

COLUMBIA UNION VISITOR

"THEY REHEARSED ALL THINGS THAT GOD HAD DONE WITH THEM"

Vol. 15

Mount Vernon, Ohio, February 9, 1910

No. 6

GENERAL MATTER

THE WATER OF LIFE

Great fountain ever flowing pure and free,
Healing of all the sinsick in the land!
All may partake, and in its comfort see
What light and strength are in his giving hand.

Bright water! what an emblem here we find
Of Christ the fount of blessing and of peace.

An old sweet promise it doth bring to mind
Of life's pure river where our sorrows cease.

Not to a stagnant pool or some dead sea,
But to a fount of crystal water clear,
Sparkling and gushing plentiful and free—
This is salvation's emblem full of cheer.

Drink, thirsty soul, and bless the healing stream;

A well of living water it shall be
Deep in thy heart, and all thy life shall seem
A verdant vale to grow eternally.

MRS. PAULINE ALDERMAN.

Mount Vernon, O.

The Sabbath-school Lessons: Their Importance; Their Study*

THE Sabbath-school lessons are important. Long ago we were told: "The Bible lessons which are taught in our schools are of far greater consequence than many now discern. These children will have to meet in the near future the heresies and fables that abound in the Christian world."

If the children must meet them, how much more must the fathers and mothers; and they will as surely need all the knowledge that has been acquired in a faithful study of the Sabbath-school lessons.

A flock of sheep feeding in a green pasture give to the shepherd a promise of return. So the church, feeding upon the Bread of Life, the Word of God, is to the divine Shepherd a promise of eternal gain. In the sixth chapter of John, Jesus calls himself the "True Bread," the "Living

Bread," the "Bread of Life," the "Bread from Heaven," and he said, "If any man eat of this bread he shall live forever: and the bread that I shall give is my flesh which I will give for the life of the world." In the seven verses following, he six times repeats that we must eat his flesh to live. Then he says, "The flesh profiteth nothing, the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." Thus over and over he emphasizes this great truth that we must feed on his Word to live. The Sabbath school lessons are a weekly portion of this living bread, prepared with much care, that old and young may feed and live. Excellent Bible students and writers are continually at work upon them. They deserve the universal attention which they receive. To large numbers in our churches they are the only portion of divine manna taken for the soul's nourishment week after week. Therefore the weightiest possible influence on the part of the workers in this cause should be exerted to encourage the universal, diligent study of these lessons. The laborers should be an inspiration to every church where they find themselves.

Example speaks louder than precept. It is not enough to turn out some glittering generalities on the benefits of Bible study, but let a short, pointed, spirited, helpful review show that last week's lesson received such painstaking study as to still be live matter in the soul. That will exert an influence that has power. When asked to teach the Sabbath-school lesson be able, from faithful preparation, to do so. Such teaching inspires classes with the importance of the lesson study. Seventh-day Adventist homes need to be feeding upon the Word of God as they are not doing. Seventh-day Adventist workers need to be feeding upon the Word of God. We have much plain reproof and counsel on this one point. We read, "If God's Word were studied as it should be, men would have a breadth of mind, a nobility of character, and a stability of purpose that is rarely seen in these times."

"Thousands . . . are lacking in essential qualities of mind and character, because they do not apply themselves to the study of the Scriptures."

The Sabbath-school lessons are slices from God's bountiful loaf of living bread upon which we are invited to feed. Some lay the slice away and it dries up and molds. Some wait until Friday evening or Sabbath morning and bolt it down with one gulp. They get a little good. Some feed day by day with prayer and thought. Such souls grow fat. God's sieve, which he is slowly moving back and forth with its weight of human souls, will never shake out such ones. It is the lean ones, the withered ones, that gradually drop through the meshes, sifted out in this solemn sifting time. But God's sieve will hold all the fat ones, nourished with the heavenly manna. Those who feed day by day, when asked to teach a Sabbath-school class, are able to do it. Apologies and excuses are a fearful influence on the wrong side; or to purposely come too late to take part.

A worker to whom many look and pattern should not be dependent upon a lesson pamphlet to review or teach the lesson. I have seen a very little girl ask the questions in the lesson pamphlet and give the reference to be read in answering. She did not pretend to be teaching the lesson, nor is that reviewing the school. A teacher's eyes that are riveted on the lesson pamphlet on the Sabbath have not been duly riveted through the week.

The people need the influence of the worker's manifest study of the Word. If there has been faithful, prayerful study, the teacher will have a casket of precious jewels to present to the class for their soul's adorning. We read, "The richest treasures of thought are waiting for the skilful and diligent student." If all our conference workers and Sabbath-school officers and teachers could be led to dig deep, to carefully mine each week's lesson, it would send a new life pulsating through many churches, a thrill of divine energy into many homes. Such

*Read at the Columbia Union Conference.

study leads to a personal appreciation of the Word. We see new light in the old well-known scriptures. We have all realized this many times. I had known the 23rd Psalm for years. Many times my lips have said, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me." Had the Sabbath-school lesson at any time been on that Psalm I should have felt prepared to teach it. But lately, while in deep trouble, that clause, "I will fear no evil; for thou art with me," came to me as though I had never known it before. I repeated it over and over, "I will fear no evil, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me." Could this precious promise be in that Psalm repeated so thoughtlessly many times in the past? From my Bible I read and re-read it. At last I was really eating that little crumb from God's own table. From henceforth I could really teach it. So with his precious promises, whereby we are made partakers of the divine nature, his miracles, his wise instruction, to feed others, we must ourselves partake of the broken body and shed blood.

Shall we ask how to study? Many do come with this question. They say, We do not know how to study and find out and see things in the Word. They need help. But it has seemed to me that the first and best help is a feeling of taking time—time to ask God for his spirit, time to receive it, time to be taught by it. We live in a world of rush and hurry. There is so much to be done, every hour is too short to accomplish all we purpose. There are so many interruptions and extras brought in for which we have not planned. Yet, it takes time to be holy. We are told that "in order to gain that benefit which they should gain in the Sabbath-school, both parents and children should devote time to the study of the lessons."

"Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord,
Abide in him always, and feed on his word."

To do this is one of the greatest tests of our determination and steadfast purpose to gain eternal life. Not the cares of this life nor its busy activities can earn for us a home in heaven.

We need much to learn the lesson that Luther learned on Pilate's stairway in Rome. "Now the just shall live by faith." Luther stirred the world. We read that "from the se-

cret place of prayer came the power that shook the world in the great Reformation. There with holy calmness, the servants of the Lord set their feet upon the rock of his promises. During the struggle at Augsburg, Luther did not fail to devote three hours each day to prayer." To how many of us are a few minutes sufficient to burst into the presence of the Eternal One, to lay before his throne our hasty requests for help and blessings? to open his Word for his voice to speak to us? The court of the King of Kings deserves, demands more courtesy, more reverence.

Truly, "Now the just shall live by faith" and "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."

In much serving and the cares of this life we may overlook the simplicity of the plan of salvation. We must feed on the Word. The Sabbath-school lessons are a daily call to our people to do this. "He that eateth me, even he shall live by me." A mighty power rests with our laborers to lead this people, family by family, member by member, to a constant, systematic study.

Shall we take heed lest, at this time, in these closing moments of probation, the cares of this life so chain us that that day shall come upon us unawares?

Shall we cease to be "careful and troubled about many things" and "choose the better part," take time for the "one thing needful"?

ANNA E. RAMBO.

VIRGINIA

President's Address at the Union Conference

DEAR brethren, greeting. We would submit to you the following biennial report from the Virginia Conference:—

While we represent a small conference, according to membership, still, if ranking according to territory, we might be counted as one of the largest, if not the largest, in the union, the area of our land surface being 42,450 square miles, and having a water surface estimated at 2,325 square miles. The longest line from east to west is 476 miles, and from north to south is 192 miles. Virginia has a good climate, owing to its geographical position; and it is in this state that we find the beautiful valley of the Shenandoah, which is noted throughout the United States for its

fertile fields and beautiful scenery. Here also is located our Academy at New Market. The population of the state, 1,854,184, is scattered out in mostly small towns and villages. Richmond, the capital of the state, is our largest city. Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Newport News are also cities of great importance, as they are situated not far from Hampton Roads, one of the finest harbors in the United States. We would say that we are very grateful to our Heavenly Father for the progress we see in the work thus far in the Old Dominion. Though the work has moved slowly, yet we feel thankful to say that we soon expect to see Virginia pressing to the front in all branches of the work.

We would express our heart-felt gratitude to our union conference for the assistance they have rendered; also to the General Conference, Ohio, East Michigan, and West Michigan. We believe their assistance has greatly aided in the degree of prosperity that now exists in the state. Our people are of good courage, and are anxious to see the work grow. Their tithes and offerings have been on the increase since our last meeting; and we feel more than ever before like pressing forward and covering every part of the state with this message, thus hastening the day when Virginia will be literally dotted with churches of steadfast, faithful Adventists.

While we feel very grateful for the assistance we as a conference have received, still we feel it our duty to lay before this body now assembled some of the perplexing problems with which we have to deal. For instance, we have within our borders about 800,000 colored people, with only two colored ministers to work for them. There are many openings for work among them, but we have neither the men nor means with which to work as we would like for this people. This makes our hearts very sad as we listen to the words of the Lord's servant, which say that there must be work done in the South for the colored people, and again, that the work will close first in the South.

We are also encumbered by a debt of \$5,000 on the school at New Market.

We have placed about all the help we have into our large cities, believing that the work should be firmly established before being left to care for itself.

Throughout the state we have many

towns and cities having from two to ten thousand inhabitants that have not heard the message at all; and many have not had a canvasser in them. Calls are coming from some parts of the state that we are unable to fill, and we hope that this Columbia Union Conference now convened will realize the necessity of still assisting our worthy field as much as possible.

We are glad to say that our canvassing work shows an increase over previous years. In 1908 our sales of books and tracts amounted to \$6,664.51, and periodicals \$369.21, making an increase over the two previous years of \$2,867.39. These sales were greatly increased by four of the students from the Washington Foreign Mission Seminary canvassing in our state through the summer. This shows that books can be sold in Virginia. This year we failed to secure any of the students, and yet our sales of books, tracts, and periodicals for the ten months of this year, amounting to \$2,716.11, show an increase over either 1906 or 1907.

While the Religious Liberty Department has not been kept seemingly busy since we last met in conference, yet there has been some aggressive work done. We were given an opportunity to speak before the Committee on Sunday Legislation in January, 1908. Elder W. A. Colcord was requested to come to our state and meet the issue. He came, and a hearing was granted him by

the committee. The bill was defeated. We are sending 141 copies of *Liberty* to the members of our State Legislature each year. Last year each Virginia member of Congress was either visited or written to concerning the "Johnston Sunday Bill." Also petitions were freely circulated against that measure. Much religious liberty literature is being circulated all through the state.

Since our last biennial session, our Academy at New Market has been opened, this being the second school year. Last year we had an enrollment of thirty students. Our principal, Prof. R. G. Ryan, was called to Africa, and we were not able to secure another to take his place in time to canvass the state for students, so our school opened this year with ten students; but more have come in since, making between fifteen and twenty students. We believe this school will be of great help to our young people in the state, as the expenses there are much less than in our larger schools.

During this time there has been purchased, by the help of a sister, a church in Richmond, centrally located, she taking a note against the old church property for money advanced, without interest. We believe this is a move in the right direction, and already it is proving to be so. There has also been a church building erected at Chiltons for the white people; and churches for the colored people at the following

places: Newport News and Spencer.

We have at the present time nine ordained ministers in the state; four white, and two colored are regularly employed by the conference, and one supported by the East Michigan Conference; three licentiates, one employed regularly by the conference; two Bible workers, one white and one colored, the white one being supported by the Ohio Conference.

During the past summer we have had five tents in the field, three for the whites, and two for the colored people, and have employed four tent masters. As a result of these efforts, forty are now observing the Sabbath.

During the ten months of 1909, 962 sermons have been preached, 1,488 Bible readings held, 436 other meetings, 85,700 pages of literature distributed, 3,786 periodicals given away, 39 baptized, and 73 added to the church. I will now read a statistical report comparing the past two years, tabulated under I, II, III, IV, and V, as per the following schedule:—

I. Total for 24 months, January 1, 1906 to December 31, 1907.

II. Total for 22 months, Jan. 1, 1908 to Oct. 31, 1909.

III. Amount, on this basis, for Jan. 1, 1908 to Dec. 31, 1909.

IV. Total from Jan. 1, to October 31, 1908.

V. Total from Jan. 1, to Oct. 31, 1909.

	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.
Tithes	\$7,522 90	\$8,853 62	\$9,658 56	\$3,906 04	\$4,221 71
Foreign Missions.....	724 52	1,322 54	1,442 88	415 28	664 19
Other Offerings.....	1,016 72	572 30	624 24	322 53	215 86
Retail value of literature sold..	4,066 29	9,849 83	10,745 28	6,000 00	2,716 11
Sabbath-school Offerings.....	553 62	554 45	604 80	196 05	276 27

	November 1, 1907.	November 1, 1909.	Increase	Decrease
Ordained Ministers.....	7	7		
Licentiates.....	2	3	1	
Bible Workers.....	0	3	2	
Other Workers.....	3	3		
Canvassers.....	4	4		
Church Members.....	481	607	126	
Tithe per Capita.....	\$7 04	\$6 96		\$ 08
Church Buildings.....	13	15	2	
Church Schools.....	1 Academy	1		
Academy Pupils.....		15		
Academy Building.....	\$10,000			
Sabbath-schools.....	25	27	2	
Sabbath-school Pupils.....	519	543	24	
Young People's Societies.....		5	5	
Young People's Society Members.....		50		

Offerings for Academy not included in above report, \$106.67.

H. W. HERBELL.

Virginia Tract and Missionary Report for Two Months End- ing December 31

Letters written	64
Letters received	22
Missionary visits	307
Bible readings held	104
Number attending Bible readings	122
Subscriptions for periodicals	17
Periodicals distributed	233
Pages of books and tracts loaned	2619
Pages of books and tracts sold	976
Pages given away	769

This report shows that a little has been done in making known the glad news of salvation. No doubt much more has been done than is here reported, and eternity only shall reveal the results of our labor. Yet as an incentive to others to go and do likewise, would it not be a good thing for each Seventh-day Adventist in this conference to determine that with the Lord's help the next report shall show a marked increase in each item? This can only be done by each doing the very best possible and reporting the same regularly to the church secretary, and the secretary report regularly to the field missionary secretary. Those who are isolated can report to the field secretary, and so all can have a part in making our reports an influence for good.

Now brethren and sisters, and church secretaries especially, as you look over this report, inquire within if you have been faithful in helping to make it a complete one.

"Pray, and be ready to help the Lord to answer your prayers by engaging heartily in the work. There is work for all to do, and the Lord will fit men and women—yes, and children, as he did Samuel, for his work, making them his messengers. He who never slumbers or sleeps watches over each worker, choosing his sphere of labor." *Testimonies, Vol. 7, p. 17.*

I would like to correspond with any who feel led to devote their time to the sale of our magazines and small books and help them to get started in this good work.

Yours for the advancement of the Lord's work,
J. G. HANNA, *Field Missionary Sec'y.*
1110 Pierce St., Lynchburg, Va.

NEW JERSEY

Important Notice

THE trumpet call to action has been sounded by the servant of the Lord.

The signs of the times say emphatically that we are very near the end of the race, and what is to be done must be done quickly. Special emphasis is placed on the part which is to be done by the members of our churches. "God has given his messengers the truth to proclaim. Then the churches are to voice the truth from the lips of the messengers, and use their talents in every way possible to make the ministry a power to communicate truth by their catching the first rays of light, and diffusing the same. Here is our great sin. We are years behind. The ministers have been seeking the hidden treasures, and have been opening up the casket, and letting the jewels of truth shine forth, but not one-hundredth part has been done, or is being done by members of the church that God requires of them. These will in that great day be self-convicted and self-condemned for their slothfulness. May the Lord lead them to self-penitence, and to see themselves and exclaim, 'Lord, I am that fruitless fig tree.' May the Lord forgive his people who are not doing the work in his vineyard that he has given them to do." *Vol. 9, page 10.*

The Lord also tells us that the church members should be educated to do missionary work with their friends and neighbors. With these admonitions before us plans have been laid for an aggressive missionary educational campaign in all our churches, in which all the conference laborers will have a part. In a special council meeting, called to consider this subject, it was voted to make an earnest effort to educate our people in the use of the ten-cent magazines, asking all to use one or more copies of each of these magazines each month in their home missionary work, the proceeds of these sales to be applied to the raising of the Mount Vernon College fund. The churches of this conference have voted to raise the sum of \$2,219.20, or \$3.65 per member on this fund. If all will take hold of this plan for the use of our ten-cent magazines, and after paying for the magazines, turn over the balance of the proceeds to this fund, we shall be able to do a vast amount of the most efficient missionary work for our neighbors, and in a few months have the entire amount to be raised in the treasury, without any sacrifice on our part; only the blessed experiences which come to those who labor with Christ for souls.

We feel sure that our people will respond heartily to this effort on the part of the laborers to follow the in-

struction which the Lord has given us. Those who do not take hold earnestly of the work of leading souls to Christ, the returning Saviour, must expect the fate of the barren fig tree. Let no one bring a discouraging report, but let us all say, "We are well able to go up with the help of the Lord, and give the message to the world in this generation." Then let us begin at our own door. A little effort will find a number who will be willing to take the magazines regularly. This will help you to know how many to order each month, and the list can be gradually increased. We should always remember that if we water other souls we shall also be watered ourselves. B. F. KNEELAND.

Recommendations Passed by the New Jersey Confer- ence, Jan. 18-23, 1910

1. *Whereas*, The prospering hand of our heavenly Father has been clearly seen in the success achieved during the past year, therefore,—

Resolved, That we hereby express our appreciation of his divine guidance and pledge ourselves to greater diligence in the Master's service for the coming year.

2. *Whereas*, Past experience has demonstrated that our camp meetings when properly conducted have ever proven both a spiritual and financial uplift, not only to the work in general, but to our churches as well, therefore,—

We recommend, That we hold a camp-meeting some time during the summer of 1910.

3. *Whereas*, The camp-meeting time is a favorable opportunity for promoting the general interests of our work, and whereas we have many important issues now before us for serious consideration, therefore,—

Resolved, That we arrange to conduct at the camp-meeting such conference business as may be necessary.

4. *Whereas*, The one-cent-a-day plan for the relief of Mount Vernon College has met with universal acceptance throughout the conferences of the Columbia Union, many having responded to it with their gifts, and,—

Whereas, There are many more who would respond if a definite movement was made to make an appeal to them, therefore,—

Resolved, That we as a conference inaugurate a vigorous campaign at once to bring up the contribution of this conference to its allotted amount,

namely, \$2,220.00, by putting all the laboring force of the conference into the movement for three or four weeks, and to prosecute the campaign until the object has been reached.

5. *Whereas*, The General Conference has inaugurated, and the Columbia Union Conference has accepted, a plan whereby this denomination shall raise within the next three years \$300,000.00, for the building of homes for our missionaries and erecting institutions in foreign lands, therefore,—

Resolved, That we as a conference also endorse this plan and that we pledge ourselves to raise the sum of \$2,920.00, which is the apportionment for our conference.

6. *Whereas*, Both the General Conference Committee and the Columbia Union Conference have adopted the plan which purposes that each church member sells each year, for three years, two copies of "Ministry of Healing" and five copies of "Life and Health" for the relief of our sanitariums, therefore,—

Resolved, That we accept this plan and that we begin at once to sell this year the amount of literature above named, and, that we turn over the proceeds of the first year's sales for the relief of the Pennsylvania Sanitarium.

7. *Whereas*, There is a large foreign population scattered throughout the Conference, and,—

Whereas, Our foreign workers being few, find it difficult to come in touch with the whole field, therefore,—

We recommend, That our people everywhere co-operate with our foreign workers by seeking to have the workers in each language acquainted with the members in the churches speaking that language, and by sending to them the location of companies of foreign peoples and names of interested parties.

8. *Whereas*, We believe it is a help to our organized work for the Conference treasurer to audit and systematize the account books of every church treasurer and church librarian,—

Resolved, That the Conference treasurer audit the books of every church treasurer and church librarian and department financial accounts, at least once a year, or at any other time as special occasion may demand.

9. *Whereas*, The General and Union Conferences recommend a cash basis financial policy for the handling of our denominational literature,—

Resolved, That we also recognize

the principle by recommending,—

(a) That church tract societies and companies settle monthly for all supplies.

(b) That lay members who order supplies through the librarian of the church tract society, should do so only on a strictly cash basis.

(c) That conference laborers either pay cash for supplies or give order on conference treasury for monthly settlement from wage account.

(d) That all these recommendations be interpreted with a proper recognition of exceptional conditions.

10. *Whereas*, We feel the necessity of facilities for the Christian training and education of our children, therefore,—

We recommend,—

(a) Earnest efforts be made by our churches to arrange for the organization of church schools under the counsel of the conference committee and educational secretary, and,—

(b) That isolated parents be encouraged to arrange for the education of their children in this faith.

(c) That our conference committee give attention to the needs of an intermediate school in order that at some later time they may be able to report possibilities.

11. *Whereas*, The value of the *Review* and *Herald* to sustain a living interest in this message and a close touch with the work is recognized by all, therefore,—

We recommend, That more earnest efforts be made to place the *Review* and *Herald* in every home.

12. *Whereas*, Our youth are now facing most corrupting influences and are surrounded by a world of literature of a light and demoralizing character, therefore,—

We recommend, That our Conference and local church workers cooperate in encouraging our youth to read the books recommended by the Young People's Department in the Reading Courses.

13. *Whereas*, We have many young people of promise among us who, with better training, could render much more effective service in the home work, therefore,—

We recommend, That all Conference workers and canvassers and our young people be encouraged to prepare for and take the Standard of Attainment examinations.

14. *Whereas*, The sale of our monthly periodicals is an important factor in spreading this last message of truth abroad, and as it is a phase of our work in which all, both old and young, can have some part, there-

fore,—

Resolved, That we encourage greater efforts toward regular systematic work in this line, and that we request the conference committee to seek for a secretary to have the oversight of this work.

15. *Whereas*, We realize the deep need of more skilful workers in our Sabbath-schools, therefore,—

We recommend, To our Sabbath-schools,—

(a) A general participation in the Teachers' Reading Course, and,—

(b) A hearty cooperation in the plans of the General Sabbath-school Department to hold special consecration services during the year.

16. *Whereas*, We recognize the need in our city work of following the principles found in the Saviour's ministry, and,—

Whereas, We find in his work, the medical work, attention to the sick and suffering, ever united with the evangelical, therefore,—

We recommend, That, when possible, our city tent efforts include among their workers a missionary nurse.

17. *Resolved*, That we extend our hearty thanks to the Columbia Union Conference and to the Kansas Conference and the Danish brethren for their assistance during 1909, and to the General Conference for its appropriations to our work during 1910.

18. *Whereas*, It is essential to the spiritual and temporal welfare of our people that all have a part in the rich blessings that come through faithfulness in giving tithes and offerings, therefore,

We recommend,—

(a) That greater care be taken in selecting for church officers and workers those whose example is helpful in this respect, and,—

(b) That careful instruction on this subject be given all desiring church membership, and,—

(c) That neglect of this Christian duty be plainly stated in letters transferring church membership, and,—

(d) That all our conference and church workers make diligent efforts to bring delinquent members into harmony with these principles.

19. *Whereas*, The COLUMBIA UNION VISITOR is the official organ of our union and state conference, and,—

Whereas, The reading of the VISITOR and our other denominational papers tends to unify our work and fit for better service, therefore,—

Resolved, That all our people be encouraged to subscribe for the VISITOR and our other denominational papers.

20. *Whereas*, The events transpir-

ing all about us indicate that we are rapidly approaching the time when false worship and the spurious sabbath are to be enforced by oppressive enactments, and,—

Whereas, These things should incite us to renewed efforts to warn all of the impending crisis,—

Resolved, That we co-operate with the religious liberty departments of the General and the Columbia Union Conference in this work by—

(a) Sending *Liberty* to our state legislators.

(b) Circulating petitions against the religious measures now in Congress.

(c) Selling and securing subscriptions to *Liberty* and the *Protestant Magazine*.

(d) Circulating the Religious Liberty leaflets.

(e) Selling "American State Papers" when issued, and supplying the same to libraries, legislators, lawyers, and other men of influence.

(f) Making use of the public press in disseminating the principles of religious liberty.

(g) Holding religious liberty institutes in our churches.

21. *Resolved*, That we tender a vote of thanks to the management of the Goff Building and the press of the city for their courteous treatment which has contributed to the enjoyment of a profitable conference session.

22. *Whereas*, We see intemperance in many forms benumbing the senses of the people, rendering them less susceptible to impressions of social and divine obligation, and,—

Whereas, Principles of absolute temperance when received, bring great blessings to the home and society, and,—

Whereas, We realize the liquor traffic to be a great curse to the home, to society, and to the nation, and a menace to peace, prosperity and civil order, therefore,—

Resolved, That,—

(a) We hereby place ourselves on record as in favor of prohibition, and

(b) That we do all we can for the advancement of the temperance cause and the dissemination of health and temperance literature.

ANOTHER conference has passed. We were all greatly encouraged by the good report given there by our workers, and wish that all might have had the privilege of hearing what God is doing for the work in this state. Sixty-five precious souls were baptized by the workers during the year, and nearly a score more are awaiting baptism.

Last year the Sabbath-schools of the state gave over \$100.00 a month to foreign missions. In 1908 they were less than \$70.00 per month. Shall we not make them \$125.00 per month for 1910? The secretary stated that there is now only one school which stands in the way of our name appearing on the "honor roll" of those giving all the contributions to missions. We look for a clean record this year.

A meeting of the conference executive committee and others was held in Camden, Monday, following the close of the conference. Plans were laid to accomplish the policies voted at the conference. All the laborers will take an active part in a general effort in behalf of our work in the churches, which will be begun immediately.

We are sorry to be obliged to announce that Elder W. G. Kneeland has felt compelled to resign his position as conference missionary secretary, on account of the pressure of other duties. We believe that the committee has been able to secure a good man for the place in Brother E. E. Pennington of Little Falls, N. J., who has been chosen to fill the vacancy.

All were much pleased to see such a large delegation at the opening meeting, fifty-three delegates being present, others came later. We were sorry, however, to see so few from Jersey City. Several delegates were heard to express themselves as feeling that this was the best conference they ever attended.

While the meeting was principally devoted to the business of the conference, there was considerable attention paid to the spiritual interests of those present. The meetings on the Sabbath were especially seasons when God drew graciously near to his people. Every one in the room seemed deeply burdened, either for his own salvation, or for that of children, companions, or some personal friend. Many thanked God for the victories gained at that meeting.

It was decided to hold the annual camp-meeting June 23 to July 3, 1910, providing that date does not conflict with others in the union. This meeting will be devoted especially to the spiritual phases of our work, and we trust that all will begin now to lay plans to attend. The place of meet-

ing will be announced in the *Visitor* as soon as it is selected.

BROTHER ROYER has been spending a week or two auditing the books of the various church treasurers and librarians. We are glad to note the faithful service of our church officers.

The little church school at Bridgeton is enjoying a prosperous year, and the work which was exhibited at the conference shows that good work is being done. The Home School Band is also growing, and promises to become an important factor in our educational work.

Are you taking the Sabbath-school teachers' reading course? Do not fail to read Mrs. Plummer's little book, "Early History of the Seventh-day Adventist Sabbath-school Work," and "The Art of Securing Attention," recommended in the *Sabbath-school Worker*. These books cost only twenty cents postpaid, and are valuable aids to officers and teachers.

Brother C. E. Tickner, who has been doing self-supporting missionary work in the vicinity of Newton, Sussex county, was in attendance at the conference, and reports that the Lord is greatly blessing the efforts of himself and wife to present the last message in that new field. The fact that several have recently undertaken self-supporting work in the state seems an evidence that the spirit of labor is being aroused among the people, and we all heartily join in the prayer that God may grant an abundant harvest from the seed that is thus sown.

The conference committee and workers at the last meeting voted to inaugurate a vigorous campaign among all our churches in behalf of the sale and distribution of our ten-cent magazines. Since taking this action we are glad to know that other conferences are seeing the possibilities of this plan and are starting out with us in the effort to enlist all in a great missionary campaign. May the blessing of God go with everyone who thus seeks to swell the "loud cry," and hasten the finishing of the work. All the conference workers will join in this effort to bring about a genuine revival of the missionary spirit throughout the churches. Announcement will be sent to each church regarding these special meetings, and we trust that every effort will be made to secure a full attendance of the church at these services.

Canvassers' Reports

Ohio, Week Ending January 21, 1910

Name	Place	Book	Days	Hrs	Ords	Value	Helps	Total	Del
F. E. Hankins, Harrison Co.	DR	5	35	20	\$54 75	\$2 75	\$57 50	\$ 75	
H. F. Kirk, Carrollton Co.	DR	5	34	19	48 00	6 00	54 00	75	
C. VanGorder, Huron Co.	DR	5	30	6	22 00	6 00	28 00	75	
R. Minesinger, Tuscarawas Co.	DR	5	36	4	13 00	4 50	17 50	17 00	
Enos M. Horst, Ross Co.	GC	5	41		35 00	2 50	37 50	5 25	
J. Reichenbaugh	CK	5	33	7	21 00	6 00	27 00		
E. E. Shaw, Ottawa Co.	GC	4	27½	1	5 00	17 50	22 50	2 50	
Wm. M. Deuschle, Ross Co.	GC	5	30	5	17 00		17 00	19 75	
Ray Corder, Jefferson Co.	CK	3	21½	31	33 50	12 00	45 50		
L. H. Waters, Allen Co.	BF	5	36	33	37 50	50	38 00		
Guy Corder, Jefferson Co.	BF	3	22	28	30 50		30 50		
C. Reichenbaugh, Stark Co.	CK	5	33	20	22 50	35	22 85	35	
G. Schwab, Tuscarawas Co.	CK	2	16	2	2 00		2 00		
Totals		57	395	176	\$341 75	\$58 10	\$399 85	\$47 10	

Ohio, Week Ending January 28, 1910

J. Hankins, Harrison Co.	DR	3	24¾	16	46 00	75	46 75		
H. Kirk, " "	DR	3	24	11	40 50	75	41 25		
P. Minesinger, Tuscarawas Co.	DR	5	33	4	13 00	6 50	19 50		
Enos M. Horst, Ross Co.	GC	5	37	12	36 00	4 05	40 05	3 35	
*E. E. Shaw, Ottawa Co.	GC	4	29½	1	4 00	15 00	19 00		
E. E. Shaw, " "	CK	5	32	4	6 00	2 50	8 50	2 50	
L. H. Waters, Allen Co.	CK	5	41	27	32 00	35	32 35	35	
Totals		30	221¼	75	\$177 50	\$29 90	\$207 40	6 20	

Virginia, Week Ending January 28, 1910

K. Oertley, Wythe Co.	CK		30	11	11 00	2 10	13 10	4 85	
A. Snunk, Roanoke	GC			2	5 50	1 05	6 55		
E. Roberson, Petersburg	BR		15	18	18 00	1 50	14 50	45	
A. Roberson, Augusta Co.	BR		37	7	13 00	2 95	15 95	1 00	
J. Lewis, Augusta Co.	GC		38	6	18 00	4 25	22 25	1 25	
A. Jaspersen, Augusta Co.	GC		34	13	40 00	3 75	43 75	1 00	
W. Weeks, " "	GC		21	6	18 00	6 25	24 25		
T. Horton, Norfolk	CK		40	33	33 00		33 00		
Totals			215	96	\$156 80	\$21 85	\$178 35	8 55	

Eastern Pennsylvania, Two Weeks Ending January 28, 1910

G. Jenkins, Scranton	GC	7	29	7	22 25	8 75	31 00	6 00	
H. Minier, Bradford		5	36		2 90		2 90		
W. P. Hess, Lancaster	CK	10	54	52	58 50		58 50	7 50	
Totals		22	119	59	\$83 15	\$8 75	\$91 90	\$13 50	

West Virginia, Week Ending January 21, 1910

J. H. Jennings, Monroe Co.	DR	5	3			10 00	14 00	4 00	
A. T. Halstead, Kanawha Co.	DR	3	30	12	26 50	2 90	29 40	35	
Totals		9	33	12	\$26 50	12 90	\$43 40	\$4 35	

Chesapeake, Week Ending January 21, 1910

Maryland									
S. N. Brown, Cumberland	CK	3	15	14	15 50	10 40	25 90	2 00	
W. Yonson, Ellicott City	GC	1	6	1	3 00	1 00	4 00		
Totals		4	21	15	\$18 50	\$11 40	\$29 90	2 00	

West Virginia, Week Ending January 28, 1910

J. Jennings, Monroe Co.	DR	5	30	1	2 75	10 50	13 25	1 25	
J. Hankins, Wayne Co.	DR	2	9	3			7 25		
Totals		7	39	4	2 75	10 50	20 50	1 25	

*Week ending January 14

Grand Totals: Value of Orders, \$971.05. Deliveries, \$82.95.

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA TITHE RECEIPTS

DECEMBER, 1909

Alba...	\$ 1 00
Allentown	64 89
Ariel	
Bloomsburg	18 73
Carbondale	24 44
Cherry Flats	119 71
Fleetwood	34 23
First German,	66 72
First Philadelphia	158 91
Fair Hill	34 53
Hamburg	57 81
Harrisburg	
Hawley-Honesdale	6 00
Jersey Shore	27 41
Kulp	11 67
Lancaster	26 49
Lebanon	112 51
Lorenton	6 00
North Philadelphia	149 64
Norristown	
Northumberland	92 12
Orwell	8 92
Reading	121 65
Roaring Branch	46 34
Scranton	64 66
Shunk	15
Shimersville	80 62
Stroudsburg	24 00
Wade	44 21
Williamsport	23 86
Wilkes-Barre	29 65
Wellsboro	63 08
West Philadelphia	
York Company	88 80
Individuals	47 00
Scandinavian Company	8 60

Total.....\$1,614 35

TOTAL RECEIPTS, ALL SOURCES

Tithe	\$1,614 35
Tract Society	506 72
Sabbath-school Donations	265 83
First Day Offering	89 78
Annual Offerings	555 71
Tent Fund	10 00
Foreign Missions	
Mid-summer Offering	
Monnt Vernon College Fund	19 24
Colored Work	9 07
Ingathering Fund	935 24
Blind Work	15 45
Conference Poor	95
Donations	5 65
Missionary Volunteer	90
Sanitarium Fund	
Danish-Norwegian Mission Fund	372 09
Annuities	23 75
Iowa Conference	148 14
On account	

Total.....\$4,572 87

A. L. BAYLEY, Treas.

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EAST PENNSYLVANIA

D. H. KRESS, M. D., spoke at the First Philadelphia church Sabbath, January 22, on the subject of health.

Word from Brother William T. Hilgert, who is now in Washington D. C., states that he is enjoying his work very much indeed.

Elder F. C. Gilbert, of Boston, Mass., gave a stirring discourse Sunday evening, January 30, at the First Philadelphia church, talking for his theme, "The Passover."

Brother G. W. Holman, our field missionary agent, paid the conference office a call. He states that the snow storms have greatly hindered the work of our canvassers, as most of them are laboring in the country.

We hope that all our churches will now commence to lay plans for Young People's Day, Sabbath, February 23, and trust that these services will prove a great blessing and help to our young people in this conference.

We are glad to report that twelve churches in this conference have paid their quota of \$5.20 to foreign missions during the past year. This is a great improvement over the year 1908, when only six churches did so. We sincerely hope that the year 1910 will see every church doing its duty along this line.

A very impressive service was held in the First Philadelphia church Sunday, January 23, when six precious

souls were buried with their Lord in baptism. This makes upwards of twentieth-five who have been baptized and joined the church as a result of last summer's effort.

Elder C. S. Weist reports a splendid effort in West Clifford where he is holding a series of meetings. Indications point to some souls accepting the truth. Let us all pray for this effort.

Elder R. E. Harter has started an aggressive effort in Covington. Brother Phelps, who lives in that place and is elder of the Cherry Flats church, has long plead and prayed for a minister to come there and hold a series of meetings. Let us pray that many souls may accept the truth there, and a new company be organized as a result.

Elder W. H. Heckman met with the Roaring branch church Sabbath and Sunday. A splendid spirit was manifested in all the meetings. After the ordinances were celebrated, the election of officers took place with the following result: Elder, Brother Charles Monell; Deacons, Frank Jackson and J. L. Hagar; Clerk and Treasurer, Sister Rose June; Librarian, Harry Woodward.

Special meetings were held in the Cherry Flats church, Sunday, January 23. At the close of the afternoon service, Brother F. E. Phelps, elder of the church, and Sister Ethelyn Odett were united in the bonds of holy matrimony. Elder W. H. Heckman performed the ceremony.

WEST VIRGINIA

BROTHER S. F. ROSS has been in poor health for several weeks, but is now about well again.

Brother I. D. Richardson made us a pleasant call last week on his way to visit the churches in West Virginia in the interests of the educational work in the Columbia Union.

Elder F. H. Robbins of Pennsylvania, who has accepted the presidency of the West Virginia Conference, is now with us. He is full of courage for the success of the work in our conference, and is very busy laying plans toward looking after the spiritual as well as the financial part of it. With the blessing of God we hope to see this

cause prosper under Brother Robbins' efforts.

The Lord is still blessing the earnest efforts of our few canvassers who are in the field this winter. One of them, when sending in what he thought a small report, writes: "The good Lord will give you better success at least part of the time even in this county. I am not afraid to believe that I shall have better success soon, for the Lord is on my side."

Brethren, that sounds like courage, and ought to be an inspiration to every one of us. The books of heaven contain no discouraging record. We hope to see many more engaged soon in sowing the seeds of truth.

MRS. M. L. HADDIX.

Something for All to Do

LET the year 1910 be a great missionary year by helping all we can. If God does not call us to the great fields beyond, we can see his branches bearing fruit by sending our means, and in that way receive the blessings that God has in store for us. We shall receive a doubled blessing by doing all we can at home among our neighbors. If we are not orators we can give them some literature; and if that is impossible, then let us show them by our actions that we have the love of Christ in our hearts. And if there are those that have not the means to help, let us all pray. We know that there are many who would be glad to help, but the lack of means keeps them from doing so; but God hears and answers prayer. I feel very unworthy at times, but I know that my Master hears my prayer. Let us all pray more than we have in the past for a greater missionary spirit.

MANON CIRCLE.

Springfield, O.

Marvelous are the relations that come to us through a combined study of the Bible and astronomy. Much of this study is open to the earnest student, though he may be possessed of no special instrument or appliances. Beginning in the *Signs of the Times Monthly* for March, "A Christian Astronomer" will present the first of a series on the topic of "Astronomy and the Bible." This article will be entitled "The Open Bible," and will throw significant light on certain statements of Mrs. E. G. White concerning "the open space in Orion." Subscribe for the *Signs Monthly* at once, and get the March and succeeding numbers.