falsehood and deceit to overthrow the truths of God's word. I spoke twice to our people at Conant. I was glad to meet Brother Williams, who is gaining a good experience in binding off the work. I believe he will be successful in adding to the numbers at Conant.

Sabbath morning, Brother Samuel Potts drove me over to Elgin, where I found the brethren of good courage; although several have moved to the West, however, others who have lived too far away to attend meetings will soon move near the church where they can attend regularly. Here I met Sister Ellen Long, who is teaching a family school with success, and Edna Cockrell, a Bible worker from Washington, who is visiting her friends for a short time. As I conversed with these two sisters, I could not help but think how much better it would be if more of our young people were engaged in the Master's work instead of leading the useless lives that many of them do. How will they feel when the question is asked them, "How have you used the talents of strength, intelligence, and education that God has given you?" May our young people be aroused to the duties of the hour before those who are now in the Master's work break down beneath the load that is placed upon them.

December 12, after a long walk, found me at Charloe once more where I was glad to meet with many of my old friends along with many new faces. Here I held quarterly meeting on the Sabbath with a full house. The Sabbath-school numbers nearly fifty.

Brother John Gaede and John Shultz were both here. I was glad to meet both of my old yoke fellows once more and to see how well they were looking. I held several good meetings with the Charloe church, leaving them December 16 for Defiance.
W. E. BIDWELL.

"THE truth as it is in Jesus can be experienced, but never explained."

A SUGGESTION

NOW a word or two of suggestion to our secretaries all over the State. We are very much grieved, and lament that our reports to the General Conference are sent out so late.

Another year is just closing, and again your reports are due. O will you not send them in quickly! We do all we can for you.

We have planned a donation (letter) party. It will be on the first of the year. Each guest will send us a message—your report with a word of good cheer. If as soon as the last Sabbath is over, Dec. 28, you will make out your report of the quarter you will be just in time, so do not wait. It will be a time of rejoicing. Will you mar it by not taking part? This year of work then is finished and we will welcome the new with glad hearts.

BESSIE E. ACTON.

OUR ONLY HOPE

AS Jesus with many of his disciples and others drew nigh to the village of Nain, they met with what appeared to be the whole town coming out of the gate in a funeral train. They marched slowly with sad hearts to the place of burial. Tears blinded the eyes of the grief stricken mother. The tender, loving heart of the Saviour was touched with sympathy. He drew nigh to her and gently said, "Weep not." He came and touched the bier. The bearers stood still. The mourning ceased. With authority and power he said, "Young man, I say unto you, arise." He that was dead sat up. Inexpressible joy filled the heart of the poor, lonely, widowed mother as she embraced her only son.

He had been restored to the vigor of health. That funeral train saw strange things. Fear came on all, God had visited them. He had manifested his power to save unto the uttermost. They were reminded of the works of Elijah and Elisha upon similar occasions. "They said that a great prophet is arisen among us." They all glorified God. These things were written for our learning. In the Revelation of Jesus Christ there is a great message commanding us to fear God and give glory to him. When the hour of his judgment had come, this Message was given with power to all the world. Fear came upon all his people. They were sure that the end of all things was at hand. "We are nearer than when we believed." The Third Angel's Message is almost completed. Does the joyful expectation of the soon coming Saviour fill our hearts with joy? Do we experi-

ence the same fear and reverence that came upon all that stood in the presence of the Lord of life and glory at the funeral service at Nain? Nothing short of this will avail. The Lord has revealed to us that the power of Satan now to tempt and deceive is tenfold greater than it was in the days of the apostles. His power has increased and will increase until it is taken away. His wrath and hate grow stronger as his time to work draws near to its close.

Our only hope is to abide in the presence of the Lord who touched the bier and commanded the dead to arise. He alone can impart the power to give the words of life to those that sit in darkness and are dead in trespasses and sin.

Blessed is the man that trusteth, and whose hope the Lord is, for he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

R. R. KENNEDY.

THE KING'S BUSINESS REQUIRES HASTE

THERE are times when we are to stand still and patiently wait to see the salvation of our Lord; there are times when we should hasten with every power to fulfil his will and do some special work for him. It would be a great blessing to our people if they would finish up the \$150,000 Fund before January, 1908. We have passed the \$100,000 mark, and over two-thirds of it has been paid in actual cash and a very large part of the \$50,000 yet to be raised has been pledged. In the Southern Union Conference the amount apportioned has been covered by pledges. Now if those who have made pledges are able and willing to pay within a few days and a few more liberal cash donations are made, the whole amount will be in the hands of the Union Conference treasurers by the first of January, 1908. If the presidents and treasurers of conferences make an effort to have the pledges paid quickly, and if each officer through whose hands it passes hastens the work, we know it can be done and an overflow besides. Let those who have made pledges see at once that the money is in the hands of the church treasurer: the church treasurer should forward the amount to the conference treasurer without waiting a day: the conference treasurer should send forth without one day's delay what is in his hands to the Union Conference treasurer: and the Un-

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Ohio Conference of Seventh-day
Adventists

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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 Jan. 2 at 4:45 P. M.

THE blue pencil mark here means
that your subscription has expired.
Renew at once.

BROTHER C. V. HAMER and family
were called to Columbus last week by
the sudden death of a relative.

MISS ANNA FRANKLIN, who has
been teaching a family school at Cop-
ley, O., stopped for a short visit with
friends at the College on her way
home.

MRS. PHENA GREENUP is spending
the vacation with her sons, Camie and
Julian, who are attending the College.
Sister Greenup is teaching a family
school at Hamilton.

ELDER W. A. SPICER of Washing-
ton, D. C., spent part of the week of
prayer at the College. His earnest
talks in behalf of missions proved a
great incentive to more earnest efforts
in preparing for the work we may be
called to do in the Lord's vineyard.
And whether the place in which we
labor be of high or low degree the
"well done" depends upon the faith-
fulness which characterizes our work.
"Whether therefore ye eat, or drink,
or whatsoever ye do, do all to the
glory of God."

ELDER H. H. BURKHOLDER spent
Sabbath, December 21, with the
Mount Vernon church. At the close
of the reading for the morning, he
briefly reviewed the readings of the
week, emphasizing a few important
thoughts in each, and calling atten-
tion to how beautifully the first para-
graph of Sister White's reading for
Sabbath, December 14, and the last
paragraph of Elder Daniell's coupled
together. After the offering had been
collected, the deacons waited before
the pulpit while Elder Spicer in an
earnest prayer dedicated the offering
to the Lord. The congregation stood
during this time, thus reconsecrating
themselves anew to the work of the
Third Angel's Message.

WE are glad to comply with the re-
quest to send sample copies of the
WELCOME VISITOR to our new rela-
tions in the Columbia Union Confer-
ence, whose names have been sent us.
We shall be equally pleased to add
their names to our subscription
list.

We know that occasionally typo-
graphical 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 Un-
ion, to make their department inter-
esting to their constituency.

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

CANVASSERS' REPORTS

(For week ending Dec. 13, 1907.)

Enos M. Horst, Wayne Co.—Great
Controversy: 36 hours; value orders,
\$8.50; helps, \$10.45; total, \$18.95.

J. B. Reichenbach, Columbus.—
Great Controversy and Coming King:
12 hours; value of orders, \$8.50.

L. H. Waters, Stark Co.— Bible
Footlights: 31 hours; value of orders,
\$18; helps, \$1.40; total, \$19.40.

E. J. C. Sharp, Jackson Co.—
Bible Footlights: 25½ hours; value
of orders, \$30; helps, \$2.25; total,
\$32.25.

Mrs. Carrie Rankin, Cleveland.—
Coming King: 6 hours; value of or-
ders, \$6; deliveries, \$4.

Total value of orders.....\$71.00

Total value of helps 14.10

Grand total\$85.10

Total deliveries..... 4.00

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 Colum-
bia Union Conference at Philadel-
phia. There was a prevailing senti-
ment in favor of such an organ, and
it was decided to ask the WELCOME
VISITOR to enlarge its sphere of use-
fulness 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 Com-
mittee it was finally agreed that after
Jan. 1, 1908, the WELCOME VISITOR
should become the medium of commu-
nication for the Columbia Union Con-
ference, 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 di-
rectly concerned

H. H. BURKHOLDER.

OBITUARY

SMITH.—Clyde Edward, son of Mr. and Mrs.
C. R. Smith, was born at Clarks, O., Aug. 20,
1900, and died after a brief illness, near Mil-
lersburg, O., Nov. 27, 1907, aged 7 years, 3
months, and 6 days. He was a bright, intelli-
gent boy who gave promise of a noble man-
hood. Words of counsel and comfort were
spoken from Jer. 15: 15, 16, to relatives and
friends who filled the bereaved home. Father,
mother, and three brothers are left to
mourn. He is sleeping, and may each mem-
ber of that little family so live that they may
be again united with Clyde on the morning of
the resurrection.

W. E. BIDWELL.

SHAW.—Howard Elsworth Shaw, at the age
of 14 years, 7 months, and 17 days, died Friday
evening, November 8, as the setting sun an-
nounced the Sabbath. He was the victim of
a sad accident with a revolver in the hand of
a neighbor boy a few hours earlier in the day.
The other members of the family were out
when the boy called, and the two were alone
in Howard's room. The boy fled in fright when
he saw the terrible result of his carelessness,
and when Brother Shaw came in a few min-
utes later, he found his son dying, alone and
unconscious. It was not until the next morn-
ing that the only witness cleared the mystery
by making his statement. This family was be-
reft of a mother's care a short time before.
The father and sisters sorrowing under this ad-
ditional grief are, we trust, not without hope.
Words of comfort were spoken from Job 14: 14
to many kind friends gathered to show a last
tribute of respect to one who was highly es-
teemed by all.

A. C. SHANNON.

ibn Conference treasurer should forward it immediately to the General Conference treasurer. Each individual can see that at the very best it takes some time after the money has been started for it to be credited in the list. So let us hasten. We believe that there is quite a sum on the way, but it takes sometime for the funds to reach their final destination, so let us ALL HASTEN. This certainly is "the King's business" and it "requires haste." J. S. WASHBURN.

IN QUIETNESS AND CONFIDENCE

JUST as beneath the troubled surface of the sea there are still depths which the storm never reaches, there are many lives peaceful under the divine assurance that God is with them, and that therefore no man shall set on them to hurt them. Their spiritual convictions are so strong in their very simplicity, that they remain quiet and peaceful, while tempests of controversy rage above them. They keep themselves, and are kept, aloof from all the vexed questions of science, of the "higher criticism," of the laws of prayer, and of degeneration or of expansion. They do not cry to be led by dogmatic authority, and they escape the disturbing elements which trouble those who have built upon shifting foundations. The secret of their peace is that they are of those of whom Jesus said, "Blessed are they who have not seen, and yet have believed," whose faith rests not upon book knowledge, but upon love. It is not that they possess a religion; their religion possesses them.—*The Christian*.

COLLEGE SPRINGS SANITARIUM NOTES

MRS. GEORGE LEWIS, who has been at the Sanitarium, returned to her home Sunday.

MISS KIRK, of Fredericktown, O., arrived here recently. She has been suffering with paralysis for several months.

MR. S. S. HORST, of Orrville, O., who has spent five weeks at the Sanitarium, went home Friday feeling much improved. He expects to return after the holidays.

MRS. GEORGE TISCH, of Mount Vernon, is recovering and expects to return to her home this week.

PRAY for the work begun at this place. We need wisdom from above to know how to deal with these suffering ones.

OBEDIENCE

DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS: There is a Christian grace much to be desired but which has come to be a rare quantity in the lives of young people. It is obedience. Not that ostentatious affectation of yielding, nor yet the grudging granting of favors asked or required, but rather the quiet, sweet, willing, earnest spirit of service, which finds delight in doing because duty calls.

It is said of Jesus that he returned to Nazareth, and was subject to Joseph and Mary. What sweet visions of the Christlife do these words suggest! Can we imagine Jesus as a lad of sixteen with a heavy frown on his brow because Joseph refused permission to go to some social event of the Nazareth neighborhood? Can we think of him as stealing from home on Sabbath afternoon to attend a ball game? Was he peevish, petulant, fretful, and cross when his mother asked him to bring water from the well or aid in any of the household work?

What though he had been in the carpenter shop all day? What though his muscles were weary with the day's toil? Subject unto them! How much it means! And he is our example, dear boys and girls. Prompt, willing, cheerful obedience he rendered during his childhood, his youth, yea, his manhood; for he thought it not below him, when grown to man's age and stature, to continue in the little carpenter shop, and work for the help of the family. Missionary work?—Yes, indeed. His mind was weighed down with the stupendous task of seeking and saving the lost. But in the quiet Nazareth home he waited for the "time to be fulfilled," not idly, but with his hands busy with the daily tasks. "He learned obedience by the things which he suffered."

Are those days of gentle, patient, uncomplaining obedience less important than the times when surrounded by mocking multitudes he wore the old purple robe and suffered the buffetings of the hateful and hating multitude?

To be obedient to parents is to learn the lesson of obedience to God. To be loyal to parental government is to fix the habit of loyalty to the government of the universe.

One of the prominent characteristics of God's last people is that they keep the commandments of God. Will any of this remnant company be children?—Certainly. How will they have developed such characters?—They will have been obedient to parents, and thus learned obedience to God.—*T. H. Jeyes, in Report of Progress.*

LIFE AND HEALTH FOR DECEMBER

WHILE anyone who likes tobacco will be interested in, and especially benefited by, the December number of *Life and Health*, those who do not use tobacco will recognize in it a timely message for this time. While it makes clear the fact that the tobacco habit is a strong factor in the race degeneracy; that it affects the brain and nervous system of all; cites the evil effects of even the fumes of tobacco upon other members of the family; proves that tobacco poison renders the majority of its victims color-blind; explains the evil effects of tobacco in the schools; shows that the tobacco habit is an inheritance in many cases, it furnishes valuable suggestions based upon personal experience on the prevention, treatment, and cure of the tobacco habit.

This number of *Life and Health* should be widely circulated in all communities. It will be appreciated by thousands. The people will purchase it, and will enable the workers to receive a good remuneration for their trouble in bringing it to them. *Life and Health* workers everywhere are reporting favorably on December sales.

Wholesale price to agents, 4 cents; retail, 10 cents a copy.

"BLEST BE THE TIE"

NOT one in a thousand of those who sing that good old hymn, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" knows the history of its homely origin.

According to a recent authority, it was written by the Rev. John Fawcett, who in the latter part of the eighteenth century was the pastor of a poor little church in Lockshire, England. His family and responsibilities were large, his salary was less than \$4 a week.

In 1772 he felt himself obliged to accept a call to a London church. His farewell sermon had been preached, six wagons loaded with furniture and books stood by the door. His congregation, men, women and children, were in an agony of tears.

Mr. Fawcett and his wife sat down on a packing case and cried with the others. Looking up, Mrs. Fawcett said:—

"Oh, John, John, I cannot bear this! I know not where to go!"

"Nor I either," said he: "nor will we go. Unload the wagons and put everything back in its old place."

His letter of acceptance to the London church was recalled and he wrote this hymn to commemorate the episode.—*Selected.*