

# Columbia Union Visitor

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

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No. 14

## GENERAL MATTER

### 'Twill All Be Over Soon.

Lower, still lower, sinks the sun

O'er this great orb of time;

Nearer, still nearer, draws the day

In an immortal clime;

Darker, still darker, falls the night;

Earth, hastens to its doom.

O comrade, wage a valiant fight!

'Twill all be over soon.

Louder, still louder, beats the drum;

Great tempests soon will burst;

Slaying with fierce relentless hand

Demons will do their worst;

Kingdom 'gainst kingdom soon shall crash,

The earth with dead be strewn;

But o'er earth's kingdoms God still reigns,

'Twill all be over soon.

O'er earth an angel passes now

A seal is in his hand.

With God's own name he seals each soul

Who shall triumphant stand

And sing the everlasting song

With all of heaven in tune.

Unbind the winds and let them blow!

'Twill all be over soon.

MAGGIE A. PULVER.

Stoddard, Wis.

## Letter Writing in the Work of the Field Agent

Letter-writing is an important qualification in any line of business, and especially in the work of the field missionary agent. The position he holds compels him to be a leader of men—a sort of general over a flank of the Lord's army. His responsibilities extend even farther than that of merely directing the forces already in the field. He must act, at the same time, as a recruiting officer. His eye extends not alone over his army in active battle, but also over the entire field of his constituency. He must be ever on the alert, imparting courage to those on the firing line and beckoning to those in the background to come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

Unlike the generals of the world who have their armies compact and within the hearing of their bugle call, the field agent's soldiers, though

united in spirit, must of necessity be scattered throughout the field. He must have a louder bugle, and the field agent's mighty trumpet is his pen. "The Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abiezer was gathered after him." Judges 6:34. Every field agent must have reviving and recruiting power. Success in this does not depend so much upon his own individual efforts, as upon the cooperation of others and

### CIRCULAR LETTERS

are strong factors in securing this cooperation. They should be short and spicy; and should be sent principally to church officers and those of influence in the conference. I do not think they should be indulged in except on special occasions. Frequency weakens their effect. At the beginning of the year, or when a new field agent is installed is an excellent time to review past conditions and the present needs of the field, setting forth your plans, and appealing for the cooperation and prayers of the people. Others will catch the burden and this earnestness and enthusiasm will soon kindle a canvassing electricity which will penetrate the conference.

Much is also accomplished by the sending out of spicy

### NEWS LETTERS

pertaining to the canvassing work. They are a great source of encouragement to the active canvassers. By mentioning the name of each worker, and relating just how each is getting along, a bond of sympathy is built up among the colporteurs. Unity means strength. In this the time and labor of writing long individual letters is greatly lessened; and often the same thing said to all accomplishes the same purpose.

Another advantage is the summary of the month's work. It helps the workers to compare each other's work. Each is put on his honor before the others, which stimulates to increased faithfulness. The standard of time can be kept constantly before them; and by the loss and gain column each canvasser can be shown his strong and weak points without

causing offense to anyone. This is not so easily done in a personal letter. General principles and words of admonition can be set before all. Thus the faithful will strive to be more faithful, and the shirkers will take the hint without feeling hurt because of personalities, and will "spruce up" to be equal to the others.

Furthermore, the news letter is a powerful recruiting agency. Every field agent always has a long list of prospectives. The news letter keeps their minds agitated. Little by little they are pressed into service, until finally they surrender and offer themselves as recruits for the Lord's army.

Still another advantage is the enlisting of the good will and cooperation of the conference laborers and officials. This is very essential. I find the news letter is appreciated by them. Letters of commendation and appreciation come in from all quarters. "Nothing succeeds like success," and when they see the news letter they can see better than the VISITOR can reveal to them, just how the work is going.

To sum up—the news letter is practical in the economy of time and expense. It is an encouragement to the canvasser, a stimulator in the colleges and schools, a "feeler" after recruits from the churches, and a link that binds together the interests of the bookmen and all other conference laborers. But with all the above advantages, let it not take the place of

### PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE

with the canvassers on the firing line. They meet with experiences so varied that the application of general principles, however helpful, cannot fill the place of individual letters. As the colporteur returns to his rooms, foot-worn and weary, often depressed in spirits from the rebuffs of the enemy, a good, uplifting letter from one whom he knows carries him upon his heart, will renew his strength and bring out the "silver lining" to his dark cloud. An inspiring letter coming at the opportune time has saved many a canvasser who has since developed into a strong worker in the cause.

Personal letters should be personal. The field agent's very life should flow out in currents of sanctified love and personal interest for his fellow canvassers. He should be able to say, in the words of Paul: "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy for your fellowship in the gospel (canvassing work) from the first day until now; being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ; even as it is meet for me to think this of you all because I have you in my heart." Phil. 1:5-7.

This attitude will be felt. The field agent who has Jesus enthroned in his heart will unconsciously bind his men to the work with strong cords which will not be easily broken by the winds of adversity. Even though we as field agents may feel our weakness and lack of education, we can claim the promise: "Christ is made unto us wisdom," and with the great magnet of God's love, our letter writing, whether circular, news, personal, or follow-up letters will have a gathering power which will strengthen and build up this important department of the Lord's work.

J. H. MCEACHERN.

Read at third session of Bookmen's Convention, Mount Vernon, Ohio, Feb. 21-27.

## The Tract Society Secretary and the Church—I

Passing by the well-established relation existing between the church society and the conference office, that of ordering supplies, remitting, reporting, etc., I wish to touch upon another phase of work that properly would come within the sphere of the missionary secretary to at least assist in promoting in the local church. The missionary secretary that best serves the local church—and he must ever consider himself as the servant of the churches, for this is Christ's method of measuring true spiritual service—is the one who can spend some time among the churches in helping promote real missionary work. This would necessitate a competent assistant who could attend to the business at the office in the secretary's absence.

### YE ARE THE LIGHT

Christ said, "Ye are the light of the world." These words were addressed to his people. Every one is given his work. Every one has not the same gift. While each individual member of the church is to look to Christ for his di-

rection, and thus be led into that special line of service for which he may be best adapted, it is proper for the officers of the church and the conference missionary secretary to study plans whereby all may have work to do.

A great work is to be done in a short time. In Testimony, Volume Nine, page 117, we read: "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers." This places the burden of giving the message that is to lighten the world where it belongs—"upon the men and woman comprising our church membership." And it is also plain that what is called the "work of God in this earth" may be done by the people who comprise our church membership. The very highest service, then, that can be done this cause is for our church membership to be brought to sense this responsibility God has placed upon them and actually do the work. If the conference missionary secretary can help in doing this, surely his efforts should be highly prized.

But do not other conference officers and workers have something to do also in helping all to get to work, as well as the tract society secretary? It would surely seem so. True missionary work can hardly be looked upon as a department of a conference. It is that for which the church exists, that for which it was organized, to labor for those within its reach. It is work that runs through all lines of our denominational effort. Conference officers, ministers, and church officers should share the responsibility of promoting missionary endeavor for those about them in darkness.

## Colporteurs' Credentials

The following recommendation was adopted at the recent Bookmen's Convention at Mt. Vernon as a standard for granting colporteurs credentials:

We recommend: (a) That colporteurs be required to work not less than 1000 hours per year.

(b) That colporteurs be required to sell \$1000.00 per year retail.

(c) That all accounts with the tract society be settled promptly.

(d) That they report regularly to the tract society and field agent.

(e) That a colporteur work six months in harmony with the above requirements before credentials are granted.

(f) That all colporteurs holding credentials have their way paid to an annual meeting, the same as all other conference laborers.

(g) That when such colporteurs move at the advice of the conference their expenses be paid by the conference.

## Our Proper Relation to the Health and Temperance Reform

The object of this paper is to present to you in a concise manner, "Our Proper Relation to the Health and Temperance Reform," and at the beginning I would desire to impress upon you the fact that this question is not one as to the proper relation of the health and temperance reform to the message, for this question has been settled, and settled by God, through one whose authority we all will highly respect. Here are the words:—"The health reform I was shown, is a part of the third angel's message, and is just as closely connected with it as are the arm and hand with the human body."—*Testimonies, Vol. 1, Page 486.*

The same blood that goes pulsating through the arteries on its errand of reconstruction to the arm and hand, carries its life giving principle to other parts of the body; the nerves of the hand, in common with other members of the body, all receive, in a primary sense, impulses from a common center, therefore the power that is behind the health and temperance question, is the same power that is behind the Sabbath, the tithing, spirit of prophecy, or any other question that deals with the gospel in its entirety. Thus the question of our proper relation to the health and temperance reform, resolves itself into a question of our fidelity to every phase of the third angel's message.

In Romans 12:1, 2, there is a text that has a direct bearing upon this question; it is as follows:—"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." In this text we see God's earnest desire that the mind, renewed by the light from heaven, shall become the motive force of the individual, instead of the desires of the flesh through its conformity to the world.

With this renewed mind, it is at once apparent that God's earnest

desire is that our bodies, which are the temple of the Holy Spirit, shall be presented to him a living, holy, and acceptable body, which is our reasonable service.

When one who has not known of the Sabbath, tithing question, or any other phase of present truth, begins an investigation, a renewing process at once takes place in the mind; new thoughts, ideas, and truths rapidly force their way into the citadel of his mind, and when the last objection is overthrown, and the mind consents to the truthfulness of the investigated facts, then this renewed mind seeks to have the body walk in harmony with this light.

When we apply this same principle to the health and temperance question, it becomes very evident that our proper relation to the health and temperance reform resolves itself into a question of our obedience to it.

There are three ways that we, by the renewing of our mind, may come to a knowledge of our proper relation to this question. First, by the plain facts of the Bible; second, by the equally plain and multitudinous statements from the Testimonies; and third, by the ever increasing light of science upon this question.

Just a few statements in regard to each one. From the Bible we have the text quoted above, also such texts as 1 Cor. 6: 19, 20, where we are told that our body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, and that we are to glorify God in our body; also 1 Cor. 3: 16, 17, that God will destroy the one who defiles this temple. By comparing 1 Cor. 10: 6, with such texts as Deut. 12: 20, Ex. 16: 3, 12, Ps. 78: 17, 18, 27-30, 37, Ps. 81: 10-16, and Ps. 84: 11, it is very evident that flesh foods are excluded from the dietary of the people composing the exodus movement of the last days.

John the Baptist subsisted upon a purely vegetable diet, and he was a representative of those living in the last days, to whom God has intrusted sacred truths to present to the world to prepare the way for the second appearing of Christ. The same principles of health reform which John practiced, should be observed by those who in our day are to warn the world of the coming of the Son of man.

Many other texts might be considered, relative to the authority of the Bible upon this subject; but let us pass on to the second point, that of statements from the "Testimonies." These are so numerous that I can at this time call your attention to but a few taken from "Christian Temperance and Bible Hygiene" and Volume

One of the "Testimonies," also Volume Nine; thus we have the first instruction as well as the last.

On page 117 of "Christian Temperance" I find the following language: "The subject must be kept fresh before them. This matter must not be passed over as non-essential; for every family needs to be stirred up on this question. Our ministers should become intelligent upon this question." Again, pages 485 and 486 of Volume One: "While some feel deeply, and act out their faith in the work, others remain indifferent and have scarcely taken the first step in reform, and although God's voice should speak directly to them to put away those health destroying indulgences some would still cling to the hurtful things which they love." On page 158 of Volume Nine we read, "Seventh-day Adventists are handling momentous truths. More than forty years ago, the Lord gave us special light on health reform, but how are we walking in that light? It is our duty to understand and respect the principles of health reform. Let those who are teachers and leaders in our cause take their stand firmly on Bible ground in regard to health reform. It is now time to take the light from under the bushel, and let it shine forth in clear, bright rays." Again, page 156 of the same volume: "If we could be benefited by indulging the desire for flesh foods, I would not make this appeal to you; but I know we can not. Flesh foods are injurious to the physical well-being, and we should learn to do without them." On page 119 of "Christian Temperance," I read, "Among those who are waiting for the coming of the Lord, meat-eating will eventually be done away; flesh will cease to be a part of their diet." On page 160, Volume Nine, I again read that "Only when we are intelligent in regard to the principles of healthful living can we be fully aroused to see the evils resulting from improper diet."

Now as to the third way in which the mind may be renewed regarding this subject; that of the light of science applied to the subject of dietetics and the beneficial effects derived therefrom. All that I will say in this connection is that the preponderance of evidence is that condiments, tea, coffee, and all alcoholic beverages in any form are detrimental to health and should be discarded; also that the proper combinations of food tend toward health, while the reverse leads to decomposition, fermentation, and finally auto-intoxication, which produces constipation, headache, bilious-

ness, dull mind, and lack of perception, thus placing one in a very poor condition to understand spiritual things; and last but not least, that a vegetarian diet in every respect is far superior to the diet of flesh, as all may learn who care to investigate.

After summing up all things and coming to a proper understanding of this subject, shall not we, as workers, see in this, the tender care and love of a heavenly Father in his desire to bring his children back to the original, God given, Edenic diet; and one and all resolve that by precept and example, whether therefore we eat or drink, or whatever we do, we do all to the glory of God? W. J. VENEN.

Read at workers and elders' meeting, Columbus, Ohio, March 13-16.

### Missionary Volunteer Day

All who have the welfare of the youth resting heavily upon their hearts will be glad to know that Sabbath, May 3, has been appointed by the Geneal Conference Committee for Missionary Volunteer Day. Our churches and companies everywhere are invited—earnestly invited—to devote the day to the study of the young people's work and to pray for its prosperity. A suggestive program will be found in the *Review* of April 17.

Reports indicate that churches have been much blessed by observing young people's day in the past, and, surely, since, as we have been told over and over again, the greatest asset of this denomination is her army of children and youth, we can well afford to devote another Sabbath now to the consideration of a movement which has for its purpose the salvation of our children and youth. The work for the youth should not be relegated to our spare moments. Their welfare is of supreme importance, and demands immediate action. They are not with us always. How quickly the child becomes a youth, and the youth a man of affairs. Like a swift flowing stream, they pass on from us to take their places in the third angel's message or to be lost in the world's busy marts.

For the sake of the 30,000 children and youth in our denomination and especially for the sake of those in your church, will you not observe May 3? Study the Missionary Volunteer work, and give as much time as possible upon that appointed day to prayer for the children and youth. God stands ready to cooperate.

M. V. DEPARTMENT OF THE  
GENERAL CONFERENCE.

## OHIO

## Columbus Convention

A state convention for conference workers and church officers was held at the Columbus Seventh-day Adventist church, March 13 to 16. Delegates from two-thirds of the churches were present and united with the conference laborers in convention work. Papers dealing with many important phases of the work were read and discussed. The Question Box proved to be an interesting feature of the convention, and the questions indicated a desire on the part of our people to agree on fundamentals and thus avoid irregularity in future plans.

Elder G. B. Thompson was present throughout the convention, and spoke to a very attentive audience in the Chamber of Commerce Auditorium on the "Second Coming of Christ," Sunday evening. Good reports of this meeting are coming in, and we believe that seed has been sown on good ground. A tract on the subject was placed in the hand of every one present, so by hearing the subject presented, and reading about it later, many will have an opportunity to know the truth regarding this momentous event.

We were all kept very busy and had but little time to visit with our brethren and sisters, but we were glad to welcome them and hope to meet them all at the coming camp-meeting. We have been mutually strengthened and blessed, and trust that all of us will be able to render more efficient service in the future.

The convention brought out a few recommendations which were unanimously adopted. If these are carried out with the same spirit and intent that prevailed when they were adopted, Mt. Vernon College will soon be freed from debt, church records will be thoroughly revised, and a better understanding will prevail in the selection of the personnel of the church board.

## RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

*Whereas* the General Conference Committee has recommended that our missionary offerings average twenty cents a week per member instead of fifteen cents as heretofore, and

*Whereas* the Columbia Union Conference Committee has endorsed this recommendation, and

*Whereas* the card plan now operating within the Union has resulted in collecting cash and pledges covering

one half the indebtedness of Mt. Vernon College, and if continued during 1913, would have covered the full indebtedness; but, appreciating the blessings of having one general plan operating throughout the Union Conference, and

*Whereas* it is the privilege of the Union Conference to retain during 1913, that portion of the twenty cents per week fund exceeding fifteen cents a week per member, to apply directly towards the indebtedness of Mt. Vernon College, thus cancelling the remaining cards; and since eleven thousand dollars in bona fide pledges might be forfeited in whole or in part, unless the remaining cards are subscribed to;

*Therefore*, we, the laborers of the Ohio Conference, the elders and officers of the churches, and others present at this convention, do hereby pledge ourselves to labor earnestly to have the churches in the Ohio Conference in their missionary offerings average twenty cents a week per member, and that we endeavor to have this average date back to January 1, 1913.

*We recommend* that an earnest effort be made in all our churches to have their church lists considered; when individuals are found who are not faithful, that earnest labor and prayers be made in their behalf following the gospel plan as outlined in Matt. 18.

*We further recommend* that where individuals move away, the recommendation of the General Conference be followed and these individuals be asked to unite with the church where they reside or the church located nearest them. After the church lists have been thus revised, all names remaining on the list of membership be reported as the membership of the church.

*We recommend* that in all our churches, the church boards consist of the following officers:—The elders, deacons, deaconesses, clerk, treasurer, Sabbath-school superintendent, and the missionary leader.

*We recommend* that all the Sabbath-school officers be elected by the church. JOHN FRANCIS OLMSTED.

Mr. Clarence V. Leach of Derwent, Ohio, is canvassing for a Mt. Vernon College scholarship, and at the present rate will have one earned by a month's work.

Elder W. E. Bidwell reports a good attendance at the meetings he is now holding at Spencer.

## Figures and Facts on the Colporter Work

"The Lord gave the word; great was the company (or army) of those that published it." Ps. 68:11. This company was great in two ways. It was great in number, and great because of the work they were engaged in. While we have a goodly number of colporters in Ohio, and our sales for the past twelve weeks exceeded all records in Ohio for the same period of time, I think our army should, and will be doubled many times.

Many souls for whom Jesus died are reaching out for help. They are seeking for light and know not where to find it. They are sin-sick, almost ready to give up in despair. Thousands are sinking daily without hope. Golden opportunities for speaking a word in season are passing from those who should be in the work, while Jesus is saying, "Go ye." Go seek the lost sheep. Although centuries have passed, the lapse of time has not changed Jesus' parting promise to his disciples, "Lo, I am with you alway, even to the end of the world."

"It is the aim of the publishing department of Seventh-day Adventists to provide such literature and so to organize the work that every man, woman, and child in the denomination can have some part in its distribution. Subscription books are provided for the trained and experienced workers who are giving their entire time to that work. Magazines and other periodicals are provided for those of less experience and for many who work in the great cities. Home workers' books are provided for those who cannot leave their homes, but can become resident colporters in their respective vicinities. Tracts and missionary papers are provided for all to scatter far and wide. Even the sick confined at home, can send this cheap literature on its mission by post."

There has been great advancement in the book, periodical, and tract work since 1854. All the literature published at that time by our people could be bound up in bundles and sold for 35 cents a bundle. Compare this with the present. Publications of all kinds now, are issued in seventy-one languages, in the form of 363 bound books, 315 pamphlets, 1200 tracts, and 126 periodicals. While one copy of each kind of our literature fifty-nine years ago cost 35 cents, one of each kind now costs \$525. During the year of 1855, the sales of all our literature were \$2,000. From

1855 to 1900 (45 years) the sales were \$1,459,089.83. Sales for 1911, (one year) were \$1,627,657.83 or \$168,568 more for 1911 than the forty-five years above mentioned.

In 1855 we had no publishing houses, the publications were in one language. In 1911 we had thirty-seven publishing houses, seventy-one languages, 2,096 colporters; 1,112 in foreign fields and 984 in the home land.

Ten per cent of this \$1,627,657.83 to the tract society would amount to \$162,765.78. It means wages to the colporters to the amount of \$813,828.91. The tithe from these colporters would be \$81,382.89. The colporter is the one who has kept those thirty-seven publishing houses going and they furnish labor for 645 persons; their tithe would amount to \$26,000 per year.

The above tithes would support 118 ordained ministers who are winning many precious souls for Jesus. This brings to mind John 4:37, 38. "And herein is that saying true, 'One soweth, and another reapeth.' I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labor; other men labored, and ye are entered into their labors."

The above figures are facts; the colporters are accomplishing much more than many are giving them credit for. How many of us have done all we could in the past along this line?—first by selling the literature ourselves, and then encouraging others to sell it.

"Let labor for souls become a part of your life. Go to the homes of those who even manifest no interest. While mercy's sweet voice invites the sinner, work with every energy of heart and brain, as did Paul, who ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears. In the day of God, how many will confront us and say, 'I am lost! I am lost! and you never warned me; you never entreated me to come to Jesus. Had I believed as you did, I would have followed every judgment bound soul within my reach with prayers, and tears, and warnings.'" "Gospel Workers," page 453.

Now as the Lord has brought Brother McEachern to Ohio, I believe it was all for a great revival of the work in this large conference. Brother McEachern has had a great deal of experience, and I know, with our co-operation, the work will go with leaps and bounds, and many will be added to the ranks of soldiers. Jesus is counting on you.

H. F. KIRK.

Read at the workers and church officers' meeting, Columbus, Ohio, March 13-16.

## An Appeal

Dear Brethren and Sisters:—

I rejoice with you in the marked desire of our people to see the colporteur work brought to a high level in this conference. One hundred colporters for Ohio should be our aim. We earnestly ask you to pray and work for a speedy revival of this work.

Bright prospects are already in sight. The interest is such as to demand the holding of three colporters' institutes this spring. The conference being large our plan is to hold one in the centre of the western half to accommodate those living west of Mt. Vernon, Springfield being the most favorable location, April 18 to 27; one at Mt. Vernon, April 7-17 for the College students, and another at a later date, probably at Akron, for those in the eastern portion of the state. Kindly pray especially for these institutes that strong, well trained men and women may be sent forth from them to win precious souls.

There is no better territory in the Central or Eastern states than can be found in Ohio. Thirty-three large counties, besides our numerous cities, have not had a colporteur in them for years. These cry loudly for workers. Shall they cry in vain?

Men with families are making this work self-supporting. Consecrated women are also making the work a success. Young people ambitious to attend Mt. Vernon College earn their scholarships in a few weeks. The Master bids us, "Go work today in my vineyard." He will reward every man according as his work shall be, supplying our every need according to his riches in glory.

While calamities are awakening the people, and while freedom and prosperity are granted us, shall we not hasten to comfort and warn sin sick souls ready to perish. I invite your correspondence. Or if circumstances forbid your entering the work yourself kindly recommend a substitute and send me the name.

J. H. MCEACHERN.

Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

Now that we have adopted the twenty-cent-a-week plan, let all enter into the work earnestly, responding as well accordingly as Ohio did last year on the fifteen cent plan. To triumph in this last message means to keep pace with its development. Your hope of reward requires your deep interest now. Cooperation in financial plans is a good index of a true relation with the Lord's work.

## The Flood at Columbus

Thinking that the brethren and sisters in Ohio would be glad to hear from those of like precious faith who are sufferers in the Columbus flood, I thought I would send the paper a few lines. The condition is beyond comprehension. Thousands are homeless and hundreds, perhaps thousands, have lost their lives in this city. The true condition will not be known until the flood goes down. A score or more of our brethren and sisters are in this flood, some of them have lost their homes. One aged sister lost a son, her only support. We can not get any direct word from any of our people that are in the flood. Our only comfort is in trusting all to him who careth for even the sparrows that fall. We have been unable to find some of the members, and it is feared they are lost. We ask your prayers in behalf of these dear ones.

IDA C. JAYNES, Clerk.

The following are recent actions of the conference committee:—

Elder F. M. Fairchild, formerly of Akron, has been assigned to superintend Districts 5 and 6, the northwest section of the state, and will locate at Findlay.

Elder R. G. Patterson, for several years past with the Cleveland church will soon assume the pastorate of the Akron church taking charge of District No. 3.

Dr. W. J. Venen, now located at Ravenna, is soon to transfer to Youngstown.

Elder C. W. Webber of Chicago, Ill., has been invited to take up the German work in Cleveland.

Brother J. H. McEachern, the Ohio field agent, spent several days at the College in the interest of the canvassing work. A goodly number of students have already indicated their intention to take the instruction to be given in the canvassers' institute at the College, beginning April 8, preparatory to the summer's campaign.

A letter recently received from Elder Evans tells us of two young people's societies in China. This means that outside of the United States the Missionary Volunteer work has now gained a foothold in the following places: Australia, Great Britain, Germany, Norway, Portugal, India, China, Japan, Korea, Bermuda, Philippine Islands, West Indies, South America, Central America, and in several of the South Pacific Islands.

## WEST PENNSYLVANIA

### Eleventh Annual Conference

This conference meeting was held at Altoona, Pa., March 4 to 9, 1913. A good spirit marked the proceedings throughout. Nearly every person present at the opening service joined heartily in a renewal of their consecration vows, and this spirit continued as the various plans for the progress of the work were presented. The Lord came specially near at the Sabbath service, which was an event long to be remembered by those present. The response given to Elder Spicer's earnest appeal showed that the Spirit of God was working on hearts.

Forty-eight delegates, and twenty-one delegates-at-large were present to participate in the deliberation. The reports of the various officers were encouraging. There were seventy baptisms, and a net gain of fifty-five in membership during the year. One new church was added to the conference, and one was reported as disbanded. The report of the treasurer, which was placed in the hands of the delegates in printed form, showed that the tithe had increased nearly \$2,000.00 during the year, while the donations to foreign missions had nearly doubled in the same time. There was also a marked increase in the membership and donations of the Sabbath schools. However the delegates did not seem to wish to relax their efforts for improvement, but now that the advance move is under way, there was an earnest desire to push the battle still more vigorously.

One of the most interesting features of the conference was the reports of the laborers. As the workers presented brief summaries of the results of the year's efforts, and told of some of the manifest ways in which God had shown his power in behalf of the work, the hearts of the delegates were caused to rejoice. Several workers had been added to the conference force during the year, and a good work started in the city of Pittsburg without increasing the conference debts.

Among the resolutions which were adopted after free discussion were the following:

*Whereas*, The General Conference Council of January, 1913, has provided that, in order to bring relief to our schools and sanitariums in their splendid efforts to train workers, we increase our regular offering from 15 cents to 20 cents per member per week, and

*Whereas*, The brethren in the Columbia Union have given in bona fide pledges \$11,000.00 for Mt. Vernon College, which will in some measure be lost if not covered by the extra 5 cent a week for 1913, and,

*Whereas*, The Columbia Union Conference has adopted the 20 cent-a-week plan with a view of concurring in the general plan, and also by this means to raise the amount required to cover the conditions under which the \$11,000.00 was pledged, therefore,

*Resolved*, That we as a conference concur in the action of the General Conference Council and the Columbia Union Conference Committee, and that we so organize our work as to raise 20 cents a week per member for 1913.

*We Recommend*, That all colporteurs who are qualified and are recommended for colporteur's credentials receive such recognition, either from the conference committee, or from the conference on recommendation of the committee on Credentials and Licenses.

*We Recommend*, That all colporteurs holding credentials, having sold and paid for \$1,000.00 worth of books or magazines within a year's time, have their way paid to and from the annual camp meeting or some other good meeting in the conference, and receive free entertainment while there.

*Whereas*, The great test of success in our Sabbath-school work is the salvation of souls, and there is much need of definite work being done to lead the pupils in our schools to Christ, therefore,

*Resolved*, That we urge upon our Sabbath-school officers and teachers the importance of this work, and encourage the holding of consecration services, in which all, both young and old, may be helped to definitely surrender to God.

*Whereas*, There is great need of trained teachers for church school work, many churches being at present prevented from carrying out their desire to place their children under the benefits of Christian school training because suitable teachers cannot be obtained, therefore,

*Resolved*, That we encourage young people of proper qualifications to take up normal work at Mt. Vernon College, and that we also make special efforts to get our schools on such a basis that good teachers can be obtained.

*Whereas*, Christ commissioned the church not only to preach the gospel, but also to bring people to the place where they should be baptized, and,

*Whereas*, The Lord lays the responsibility for bringing in new converts upon individual members, therefore,

*Resolved*, That we pledge ourselves to earnest and continual prayer to the Lord of the harvest that the number of new converts and baptisms for 1913 be not less than two hundred souls.

*Whereas*, West Pennsylvania has a great deal of unworked territory, from which there come constant calls for help to care for the interest stirred up through the circulation of our literature, there being also great need of special work being done for the people in the vicinity of our churches, and,

*Whereas*, The many large cities of our conference present a situation which calls for an increase of our working force; and,

*Whereas*, There is immediate need of additions to our tent equipment, and there are many other heavy expenses incident to aggressive work in the cities; therefore,

*Resolved*, (a) That special efforts be made to increase the tithe fund by earnest work on the part of both conference workers and church officers for all those who are delinquent in this respect.

(b) That we place before our people the needs of our city work and tent funds, and ask for liberal contributions that our evangelical work may be properly equipped.

Another resolution was adopted providing for a session of the conference in connection with the camp-meeting next summer. Memorials from the First and Second Pittsburg churches were presented and enthusiastically discussed, thus bringing before the delegation some of the needs of the work in that city.

All the conference workers were present, and in addition we were favored with the presence and counsel of Elders W. A. Spicer, B. G. Wilkinson, N. S. Ashton, and I. G. Bigelow. A large theater building was secured for the meetings on Sunday afternoon and evening, where very attentive audiences listened to sermons on the Millennium, and the Eastern Question. Considerable interest was aroused in the meetings, and the daily papers gave most excellent reports, of all proceedings.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Elder B. F. Kneeland.  
Secretary-treasurer, H. K. Hackman.

Executive, Committee, B. E. Kneeland, I. N. Williams, J. E. Veach, W. F. Schwartz, W. A. Westworth, J. P. Gaede, and J. H. Humphrey.



We believe that the Lord has good things in store for us during the year 1913. We feel that the call for special prayer for converts is a most timely one. We have wandered in the wilderness long enough. It is now time that we should be taking some Jerichos, and thus be prepared to enter into the enjoyment of the heavenly Canaan. The end is coming upon us so swiftly that we scarcely realize the true situation. Is two hundred souls too many for God to give us during 1913? Let us pray that the number may include some of our loved ones and friends who are now strangers to God. What is your church going to do in this great campaign for converts? What are you going to do about it? We must have only those who are truly converted. Any others will only be Achans to bring defeat. "Who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord?"

B. F. KNEELAND, *President.*

H. K. HACKMAN, *Secretary.*

## AT THE COLLEGE

### M. V. C. Mission Band

The College Mission Band was organized for the present school year on Friday evening, October 18, 1912. Prof. A. E. Hall was elected leader of the band at the next meeting. In connection with the program committee, he has endeavored to make the services, which are held every Friday evening, both interesting and instructive, and in these respects they have not lacked.

The object of the band is to familiarize the students with the various mission fields—their history, their peoples, and the conditions that prevail in them; to arouse interest in, and sympathy for our fellow men in foreign fields who are in heathen darkness; and for experience in public speaking. The programs are given by different members of the band, each one being requested to take part in some of them.

Several of the first meetings were devoted to the rise of modern missions and their establishment in various lands, to give the class an idea of mission work in general. The study of Africa was then taken up, which has not yet been completed. As an introduction to the study of this field, some talks were given on "Early Explorations of Africa;" following these the work of such missionaries to Africa as Moffat, Livingstone, Crothers, McKay, James Hannington, and

others was taken up and studied.

The band commemorated the one-hundredth anniversary of Dr. Livingstone's birth by having two of its members give his biography, and tell something of his work for the natives of Africa, in the students' meeting Friday evening, March 14.

The attendance at the meetings is good, the average thus far being fifteen, while the average membership is sixteen. The need of workers in the regions beyond appeals to the band, and a deep interest is manifest. Several of the members have already expressed their desire to enter foreign fields as soon as they have made sufficient preparation for such work. This shows that the band is accomplishing at least part of the object for which it was organized.

H. C. BAUMGARTNER, *Secretary.*

The graduating class of twenty-five members organized last week. The following officers were chosen: President, Elder J. E. Shultz; vice-president, Mr. R. B. Wheeler; secretary, Miss Grace Purdham; treasurer, Mr. A. E. King.

Miss Florence White, the Mt. Vernon church school teacher, has accepted a call to teach the fifth to the seventh grades in the Takoma Park school.

Prof. Fred Thornton of the class of '05 is in Missouri, taking a course in osteopathy.

We are informed that Prof. Wakeham, a former M. V. C. Bible teacher, has been secured as Bible teacher by the Emmanuel Missionary College at Berrien Springs, and that Elder O. F. Butcher, also a former M. V. C. Bible teacher, takes the same department at South Lancaster Academy next year.

Elder J. E. Shultz, who finishes the literary course this spring, has been assigned to China by the Mission Board. Other members of the China band are also being considered by the Mission Board.

Brother Harry Doolittle, a M. V. C. student, who has been spending a few months at the Foreign Mission Seminary in special preparation, is under appointment for China.

The printing office is giving six students all the work they can do.

The matrons of the community have organized a mothers' society with Mrs. Blanche Richardson as president. Meetings are held twice a month for the reading of original papers and their discussion.

Several canvassers' bands have been organized in the school under the leadership of experienced student canvassers for the study of the books that will be used in securing scholarships this summer.

Last week Dr. E. M. Woolgar of Clyde, Ohio, visited his children, Lillian and William at the College.

Brother Frederick Holder, the elder of the Canaan, Ohio, church spent several days with his son, John, who is a student at the College. Brother Holder plans to place all of his children in the school next year.

On Saturday night the College male quartette—Messrs. J. E. Shultz, O. M. John, A. E. Holst, and L. C. Metcalf—rendered a musical program, which closed the lecture course for the year. The effort of the quartette was enjoyed and appreciated by all.

"Double the Membership" is the slogan for our Standard of Attainment work this year. Are you a member of attainment? If not, why not join hundreds of others in the race for the goal this year? It will be worth your while to become a member of attainment.

Everywhere our Missionary Volunteers are helping to bear the financial burdens resting upon this denomination. The young people in South America are raising money for the work in Peru. The Australasian youth are supporting several missionaries in the South Pacific Islands. Our Missionary Volunteers in the United States are raising several thousand dollars this year for definite enterprises. The Atlantic Union young people are raising \$750 for the Canary Island Mission and West African Rest Home; the Columbia Union, \$1,000 for the work among the Inca Indians in South America; the Lake Union, \$1,000 for Elder and Mrs. Wood in India; the Northern Union, \$2,000 to \$3,000 for a training school in China; and the Central Union, \$2,500 for opening a mission in India. Aside from these, many other conferences are raising smaller amounts to supply equally urgent calls.

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WALTER C. MOFFETT - - - EDITOR

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Box 353, Fairmount, W. Va.  
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Secretary and Treasurer.—J. S. Barrows, Office Address.

The flood last week shut all trains out of Mt. Vernon for some time and delayed the departure of last week's VISITOR. It also prevented some copy from reaching us in time for this week's issue.

We are in receipt of a complimentary copy of "Outline Studies from the Testimonies." It is highly recommended by those who have used it, and from our examination of it would judge it to be a very helpful aid in the study of the Testimonies.

This is what Professor Salisbury, Secretary of the Department of Education of the General Conference says concerning it:

I have carefully examined "Outline Studies from the Testimonies," compiled by Professor Clifton L. Taylor, principal of the Adelphian Academy. I am very much pleased with the entire arrangement of the book, and am free to recommend it as a work which can be used as a text-book by those who are conducting classes in the Testimonies. Let me add that it also can be of much service to our ministers and Bible workers, as a ready reference to important subjects.

(Signed) H. R. SALISBURY.

The price of "Outline Studies from the Testimonies" is twenty-five cents, postpaid. Orders may be sent to your tract society or to Prof. C. L. Taylor, Holly, Mich.

The Missionary Volunteer Reading Courses have outgrown the English language. Some have joined our circle who can not read it, and we are glad to have them. The members of our circle in South America read Spanish. Our German friends in this country, Canada, and elsewhere have a course in their own language this year. Quite a while ago Brother Kuniya wrote from Japan of their plans for a Japanese Missionary Volunteer Reading Course. Those plans have probably been completed before this.

The texts of the Morning Watch Calendar this year have been printed in at least five different languages,—English, Spanish, German, Japanese, Chinese, and Korean. Thus it will be seen that we have a very interesting prayer circle. Let no one drop out.

**WANTED.**—Positions for two young men among Sabbath keepers. One is an expert book-keeper who has recently lost his position with a large jewelry firm in Chicago because he has taken his stand for the Sabbath. The other is a graduate from the Gregg school of stenography and type-writing. Good references are required. Address K. C. Russell, 3645 Ogden Ave., Chicago, Ill.

### The General Conference Bulletin

will be a 16-page paper the size of the *Review*, and will contain daily reports of the proceedings of the coming session of the General Conference, May 15 to June 8. There will be eighteen or twenty issues filled with just such things as our people will want to know about the conference and its work.

Having the *Bulletin* will be next to being present at the conference. It will be not only interesting and instructive during the conference, but a valuable record for reference in years to come.

All who are interested in General Conference affairs, and who desire to keep in close touch with the progress of the world-wide message entrusted to this denomination, should by all means arrange to have the *Bulletin* for the coming session of the General Conference—the greatest and most important council of the leaders of our world-wide work ever held. Questions of the most vital importance to all of our people will be considered at this Conference, and faithfully reported in the *Bulletin*.

It is now time for orders for the *Bulletin* to be sent in through the local tract societies. The earlier the orders are sent in the surer the *Bulletin* will be promptly received. Let all avoid the possibilities of delays resulting from the rush and confusion of belated subscriptions by sending in theirs now. Price 50 cents for the session.

If you have a friend worth loving,  
Love him. Yes, and let him know  
That you love him, ere life's evening  
Tinge his brow with sunset glow;  
Why should good words ne'er be said  
Of a friend till he is dead?

### OBITUARY

**POLAND:**—Mrs. Louise R. Poland of South Vernon, Ohio, died March 18, 1913, at the home of her sons, Mervin and Alvin. The deceased was born May 25, 1839. Five sons and an only daughter are left to mourn a good mother's departure, the husband having died in 1895. Sister Poland was a sister of the mother of Brother Ward Walters of the Mt. Vernon church. Although a great sufferer, her faith was constant and she expressed a bright hope of immortality. We buried her in the Five Point Cemetery some ten miles from Mt. Vernon. A quartette from the Mt. Vernon church rendered a beautiful hymn and Sister Simpson sang a touching solo. Words of comfort were chosen from the "exceeding great and precious promises."

D. E. LINDSEY.