



Volume V

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, MARCH, 1908

Number 3.

Annual Meeting of the Southern Missionary Society

THE tenth annual meeting of the Southern Missionary Society was held at Vicksburg, Miss., at four o'clock, P. M., Feb. 27, 1908, with the Vice-President, Elder F. R. Rogers, in the chair.

This meeting was originally called for the 30th of January, but was adjourned to the 27th of February, in order that there might be a more general representation not only from the Society but from the Southern Union Conference as well.

Among those present at the meeting representing the Southern Union Conference, the Mississippi Conference, and the General Conference, were Elders G. A. Irwin, W. S. Lowry, F. R. Shaeffer, and Brother A. F. Harrison, the general canvassing agent. Among those more directly connected with the Society were F. R. Rogers, Vice-President, and C. P. Bollman, Secretary and Manager.

TEACHERS PRESENT.

The mission schools were represented by quite a number of the teachers, as follows: D. V. Barnes and his two assistants in Vicksburg; Page Shepard, of Natchez; Mrs. M. A. Murphy, of Greenville; W. F. Gaskin, of Ellisville; Miss Anna Knight, of Soso, Miss. The teachers all presented very encouraging reports of their work.

Miss Knight's school is not under the Southern Missionary Society, but is a private enterprise. It is, however, directly in line with the mission school work. Miss Knight has had a broad experience in various lines of mission work, having spent several years in India. She gave a very interesting talk in connection with the meeting.

Upon call of the roll it was ascertained that there were two thousand five hundred twenty-six shares of stock represented at the meeting. The proxies were well distributed. This was perhaps the most truly representative meeting of the stockholders held for several years, as an extra effort had been made to secure as full a representation as possible.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer's report was read and adopted subject to audit. This report was very favorable, showing a present worth to the Society of \$16,211.26. The indebtedness of the Society is only \$2,684.32, made up almost entirely of trust funds. A few small loans have been made to the Society in such a way that they may be recalled in case the money is needed, but with the strong probability in some cases that it will never be called for.

There is now no mortgage indebtedness; so that the school and church buildings owned by the Society are free from debt. During the last year a mortgage of \$1,000 was lifted from the Vicksburg mission and church property, valued at \$6,000. This was the only mortgage indebtedness against any of the property held by the Society.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETINGS.

The following action was taken amending the By-Laws of the Southern Missionary Society:—

"Whereas, The present plan of giving notice of the annual meetings of this Society by mail is expensive both in time and money; therefore —

"Resolved, That Article One of the

By-Laws of this Society be, and that the same is hereby amended to read:—

"Notice of the time and place of the annual meetings of this Society shall be given by publication in two successive issues of the GOSPEL HERALD immediately preceding the date of said meeting, viz., in the December and January numbers of said paper; and by notices also in such other papers of general circulation among the stockholders of this Society as the Board of Directors or its officers shall direct."

This will simplify in large measure the calling of the regular annual meetings of the Society, and will save considerable expense in time and money.

FINANCIAL PLANS.

The following preamble and resolution was adopted:—

"Whereas, There is an increasing demand for means to extend the work of this Society; and —

"Whereas, The usual receipts of the Society are scarcely adequate to sustain the work already undertaken, to say nothing of holding the Institute at Oakwood, establishing treatment rooms in Nashville, and providing necessary facilities for the work in Atlanta; therefore —

"Resolved, That we ask the officers of the two Unions in this field, and of the General Conference, to open the way to raise needed funds by appeals in our papers, by presenting the needs of the Society in the camp-meetings and other large gatherings of our people in the older and stronger conferences, by encouraging the circulation and use of the Self-Denial Boxes, and by such other means as shall be deemed meet for the purpose."

This resolution was quite fully discussed, and the proposed work of the

Society for the coming year was outlined at some length by the Secretary, who spoke of the importance of the summer school to be held at Huntsville, and also of the necessity of undertaking the proposed work at Nashville. Its adoption was unanimous.

ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The matter of electing a Board of Directors for the ensuing year was then taken up. The Secretary stated that the following named persons had been recommended for election at the meeting of the Southern Union Conference held in Nashville in January: A. O. Burrill, F. R. Rogers, C. P. Bollman, E. A. Sutherland, P. T. Magan, Mrs. N. H. Druillard, and P. E. Palmer.

He stated further, that at the time these persons were placed in nomination it was supposed that A. O. Burrill was a stockholder in the Society and eligible to serve on the Board of Directors; that it was afterwards ascertained, however, that Brother Burrill was not a stockholder and therefore not qualified under the charter to act in the capacity suggested; that it would, therefore, be necessary to substitute another name. He suggested that as Elder C. F. McVagh owned the requisite number of shares of stock, his name be substituted for that of A. O. Burrill. Elder Irwin was decidedly of the opinion that this would be the proper thing to do, and that it would be in harmony with the mind of the conferences. The substitution was accordingly made by unanimous consent.

By unanimous vote, on motion of F. R. Shaeffer, seconded by Page Shepard, the Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot of the stockholders for the following persons as members of the Board of Directors for the ensuing year: C. F. McVagh, F. R. Rogers, C. P. Bollman, E. A. Sutherland, P. T. Magan, Mrs. N. H. Druillard, and P. E. Palmer. The ballot was so cast and the nominees declared unanimously elected.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned *sine die*.

F. R. ROGERS, *Chairman*,
C. P. BOLLMAN, *Secretary*.

MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON OAKWOOD INSTITUTE.

Sunday night, March 1, Elder Irwin, President of the Southern Union Conference, F. R. Rogers, Vice-President of the Southern Missionary Society and Su-

perintendent of Mission Schools, together with C. P. Bollman, Secretary of the Southern Missionary Society, left Vicksburg en route for Huntsville, there to meet the other members of a committee appointed by the Union Conference to plan for a summer school to be held at Oakwood for mission workers.

After a full consideration of the needs of the work, it was decided, in harmony with the action of the Southern Union Conference in January, to hold a summer school at Oakwood from June 2 to July 28. This school is to be financed by the Southern Missionary Society, as recommended; but to be under the immediate management of the faculty of the Oakwood School, which for the occasion is to be reinforced by the addition of F. R. Rogers and wife to the teaching force, together with such other help as may be deemed advisable to call in at different times during the session. Miss Anna Knight has promised to attend and assist in the work of the school. An announcement of the school has been prepared, and will be printed and sent out in due time.

The success of the summer school held last year was such as to fully justify in the minds of the committee the advisability of holding another such school. It was felt that everything possible ought to be done to raise the standard of efficiency in the teaching force of the mission schools, thus strengthening and unifying the work. It is hoped that at some time during the eight weeks allotted to the school, practically all the colored workers in the Southern field can be called in for a few days. This may not be possible, however, as it is not desirable to interfere with the tent work and a number of tent companies manned by colored workers will be in the field this summer.

ORGANIZATION OF THE SOUTHERN MISSIONARY SOCIETY BOARD.

March 5, P. T. Magan, P. E. Palmer, F. R. Rogers, Mrs. N. H. Druillard, and C. P. Bollman, having been regularly elected members of the Board of Directors of the Southern Missionary Society, met by previous appointment, at the farm of the Nashville Agricultural and Normal College near Madison, Tenn., for organization of the Board. C. F. McVagh and E. A. Sutherland being absent from the state, were not present at this meeting.

On motion of C. P. Bollman, seconded by F. R. Rogers, P. T. Magan was chosen temporary chairman; and by unanimous consent, C. P. Bollman, being Secretary of the Society, was made temporary secretary.

Several names were suggested for President of the Board. These were F. R. Rogers, P. T. Magan, C. F. McVagh, and C. P. Bollman.

After quite a lengthy discussion, on motion of C. P. Bollman, seconded by P. E. Palmer, C. F. McVagh was elected President. On motion of P. E. Palmer, seconded by C. P. Bollman, F. R. Rogers was chosen Vice-President. On motion of F. R. Rogers, seconded by Mrs. N. H. Druillard, C. P. Bollman was elected Secretary and Treasurer.

The Board being thus duly organized, some time was spent in discussing plans for the future work of the Society.

On motion of Mrs. Druillard, seconded by C. P. Bollman, it was voted to hold a meeting of the Board on the first Sunday of each month whenever consistent.

A telephone message having been received summoning the Secretary to Nashville to attend a meeting of the Tennessee River Conference Committee, the Board adjourned, pending the discussion of plans for raising means to carry on the work of the Society.

C. P. BOLLMAN, *Secretary*.

THE NASHVILLE WORK

WHILE in Birmingham on his way from Vicksburg to Huntsville recently, the Secretary of the Southern Missionary Society had the privilege of meeting and talking with D. E. Blake, who has been recommended to come to Nashville to assist in establishing treatment rooms, and a mission home for colored people. It has been arranged for Brother Blake and his wife, Dr. Lottie C. Isbell-Blake, to transfer their work in Birmingham to other hands; and they are now practically ready to come to Nashville.

It is probable that before this comes under the eye of the reader, a location will have been selected in Nashville for treatment rooms; and it is hoped that the installment of the equipment which is now in storage can commence very soon. The President and Vice-President of the Southern Union Conference are both at Nashville at the present time and expect to assist the officers of the Southern Missionary Society in selecting a suitable

building in which to commence this work.

FAVORABLE OPENINGS.

Nashville offers an exceptionally favorable opening for such work. It is the educational center of the South both for white and colored students. There are three large colored universities in the city, with a large number of students in attendance. Some of these students are the children of Seventh-day Adventist parents. In the past some of them have been educated away from the truth. This has largely been because a proper influence was not thrown around them to hold them.

HOPE TO REACH OTHERS.

It is thought that with the establishment of treatment rooms and the opening of a mission home, a medical missionary society can be formed. It will be possible not only to interest Seventh-day Adventist students in this work, but other students can also be brought in and connected with it. We have every reason to believe that the doors of these institutions of learning will be opened to this kind of work on the part of Brother Blake and his wife, the Doctor, so that lectures on health topics can be given, not only in parlor meetings, but before some of the classes; and that at the same time practical medical missionary work can be done among the colored people of the city.

OTHER LINES OF WORK.

There are also other lines of missionary work that can be followed, such as visiting, selling literature, giving Bible readings, etc. It is felt that the resuming of this work will mark a new era for the cause of present truth among the colored people of Nashville. It will cost something to inaugurate this work, indeed, it will be some time before there will be much of a return in a financial way, and perhaps we can scarcely hope that the entire work will ever become self-supporting, though we feel that the treatment rooms proper will pay their way after a while. The other work, however, will have to be supported to some extent by donations; and of course the initial expense must be provided by the liberalities of our people. Persons desiring to send donations to this branch of the cause will please address the Southern Missionary Society, North Station, Nashville, Tenn.

ENCOURAGING LETTER FROM FLORIDA

[This letter is written by a worker recently sent to Florida by this Society. She seems to be getting a good hold of the work.—EDITOR.]

I know by his time you will be glad to hear from our Seventh-day Adventist mission school at this place. I have been working almost on the run trying to get things straightened out and in working order. We are in a grocery store room at \$6.00 per month, and have paid our first month's rent from tuitions. We hope to be able to meet our next rent, due March 13, promptly, although tuitions are coming in very slowly, the children's parents being out of work.

My little school, which began with nine pupils, now numbers nineteen. They begin with A. B. C's, and others are advanced to high school work. They are truly a bright and zealous company.

We are using boxes, chairs, tables,—anything honorable—in our little room, until we can do better. My only trouble is with my blackboard. It is a picture (advertisement) turned to the wall. It is all right until we can do better, and we are very happy.

Now, something of our work in the school room:—

1. Songs from "Christ in Song."
2. Scripture study and prayer.
3. Songs.
4. Inspection. (1) Nails, (2) teeth, (3) hair, (4) clothes.
5. Busy work and recitations.

Our writing lessons and verses which each child has are on doctrinal points. Tuesdays we have song and praise meeting; and unless the children are bad, we have prayer meeting once a week. If they go beyond themselves, we have it oftener, and each little soul kneels and prays. Dear little hearts. It would do your soul good to hear them offer up their petitions to God for things most needful. Pray that the truth, through my children, may find its way into the hearts of the parents. Jer. 32:17.

I began teaching Jan. 13, 1908, and have not missed a day. I do so thank the Lord for health and a little part in his work; most especially for the lessons of faith and trust which I learn every day from the children. Do pray for this part of the field.

I am of good courage and feel to press on. Jer. 17:7. M. W. PORTIES.

THE WORK IN ATLANTA, GA.

THE good work here in Atlanta continues. Many are interested in the homes where Bible readings are conducted. These dear souls express themselves from time to time as being willing to keep God's Sabbath; but looking at their surroundings, they lose confidence in their Saviour. We continue to encourage and persuade them, hoping to see a few accept the message. Satan and his host are busily engaged deceiving the people. As we see him working with all power, it is a warning to us to be actively engaged in rescuing these souls out of his grasp.

Our Sabbath meeting (February 29) was well attended, about forty-two being present. We could not seat them all in the same room. This number includes the visitors. We are thankful to God to see this interest, and we believe that when our building is erected our numbers will increase.

We desire to have the building just as soon as possible. Will my dear brethren and sisters remember us in their prayers and with their means, to help us out of our struggle? Soon Jesus will come and your reward will be great. Pray for the work here in this large city.

W. H. SEBASTIAN.

LETTER FROM NATCHEZ, MISS.

I AM back from conference meeting at Vicksburg, and praise the Lord for blessings received. My desire to reflect his image has increased as I am made to understand the tremendous obligations laid upon this people to prepare the way for the second advent of our blessed Lord.

We have passed through the demoralizing reign of the "carnival" here. Its sway upon the votaries of pleasure increases as the day of judgment hastens. Money, time, morals, everything, is sacrificed in the whirl of pleasure. Our school has suffered both in finances and attendance, the children being kept away from school to indulge them in folly and extravagance.

But a brighter picture opens up before me as I contemplate the blessings in store for us both in church and school in the near future. I visited the ground upon which our building is being erected, and the sight filled me with gratitude and courage.

PAGE SHEPARD.

The Gospel Herald

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Southern Missionary Society

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We desire to be placed in correspondence with every one supporting the Mission School Work. To this end we encourage remittances direct to this Society. To be cut off from direct communication with the friends of this work would mean the death of the Southern Missionary Society.

AFTER several months of waiting it now seems probable that we shall secure the site for the Atlanta school and church building selected last fall, but which could not then be had for a reasonable price.

THOUGH late in the season a new mission school has just been opened in a suburb of Jacksonville, Fla. This school is in charge of Mrs. M. S. Hicks. Sister Whetsel, who started this school, has gone to East Palatka to take the place in that larger school made vacant by the death of Sister Simons.

DONATIONS are now in order to help to pay the expense of the summer school for colored teachers and mission workers to be held at Oakwood, June 2 to July 28. Either send your donation direct to the Southern Missionary Society, or else be sure that your church treasurer forwards it under the proper designation.

THE Atlanta building fund is growing much more slowly than we would like it to grow.

On hand in our treasury Dec. 31,

1907	\$606.03
Received from Fruit church...	6.50
Received from a friend.....	19.00
Elva G. Wilcox.....	1.25

Total\$632.78

To this should be added \$140 reported as being in the hands of the treasurer of Atlanta church No. 2, making in all \$772.78 now available for the Atlanta building. The site selected will cost \$600. It will be seen at once that considerably more money must be raised before the building can be undertaken. All

donations for this purpose should be sent to the Southern Missionary Society, North Station, Nashville, Tenn.

ARE there not a few individuals who will now come forward and furnish means to speedily provide the needed facilities for work among the colored people in Atlanta? Because a number of our leading brethren feel that our former plans were too small for the work in that city, they have been enlarged, and instead of erecting a single small building to be used jointly for school and church purposes our plans now embrace a church building with a well-lighted basement for school purposes, and a cottage or mission home for workers with basement for treatment rooms. This is certainly not more than should be done to furnish facilities for the work in so important a city as Atlanta.

IF you want to assist the work for the colored people, do not, if you send your donation through the "regular channels," say that it is for the "Southern field," or "Southern work." These terms do not mean colored work, and funds so labeled are consumed very largely in the work for the whites. Our church and conference treasurers are honest, but they are not mind readers, and cannot tell for what purpose a donation is designed unless the object is plainly stated. If you want to give to the work of the Southern Missionary Society, either send the money direct to the Society at North Station, Nashville, Tenn., or else tell your church treasurer plainly that your donation is for the Southern Missionary Society.

THE latest word received relative to the situation in Atlanta is this from a letter written by Elder Sebastian March 15:—

"Our Sabbath services are well attended. We have as high as forty-two present. Just think of forty-two people worshipping in a room 13 x 14 feet. We need a building. Pray much for us."

ELDER A. W. BARTLETT, recently of the Indiana Conference, but now located at Brunswick, Ga., writes that he is holding Sunday night meetings in the little colored mission in that city. We are sure that this assistance is much appreciated.

WE hope to give our readers a treat next month in the shape of a number of illustrations. All will want to know what the new buildings look like. We have never printed a picture of the mission building in Greenville, nor of the new school and church building and parsonage in Yazoo City. We expect to give these next month, together with a description of the building now in process of construction in Natchez and of the proposed buildings in Atlanta.

BROTHER HENRY S. FOSTER, of Oakdale, Mass., makes this suggestion:—

"Now, this is what I think would be a good plan: to have all the brethren in the North who take the little paper [GOSPEL HERALD] in the interest of the Southern colored people, send \$1.00 for self-denial money, to give the Southern Missionary Society a lift in this hard time."

"MANY should become interested in the work of placing these [Self-denial] Boxes in homes. Ask old and young to aid the work for the colored people by placing these Boxes in every home possible. A blessing will surely follow the gifts of Self-denial thus brought to the Master."—Mrs. E. G. White.

RECEIPTS FOR JANUARY, 1908

THE following report is for the donations received during the month of January, 1908.

Josiah Wood.....	50	Jessie & Mary Werfield, Carl & May	
Robert Shortridge....	33	Zirkle.....	20
F H Schramm.....	8 24	Eaton Sabbath School	3 82
Sadie Cook.....	1 19	F J Harris.....	3 20
Mrs M A Rice.....	15	Mrs Esther Evans	
Mrs A M Guin.....	1 07	Luna.....	1 80
Orin Belknap.....	65	Forest Sander.....	65
J N Loughborough....	18 00	Oxford Sabbath School	3 20
F Schuler.....	1 00	Mrs Charles M Finch	1 00
W J Pfugradt.....	2 51	E K Cassell.....	2 60
Mrs Kate Munger....	4 00	Mr & Mrs J T Luyster	2 00
A E Stutzman.....	5 00	Mrs G T Lyons.....	65
Irwin Edgerton.....	5 00	Helen W George.....	1 10
A Friend.....	1 00	Elva G Wilcox.....	1 31
S D Chapman.....	6 40	Mrs John Sheldon....	3 76
A Friend.....	2 50	Rosa Eden.....	55
Mrs J J Weaver.....	3 00	H L Ogden.....	1 50
N W Neil.....	15 00	Alba D Campbell.....	50
Mr & Mrs G H Gibson.....	4 87	W Steinman.....	1 30
Total	\$80 41	Jos G Hurtgen.....	1 46
		Lillie Fish.....	80
		Mrs M A Baer.....	1 35
		AL Rickett.....	45
		Mrs Clara Myers.....	50
		Mrs Mary M Mulhern	25
		Henry H Edler.....	86
		ED & L B Hurburt..	5 00
		J C Simonds.....	77
		Madison Sab. School	2 00
		Granston Church.....	2 00
		Frieda Puck.....	5 00
		Mrs B F Mattox.....	92
		Mrs Alice Graham....	1 10
		Mrs Nettie White.....	40
		Atlanta, Ga. Colored boy	02
		Total	\$89 47
		For the Support of Ministers Working for the Colored People.	
		A Friend.....	124 00
		F H Schramm.....	6 76
		C A Frederick.....	47 70
		Elva G Wilcox.....	2 44
		Henry & Carrie Campbell.....	20 00
		J C Mikkelsen.....	5 00
		Total	\$205 90