

# Lake Union Herald

*"In due season we shall reap, if we faint not"*

VOL. XII.

BERRIEN SPRINGS, MICH., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1920

SUPPLEMENT NO. 1

## Quadrennial Report of the President of the Lake Union Conference

To the Delegates, Brethren and Sisters assembled,  
Greeting:

The past four years have been the most intense and awe-inspiring of any four years of our national or religious experience. It becomes my duty as well as privilege to report the progress of the work in the Lake Union Conference during this momentous period.

This period has been one of history-making. I might note first briefly the events that have taken place in Europe. Just a little more than four years ago the nations of Europe were in peace, no one thinking of war, at least not giving expression to their thoughts if they were. About the middle of the year 1914 a storm cloud began to arise, and on July 28 the first peals of the distant storm were heard, and since that time the strong nations of Central Europe have worn themselves out in the gigantic struggle for the supremacy of the world. National boundaries have been changed; new nations have come upon the stage of action; new people have assumed the reins of government, and the onward march of national events make the Bible a new book, and its prophetic utterances doubly important to every lover of truth. Even America, our own beloved country, has become entangled with this melee of nations, and has taken her stand in the foremost ranks with the nations of this world as an advocate of democratic forms of government and principles of liberty.

The entrance of the United States into this war marked a new experience in our denominational history. Heretofore we had been almost unpronounced in regard to our attitude on the great question of bearing arms. It is true we had given pronouncement to this question during the Civil War, but as many years of peace intervened this pronouncement had been almost forgotten. Our entrance into the war, however, brought us face to face with this great question once more, and we had to declare our principles as being non-combatants.

During the entire period of this war our denominational activities have been greater than at any previous time. Our knowledge of the world events, and the understanding of the Bible in its application to these events, made our books and periodicals to be sought by even the leading men about us. The great question, "What do these things mean, and what will be the end of this struggle?" seemed to come up in the mind of almost every thinking man and woman. The knowledge that for many years Seventh-day Ad-

ventists had preached a world war before the end of time led many people to turn to us for an answer to this great question. As a Union we have done what we could to circulate the literature containing an answer to this question, and to present the message in hall and tent in the most earnest and emphatic manner possible, so that the past four years have not only been a history-making period for the nations of Europe and America, but for Seventh-day Adventists as a denomination.

### The Awakening

The events above referred to, have led to a great awakening in the nation in which we live. Men who in past years have been content and satisfied to follow an even and virtuous life, have now become aroused to the possibility of the enormous wealth lying at their doors. As a result, the nation composed of these men has arisen and shaken itself like a mighty colossal figure, and has pushed forward to take its place in the great commercial struggle for the amassing of the world's wealth. In the midst of this onward and untiring march, men have forgotten the great object of life. They have forgotten that the greatest of all events is the forming of the national character which not only allows, but invites the indwelling presence of God in the hearts of its people. Having forgotten this, we note the trend of the nation toward the great question of finance and pleasure instead of religion and purity.

In the midst of this great financial and pleasure-loving awakening there should have been another awakening. That should be a religious awakening. Inasmuch as the large mass of humanity, and perhaps to a certain extent many of the churches, have failed to press in and realize the opportune moment for progress, it becomes all the more necessary and important for Seventh-day Adventists, who claim to have the last warning message for this world, to become most thoroughly awakened. This awakening should lead them to the laying of plans and to the organizing of their forces in such a way as to accomplish in the shortest possible period of time the largest possible results toward the end for which they have come into existence. This awakening should take possession of us as leaders, as men who represent the religious strength and responsibility of the organization. It should come into our publishing houses, into our sanitariums, into our schools, into our local conference organization, and, in fact, into every avenue through which the great message for this time may be brought to the knowledge of mankind. Not only should this awakening take possession of all this organizing agency, but above everything else it should become a

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# THE LAKE UNION HERALD

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Mrs. Lou Kirby Curtis . . . Editor

## Lake Union Conference Directory

Office Address, Lock Drawer C,  
Berrien Springs, Michigan

President, Wm. Guthrie  
Secretary-Treasurer, H. K. Presley  
Field Missionary Sec'y, J. W. Davis  
Ed. & Y. P. M. V. Sec'y, C. A. Russell  
Ed. & Y. P. M. V. Asst. Sec'y, G. R. Fattie  
Home Miss. Sec'y, J. L. McConaughy

personal matter, first with the officers and ministers who bear the responsibilities and steer, if you will allow me this expression, our ship of glorious truth forward to a quiet haven. We should not be content, however, with having our leaders and officers awakened, but the awakening should reach every church, taking possession of its elders and church officers, and permeate to the most silent recesses of its organism until every associate of the members of this denomination is illuminated by the activity of this awakening which is for the evangelizing of the world.

Your responsibility and mine, dear brother, cannot end with the activities of the church or conference to which we belong, but can only produce its best results when it takes possession of us individually, bringing the activities of our own life into daily communication with the lost race, and in daily accord with Him who is our strength and helper. And even though the nation and all national agencies are engrossed, and perhaps drunken with financial and pleasure-loving activities, the church must become the halo of glory to turn those who will listen from these alluring things to the more enduring and eternal riches revealed in Christ Jesus.

### The Need of the True Gospel

Never in the history of the human race has there been a greater need of a sure guide in a dark place than now. Hence, let me emphasize that the one great need of the world is the true gospel of Jesus Christ; not so much as it is found written in the Book, but as it may be demonstrated in the lives of the believers thereof. To you, therefore, my brother, is given the greatest privilege that ever God has given to mortal man—the privilege of being laborers with Christ in a world of sin, sorrow, and death; in a world that is near to its final close, and in a world when its apparent triumph, so far as our own country is concerned, is the greatest that has ever been seen, but its destiny as sure as that that overtook Rome, France, or even Spain. Let us, therefore, with a due sense of responsibility and privilege, live such lives as will constantly point the men with whom we associate, as well as those we teach, to the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world. Not only is the gospel needed as a witness to those who will believe on Him, but it is needed to lay the foundation of a safe government; and without the principles of the true gospel in the lives of the leaders and law-makers, no nation will ever be able to continue its existence. Without these principles no individual in the nation could be assured of safety in the pursuit of happiness. There-

fore, my brethren, we owe not only to the individual and to God, but to the nation in which we live the great debt of presenting to them all the principles of righteousness in such simple, plain, understandable terms that a wayfaring man, though a fool, need not err therein.

### Our Progress

During the past four years we have had unbounded progress in many lines. I shall not attempt to give this progress in the local conferences, as I have asked each local conference president to make a report personally for his field. In that report, no doubt, he will reveal the phenomenal increase in tithe, mission funds, two-per-cent, and home mission work as well as to the baptisms and general progress of his field.

As to the department of the Union, I shall not endeavor to delineate upon that work, excepting to say that each department head has been untiringly and constantly at it during the past two years, and I have no doubt that during the first two years of the term they were just as busy as they have been the last two. I shall, therefore, leave the reporting of the book work to our much esteemed Brother Davis and his associate, Brother Lorenz, expecting these dear men to reveal to you not only the great blessing in the sale of our books, but the great opportunity before the salesman or saleswoman for bringing this message before their fellowmen. Many references have been made during the past years to individuals who have accepted the truth as the result of reading. The Bible tells us that it is by beholding we become changed, hence it occurred to me that the great secret in making books useful in the advance of this message is found in the manner, method and appearance of the salesman. I shall only beg, therefore, the liberty to appeal to our salespeople everywhere to be constantly in touch with the great source of life, and sell books only for the purpose of revealing the truths of the third angel's message. Under such circumstances the by-product will abundantly care for the salesman.

Our Young People's Society and Missionary Volunteer work will be represented by our beloved Brother Russell, who I am sure will have an excellent and inspiring report. He with his colleague, Brother Fattie, will give us a report of the educational work through the Union as well. Time will be given these brethren to reveal the many wonderful things that have been accomplished, and to impress upon your minds the value of our young people and educational work to this cause. I shall content myself, therefore, with saying that I believe, personally, the secret for the fin-

ishing of the third angel's message is bound up today in properly inspiring, educating and training our young people. To this end we solicit your co-operation and prayers.

The Home Missionary work will be fittingly represented by our young, aggressive secretary, Brother J. L. McConaughy. It will only be necessary for you to get a glimpse of his beaming face to assure you that it will not be necessary for me to delineate upon the details of his work. I will only say that I greatly appreciate the efforts that he has put forth, and shall leave the work of reporting to him, excepting that I do wish to emphasize the fact that under his earnest efforts, together with his colleagues, the Harvest Ingathering has been nearly double what it was in 1918, having reached the magnificent sum of \$48,000 plus.

The Medical Department will not be so well represented. I feel I should give a little time to the work of these institutions. The Wabash Valley Sanitarium was doing excellent work at the last report I received. The information before me is that its income for the year was in the neighborhood of \$75,000. Dr. Dunscombe leaves the field for Porto Rico. Dr. Nelson of Hinsdale has accepted the position of medical superintendent, and I understand is doing excellent work. This institution in the past four years has grown to a well-equipped institution.

Conditions and circumstances surrounding the Tri-City Sanitarium at Moline, Ill., have been unfavorable, and from time to time it has been difficult to keep the institution moving forward. This last year has been more encouraging. We feel it is possible to run this small institution without loss if we can secure some faithful, consecrated young women and young men as nurses who have already received their training, eliminating the necessity of running a training class in so small an institution.

We pass from this to the Madison Sanitarium. This institution has been doing excellent work, and the reports showed a gain practically every month during 1919. Doctor Ingersoll, who connected with the institution a little over a year ago, is gaining the confidence of the patrons. The present need seems to be a few more and better-equipped rooms.

During the past four years an agreement has been entered into between the Lake Union Conference and the Hinsdale Sanitarium by which the Hinsdale Sanitarium becomes a recognized institution in the Lake Union Conference. We are represented on their board by five out of the twelve members, and have a large share in the moral responsibility of the institution's operation. According to the agreement, however, we have no financial responsibility, and therefore take a smaller place in the financial responsibility and arrangement of the plant. Large improvements are being made at the present time, and in the course of three months they expect to have fifty additional rooms, most of which are provided with private baths.

I wish to give just a moment to the prosperity that has crowned us financially. This prosperity is so great that it can hardly be believed, and will be better

understood as I give you a few of the abstract figures. I wish to call your attention first to the tithe, and can emphasize the growth in this direction I think best by giving you the annual tithe of the Lake Union for each year beginning with 1912. These figures I am gleaned from the statistical reports issued by the General Conference. They may vary a little from some of the figures given out by the Lake Union treasurer. Our tithe in 1912 was \$180,541.99; in 1913, \$193,921.85; in 1914, \$201,205.21; in 1915, \$223,738.87; in 1916 our receipts were \$257,919.87; in 1917, \$338,765.05; in 1918, \$392,234.00; in 1919, the year just closed, our tithe reached the unprecedented figure of \$524,075.60. A careful consideration of these figures will show that for the four-year period beginning 1913 and ending 1916, our total tithe was \$799,407.83, whereas for the four year period beginning 1916 and ending 1919 our total was \$1,512,994.52, or very nearly twice the amount of the previous quadrennial period. If you will notice, there were two years in which we made phenomenal gain, one in 1917, when our tithe jumped from \$257,000 to \$338,000, an increase in round numbers of \$81,000. The next period was 1919, when our increase was \$132,000 over the year 1918, or a gain of a little more than 33 per cent.

Our foreign mission funds have had a large increase. I will give you the results for the last four years. During the year 1916 our apportionment to missions was \$119,683. We raised that year \$132,951.18, or a surplus of \$13,267.98 on the basis of 20 cents per capita; in 1917 our apportionment was \$126,245.60; we raised \$153,465.66, or an overflow of \$27,220.06. During 1918 we raised \$172,736.01, which was an increase of \$14,487.01 over the allotment at twenty-five cents per capita. In 1919 our allotment was \$171,470, we raised \$210,197.23, or a gain of \$38,727.23. This is an excellent showing for the Lake Union Conference, and a strong demonstration of our belief in our foreign mission work. We have sent to the General Conference for missions from our mission fund alone \$669,350.08 during the past four years. In addition to this we have sent in surplus tithe \$306,264.92, making a total of \$975,615 sent to the General Conference during the past quadrennial period.

In our Home Missionary work we have also been active. Much has been done in the conferences. Several churches have been erected in many places, prominent among which is one in Lafayette, Ind., and another in Holland, Mich. A church has been secured in Indianapolis for our colored brethren, and one is being erected in Detroit.

Along with the report of churches we are glad to report the baptisms. I shall not enter into this by conferences, but give the total for the past three and three-quarter years. In 1916 we baptized 938; 1917 was our banner year; in this period we baptized 1,360; 1918, 892 were baptized, and for the first nine months of 1919, 651 baptisms were reported, making a total of 3,641.

I must briefly mention the progress in our educational work along the line of institutions. Improvements have been made in the educational work in sev-

eral conferences. These consist of new dormitories, additions to the administration buildings, and in Indiana a complete change in location. The Illinois Conference, which up to the present time has not made extensive improvements, plans to build a new dormitory for the boys this year.

During the past two years our Union school, Emmanuel Missionary College, has witnessed a phenomenal growth in the erection of a three-story addition to the ladies' dormitory, providing rooms for fifty students; the remodelling of the old North Hall into flats for young married people, providing accommodation for eleven families; the erection of a new central heating plant, in which have been installed three low pressure and one high pressure boilers. These boilers take care of the entire plant aside from the North Hall, and the ladies' dormitory. A new music building has been erected across the main road from the administration building. This contains nineteen rooms and is well occupied at the present time. A new dormitory for the boys has been erected, providing accommodation for 124 young men. Also a new domestic arts building is nearing completion. The demand for church school teachers forced the enlargement of our normal building. When completed we will have an up-to-date building for the training of our church school teachers. Our water supply was inadequate, and as a result we have installed a new water system. Our new 40,000 gallon tower which is being erected will be completed in about four weeks. We will then have a splendid system with ample fire protection. The cost of improvements will total \$140,000.

#### Plans

The Lake Union Conference has definite plans by which it hopes, through Emmanuel Missionary College, to train a large number of young men and women. It is our plan, in harmony with the recommendation of the General Conference, to give these young people experience in the local fields before they enter foreign work. We hope to demonstrate by the end of this quadrennial period that this Union stands shoulder to shoulder with other unions in the supplying of men and money for the field. I would recommend a goal for the Lake Union Conference of an average of twenty-five men per year for the next four years to be trained and sent forward under the directions of the General Conference.

Another goal I have to suggest is 5,000 baptisms during the four-year period, or an average of 1,250 annually. With the help of the Lord, the consecration of our present force, and the young men to be secured from the College, I am sure we can reach this goal.

#### Our Needs

Lest the opinion might prevail that what has been done in the last four years by the way of improvements is all that is necessary, I wish here to mention a few of our needs which should have immediate attention. The one most urgent is the raising of funds for the finishing of the work under way at this time. There is still pledged, but unpaid, about \$24,000. I

have words of praise for the work done by the local conferences in building up Emmanuel Missionary College. The constantly increasing prices of material have caused the cost of construction to exceed our estimates; therefore an additional amount must be appropriated to meet this.

Important as this work is, there is still a more important work, and that is the securing of from twenty-five to fifty young men and women of good Christian experience and consecration to take up different lines of work in the Lake Union Conference at the opening of the tent season. To make this possible, our splendid corps of teachers are making every effort to impress upon the minds of the students the great work that lies before them. Out of our large ministerial class we hope to have a few graduates this year and others who will enter the tent work for the summer that will help us meet our needs. With live, enthusiastic and active men to head the tent companies with their hearts warmed with the love of God and a zeal burning for the salvation of men, these young men will receive an experience complementing that which they have secured during their ministerial work in the College. These two lines of activity, together with the responsibility laid upon them, will speedily fit them to go to the uttermost parts of the earth to do the Master's work. The appeal of the Lake Union officers in behalf of our rapidly increasing work is to the men and women, fathers and mothers of the Lake Union Conference. Give us your boys and girls, first to our church schools, then to our academies and on to the college, that we may train them for the finishing of this work in a short time. This is our greatest and most imperative need today.

In order that this great need may be met we not only need your boys and girls, but necessity forces us to ask for a special appropriation of \$50,000 additional above everything mentioned for the erection of a college chapel, with seating capacity of 650. Such a building must of necessity be about 60x80 feet, giving a seating capacity on the main floor for 400, and galleries on three sides providing room for 250 more. This done, our needs would be very nicely met.

I am sure the Lord would be greatly pleased to see five men come forward today with \$5,000 each toward this greatly needed building; ten others with \$1,000 each; and ten others with \$500, and one hundred more with \$100 each. This is plainly within the field of possibility, and could be done by one hundred and twenty-five persons.

Having called your attention to the needs of our field, I gladly leave the matter in the hands of the conference now assembled with a prayer that God may direct your hearts, enlighten your minds and inspire your spiritual activity, thus bringing the results needed for the salvation of men.

WM. GUTHRIE.

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"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."

## Individual Surrender the Essential of the Needed Awakening

In the opening sermon of the Lake Union Conference Thursday at 8 P. M., Elder Guthrie called attention to the unprecedented opportunity our people are facing today, and the great need of individual surrender to bring about the final triumph of the message. His sermon was substantially as follows:

"We have come to one of the most important meetings that has ever been held in the Lake Union Conference. Never before in the history of this denomination has there been an assemblage that has before it the tremendous task and the mighty possibilities that lie before us tonight. We are brought face to face as never before with the gigantic task that God has given us to perform. And never before has there been a time when Seventh-day Adventists, on the one part, have been so wide awake to the great work, or, on the other part, so fast asleep to the work that God wants them to do.

"The ultimate triumph of our message is dependent not upon the national triumph of the gospel, or upon our great denominational triumphs, but upon the individual triumphs of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. When we triumph as individuals we add that individual triumph to the great swelling mass of triumphs of the church itself, and lead it on to sure and certain victory.

"There is absolutely no such thing as defeat to the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. If we deliver ourselves into His hands, there is for us no such thing as failure. The individual who delivers himself into the hands of Jesus for service cannot fail in that great triumphal march toward the kingdom of God. The church must be witnesses to all men in this world of its mighty closing conflict, and eventually of its triumphant end. The chief business of every individual who has surrendered himself to the third angel's message is the heralding of that message to earth's remotest bounds.

"God said to the apostle Paul, 'Why tarriest thou?' All of us tarry too long. We wait too long after the call has come. We must take time to consider it. While we are thinking it over, the great inspirational thoughts God has given us leak out of our lives and others press into the breach and fill the calls.

"The hour has come for us to tarry no longer. The great clock of time is striking for us to no longer retard the movements of God's message. We must press into the great swelling mass of men that are moving toward the triumph, or we will drop out by the way. If there ever was a time when we need to pray and go forward and cease our tarrying, it is now.

"The mighty workings that God will bring to pass through this people in this generation have not been heard of. So as I look out to the great multitudes of men and women who are being born faster than we are reaching them, I am compelled to say, 'Lord it shall fail unless you work.' God says, 'I can work only as you surrender.' So the secret of the work is surrender of the individual believer to the gospel

message and the triumphant entry of the message into his life for a victorious and triumphant end."

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## Committees

At the first regular session of the conference it was voted that the chairman, in counsel with the Union Conference Committee, be empowered to appoint the standing committees for the session. A meeting of the Union committee was held and the chairman announced the following as the permanent standing committees:

*Committee on Nominations*—E. E. Andross, chairman; A. J. Clark, W. A. Westworth, W. H. Holden, C. S. Wiest, R. J. Nethery, J. J. Irwin, E. A. Bristol, J. F. Piper.

*Plans and Recommendations*—W. A. Westworth, chairman; Frederick Griggs, H. O. Olson, H. C. Nelson, M. D., Dr. R. S. Ingersol, C. A. Russell, J. L. McConaughy, J. W. Davis, H. K. Presley, G. R. Fattic, Felix Lorenz, M. E. Kern, Steen Rasmussen, C. B. Waller, Walter Bergherm, E. A. VonPohle, Edith Shepard, Lotta E. Bell, H. T. Elliott, Mrs. Flora Plummer, Ira J. Woodman, P. C. Hanson, Ennis Moore.

*Distribution of Labor*—Wm. Guthrie, chairman; E. E. Andross, A. J. Clark, W. A. Westworth, W. H. Holden, C. S. Wiest, R. J. Nethery, J. J. Irwin, E. A. Bristol, J. F. Piper.

*Licenses and Credentials*—Frederick Griggs, chairman; Wm. Guthrie, R. D. Quinn, N. H. Pool, M. H. St. John.

*Seating of Delegates*—A. J. Clark, chairman; C. S. Wiest, J. F. Piper.

*Constitution and By-Laws*—C. S. Wiest, chairman; Wm. Guthrie, E. A. Bristol, J. J. Irwin, H. K. Presley.

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## Delegates to Lake Union Conference

The following delegates were present to answer to roll call at the opening session:

*Chicago*—A. J. Clark, I. J. Woodman, M. H. St. John, W. B. Forsythe, R. Calderone, W. B. Forde, E. C. Townsend, W. A. Bergherm, Julius Paulson, August Anderson, J. C. Holden, H. H. Todd.

*East Michigan*—W. A. Westworth, N. H. Pool, T. B. Buckner, Tillie E. Barr, Ennis V. Moore, A. V. Morrison, J. B. McKenney, F. A. Quackenbush, Mrs. Flora Williams, Edwin Thiele.

*Illinois*—W. H. Holden, H. E. Moon, R. J. Watson, P. C. Hanson, E. N. Sargeant, B. L. Post, F. C. Phipps, O. M. Kittle, George Wikander.

*Indiana*—C. S. Wiest, C. W. Curtis, B. J. White, C. L. White, C. W. Marsh, J. W. Hofstra, H. C. Nelson, O. G. Albert.

*North Michigan*—R. J. Nethery, F. J. Harris, E. A. Piper, C. H. Neilsen, Chancy Wood, H. H. Dexter, J. C. Harris.

*North Wisconsin*—J. J. Irwin, E. A. von Pohle,

J. M. Hoyt, H. W. Johnson, A. W. Nelson, T. S. Copeland, F. A. Wright.

*South Wisconsin*—E. A. Bristol, P. L. Larson, H. H. Hicks, E. F. Ferris, G. P. Gaede, W. J. Walter, H. T. Elliott, A. F. French, M. B. Butterfield, O. F. Gaylord.

*West Michigan*—J. F. Piper, S. T. Shadel, A. E. Serns, B. M. Butterfield, M. M. Jorgensen, G. H. Simpson, C. B. Waller, L. T. Nicola, S. B. Horton, C. P. Hall, O. L. Ice, W. J. Blake, W. P. Elliott, Lotta E. Bell, Edna L. Walker, B. F. Williams, Byron Hagle, Jennie DeYoung, W. P. Buzzle.

## The Need of the Holy Spirit

MEETING 9:15-10:30 A. M. JANUARY 16, 1920.

R. E. QUINN

We are trying to get something and to get somewhere. Brethren, it does seem to me that when those disciples got together only ten days and surrendered and prayed to God and got themselves in touch with God in such a way that the Holy Ghost came upon them and they saved the whole world with a few men in a few years, it does seem that after sixty or seventy years of tarrying here, we ought to be able to do something out of the ordinary. The disciples tarried and prayed ten days and they got the thing they were after. We have been after it for seventy years and we are yet here in the Tabernacle looking for that greatest of all blessings, that help that will equip us in this trying life.

Why is it when we come together we always have to go back to apostolic days, always go back to the church of the apostles to get our start to find out what it really means to be a true Christian?

I believe it was the eternal purpose of God when the world work started, that it would continue and go on developing and growing until finally it would triumph. What do we hear today? War, pestilence and famine. That's the program. That is what it is going to be from now until the end of time. But I believe these things will test us out to see how much faith we have. Way back in apostolic times they had faith enough to bring their needs and lay them down at the feet of Jesus. If we don't go back that far, we go back to our own fathers in the Advent movement. I don't believe we can improve on the lives of these men.

There are three things that stand out prominently in my mind this morning—in the lives of our fathers who started in this movement back in 1844. The first thing I think of when I remember them was their simplicity and their faith in the coming of the Lord. The nearness of His coming was very real to them. They thought about it and labored and shaped their lives with that in view. Then they were men of deep prayer, men of mighty intercession. I am wondering if we have advanced very much in these days from their prayer life? Then they were men of great zeal in work, in home missionary work, in giving out literature and doing everything in their power. They

loaded up their lumber wagons as they went to town carrying along with them these papers and tracts to give to their neighbors. These things stand out prominently in their lives.

The hour has come for us to have all the combined experiences of all these men put together in order to meet the issue before us. God did not intend, when He started things, that there should be alternate times of defeat and blessing. When He brought Israel out of Egypt He did not plan that the Ammonites and Moabites should have dominion over them at one time, and that at other times they should be victorious over their enemies. God intended, when he started this great movement under Christ in Apostolic times, for it to go on in great power, and these men got hold of the vision.

There is just one thing we must get after, the one supreme thing these men emphasized back there which seems to be the uppermost thing. They got a three-fold vision. It was when the Saviour was going away. They got a vision of Him as they had never seen Him before. Then they got a vision of His great world plan. Then they got a vision of His plan for them. And they went back to Jerusalem and entered into the upper chamber not with sorrow, but they went back there with a vision and they began to pray.

This is not the first time that God has called upon men and women to evangelize the world in one generation. There was one other time that He did it and that was in the early days. When these men got the call and their marching orders, they started for the whole world and the first place they went to was the upper room. They got down on their knees. That is where we ought to go. We have talked and exhorted one another and studied our Bibles and called conventions and conferences for a long time. The disciples had one mighty prayer meeting and then believed what God said, and they seemingly had but one conference after that.

The apostolic program is the only one I dare to stand on any longer. It is very plain. Why not follow a program that succeeded once? God can repeat Himself. What He did back there I know He can do again. They went back there and continued with one accord in prayer until the Holy Ghost came, and then Peter stood up and preached that mighty sermon, and as he outlined the great world plan that was before them, the men said, "What shall we do?" In our terms it would be, "How shall we finish the work?" That was really what was wanted. Then Peter said, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the Holy Ghost." The men who set themselves against the world and the church with the word "Repent," have something to face because there are a great many who need repentance. Where would we start if we started with a mission of repentance? We would have to start with ourselves. It is a great call for true godliness and the message was, "We shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Then it says they continued constantly in the apostles' doctrine.

It seems that everything that happened was the

result of the calling of the Holy Ghost. That was the one thing we see uppermost. Annanias said that Paul should be filled of the Holy Ghost. Cornelius was filled with the Holy Ghost. So we go through this whole great message of the Acts of the Apostles. As they prayed and fasted the Holy Ghost said, "Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work."

Now it takes this to select men. We discuss men and try to find out whether they are qualified for the place. We waste a lot of time now. Back there the *Holy Ghost* was doing things. "So they being sent forth by the *Holy Ghost*." In the 16th chapter we read, "They wanted to go to Galacia and they were forbidden of the *Holy Ghost*. They wanted to go into Bythinnia, but the Spirit suffered them not." They were being led by the Spirit of God, and though they sometimes wanted to go in opposite ways, God was leading them. Then the Holy Spirit sent them into Macedonia and the first thing they got there was a terrible thrashing, and were put into jail. But they knew the Holy Ghost was leading them. When they got in there all bleeding, they must have said, "Here is where we preach the gospel." They had a season of prayer and started things with a song, and that jailer was converted and the jail was turned into a church.

The things that were attractions to Christ are terrors to us. We don't go around jails much. Now when we can get to where God's spirit is leading us, it won't take us very long to finish things. The last place Paul would look for a man was in jail, so God had to put them into jail to find the man. It was the work the Lord had brought them there to do.

The Holy Ghost must get hold of this situation. When God has a band of men who have the message and know the voice of the Spirit and the leadings of the Spirit, then He is going to let us have another large lesson of what the Holy Ghost can do in our own day. As I see Brother Daniels, and Brother Knox and Brother Spicer and Brother Haskell growing gray and worn, so that they tell us that if something does not happen soon they will not be with us much longer, I am impressed that unless the Lord does something out of the ordinary soon, most of us will be on the sustentation fund and others will be doing the work that we have been talking about all these years. So I plead for a new experience, for an entirely new situation, for a most earnest supplication to God, and careful living and serious thinking and earnest work here in this convention to see if God cannot begin to visit His people, as He has many times in this tabernacle years ago. We are actually in the times now that they thought they were in then. There is no use to talk about the signs of the times, we are actually in the times themselves. All prophecy is either fulfilled or in the process of fulfillment right now. So if this situation does not bring us down on our knees before God, what kind of a situation will it be necessary for us to go through to bring us to that condition?

## East Michigan Conference Report

The period for which we report at this time has been one filled with omens of the blessing of God, and I have been connected with the field but for one half out the work of the conference. Though personally we have been connected with the field but for one half of the term and can give a report covering only that time, still the records indicate that God has been with us and that He has granted fruit for the labors expended. In every department of our work progress is seen, and we look to Him as the real Captain of our work.

The year just past has been a fruitful one in our harvest of souls. About two hundred have been added to our numbers, and the reports of interests to hear the message are constantly taxing our capacity to send laborers to care for those who would know the truth. Every worker who has been engaged in new work has been blessed with fruitage and amid the strenuous times when men's hearts are so full of the cares and pleasures of life, we praise God for the winning power of the third angel's message. Our prayer continually is that God may send forth more laborers into the East Michigan corner of the great harvest field, that the many cities yet wholly unwarned may have the privilege of knowing of the blessed gospel of the soon-coming King.

From a material standpoint, the tokens of God's leading are as plentiful as in the spiritual realm. The year 1918 showed a practical gain of about \$7,000 tithe over the receipts for 1917. The year 1919 has, however, greatly advanced over this substantial increase. During the past year our tithe has amounted to almost \$105,000, a gain of over 60 per cent above the receipts for 1918. This means a per capita tithe of over \$50.

The offerings to missions also show a gratifying increase. Although in 1918 we were a small amount behind the figures for 1917, during 1919 we have more than made up the deficit, advancing over the figure for 1918 the sum of \$9,537.47, or a total above the goal of 25 cents of \$12,015.62. Thus the amount per capita raised in 1918 of 28 2-3 cents per member has in 1919 reached 37 7-10 cents per member.

Our book sales show a very substantial increase over those of 1918. The report from the branch house at South Bend shows an increase of 49 per cent over the previous year, and this, of course, does not include the large sales of magazines which are issued from other houses than the Review and Herald.

Our Home Missionary department gives us figures which show an awakening among our people in this line of work. Every item reported indicates large growth, as may be seen by reference to a few items:

10,000 more missionary visits in 1919 than in 1918.

11,000 more papers sold in 1919 than in 1918.

50,000 more papers mailed, lent or given away.

5,600 more books lent or given away.

13,000 more books sold by the department than in 1918, and so on down the entire line, and, not least in eternal results, though not using as large figures,



85 souls led to the Saviour through the work of the department.

We are 104 subscriptions ahead of our quota on the *Review* list, and the *Signs* list has increased during the year from 800 to 1,564.

The Harvest Ingathering campaign has also seemed to take on a new lease of life. The total in 1918 raised in this campaign was \$3,470.14, a per capita amount of \$1.98, while in 1919 this has been swelled to \$7,072.22, or a per capita of \$3.89.

Our Sabbath school department also shows the blessing of God added to the effort put forth. From an average in 1918 of 12½ cents per member we now see an average of 20 cents per member, while the Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings have grown from 36½ cents to a per cent figure of over one dollar per member.

The Missionary Volunteer department is pressing forward. We are over in nearly all the standards set by the general department, and we anticipate a constant growth in this branch of our endeavor.

During 1919 we have added to our facilities for training our youth. At Adelphian Academy we have added to the girls' dormitory so that our capacity there is more than doubled. An additional story to the main building has increased the accommodations for the boys, but we are still at a loss to know what to do if our attendance increases.

We feel grateful to God that He led us forward in making the increased facilities at the Academy, for the attendance this year has far surpassed that of any previous year, and we would have been utterly unable to care for the students had we not gone forward believing that God would work for us in getting our boys and girls into training.

During the past year we have also added to our facilities for carrying on our conference work by the erection of a conference office building. This furnishes us with ample accommodations and at the same time brings us in an income which will considerably more than meet the expense of upkeep and operation, besides giving us our office rent free.

### The Future

We look forward into 1920 with feelings of courage mingled with some perplexity. We know that the hand of God is with us, and the interest developed wherever we carry on new work indicates that many souls are waiting to hear what God has commissioned us to bring to them. In Detroit, Jackson, Flint, Saginaw, Bay City, and several smaller places, we are carrying on vigorous campaigns, and still there are many other cities calling for help. How we can answer these calls is a problem which troubles us. Something must be done to care for the great masses of people who are flocking to Detroit from other lands. We feel that the strenuous efforts made by the Union Conference should extend to such cities as Detroit and Flint, and that we must do our part to give to these strangers within our gates the light of this last gospel.

We are confident that our people will do their part in responding to the heavy demands which are upon

them, and we look forward to a year of big things, humbly praying that He will still deign to use us in His glorious cause.

WM. A. WESTWORTH

### The Home

2:30 SESSION, JANUARY 16, 1920

M. E. KERN

Two or three of the departments had listed this subject upon their program because they felt the great need of a discussion and the great importance of the home and the home life in our denominational work. There was an earnest desire expressed at the close of the meeting that we should be able to give further consideration to the question of the Christian home, and this consideration leads me to speak to you this afternoon on this subject.

I wish to read the first verse of the 31st chapter of Jeremiah. "At the same time, saith the Lord, will I be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people." The Lord recognizes the family as the unit of organization. That being true, it seems to me that this is a subject of prime importance in a council in regard to God's work, and it seems to me that if we all as workers could go out from this meeting with a new vision of the importance of our homes, if we could go forth from this meeting determined as workers to have better homes, if we could go from this meeting better prepared to help our people in the development of Christian homes, that the meeting would have been a great success for God's work.

Of all the institutions in the world, the home is the most important. The character of the homes determines the character of the nation, and the character of the homes of the church determines the character of the church.

"The lessons that a child learns during the first seven years of its life have more to do with the formation of character than all it learns in future years," *Signs of the times*, April 6, 1903. It is almost impossible for any academy or college or any influence in later years to undo the mistakes of the home. If we want to save our boys and our girls we must work for them in our homes where their character is formed.

The work God has given the parents to do is to save their children. Those parents who have a living connection with Christ will not rest until they see their children saved in the fold.

Love between husband and wife, love between parents and children is what makes Christian homes. The Apostle instructs the church, "Husbands love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it." Eph. 5:25. That is a high ideal held before us in the word of God. If we ever expect the Holy Spirit to be poured out upon us we must come back to this ideal in our home life. The husband is to hold together the home by the bands of love. He is not to be an autocrat or a dictator. We must learn to exalt the work of the mother, for our mothers are doing a work in the home of no less im-



portance than that of the minister in the pulpit. It is not reproof that the wife needs, but loving encouragement.

Another great principle that makes for the success of Christian homes is the companionship of parents and children. It is not beneath the dignity of the preacher to go home and associate with the boy in his sports. The father that takes time to go swimming with his boy has won the friendship of his boy. Parents must do all they can to hold the confidence of their boys. During the storm and stress period in the lives of our boys and girls, the time when they are passing through their adolescent experience—being on the mountain top one day and in the valley the next—is the time of all times that we must maintain their confidence. Oftentimes when the child goes to the parent with questions, falsehoods are told him and the child is forced to get from the street information that he should have gotten from his father and his mother at home.

We must teach our children the great lesson of obedience, but we must teach it to them in love. There are many homes in which the children rule and not the parents. Parents must prepare children to obey. There is a great deal in talking with children and having them understand that we expect them to obey. Like begets like. If you want your child to be lovable you must be lovable yourself. If you want your child to have a good temper you must not lose your own temper.

There is too much criticism in our homes. Our dining room tables should not be dissecting tables. If we see wrongs in the church let us not endeavor to correct these wrongs by talking over the faults we see in our brethren.

"Our home should be a place of refuge for the tempted youth."

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### North Michigan Conference

A new year lies before us. What it holds in store in blessings and opportunities, as well as trials and opposition, it is impossible for any of us to determine. We face an unknown future in blessings and trials, in successes and failures.

It may be possible for us to determine to some extent the future by the past. However, it is not wise to rest satisfied with past victories, nor to become discouraged by defeats. We cannot call back the past, nor is it possible for us always to rectify our mistakes. Our defeats and victories of the past can only profit us as we make them incentives to better service.

In presenting to you this report of the work in Northern Michigan for the past year, it affords me mingled pleasure and regret. Pleasure in acknowledging the blessings of our heavenly Father during the year, gratitude for blessings bestowed upon our people throughout the conference in health and in the increase of their means, and for their spirit of faithfulness and liberality. Regrets that while there are numerous calls from every part in the field by earnest

searchers for truth, and many opportunities to give the message, we have but few laborers to answer these calls.

Three tent efforts were conducted during the season. They were held at Frankfort, Coleman and Wells. The tent season was a short one, due to delay in finding locations and in having to close early in August for camp meeting. Forty baptisms were reported by the workers for the year.

During the year just closed there was received in tithe \$28,896.29, being a gain over the year 1918 of \$5,536.71, an increase of nearly 24 per cent. There was also a gain of \$482.73 in two per cent.

In 1919 there was raised in the Conference for missions \$13,714.15, an amount in excess of the previous year of \$3,527.60.

During 1919 we raised on our assessment of the \$75,000 Educational Fund \$4,500, thus paying our apportionment of the \$75,000.

The total gain for the year in tithe, two per cent, missions and educational, amounted to \$13,532.05. As against a surplus of \$1,591.36 a year ago, we have on hand today a balance of \$5,244.78.

For the year there was most encouraging progress made in the sale of our literature. The sales for 1919 exceeding those of any previous year, amounting to \$18,127.12, a gain over 1918 of \$4,722.12. Colporteurs' sales, \$17,512.80. Gain over 1918 of \$5,423.40.

There has been a substantial gain in Sabbath school offerings amounting to \$3,951.77, an increase over the previous year of \$1,127.34.

It has been pleasing to us to note an awakening on the part of our young people throughout the Conference; which was especially noticeable during camp meeting, many of them manifesting a desire and expressing a determination to get a training in one of our schools to fit themselves for service in the Lord's work. At the present time there are more of our young people taking training in the Academy and College than at any previous time in the history of the Conference. With our young people showing such a desire to give themselves to the Lord's service, it would seem to us that we have the evidence that the Lord will soon finish His work.

We would, therefore, with deep gratitude to our heavenly Father for past blessings, consecrate ourselves anew to Him for better service.

R. J. NETHERY

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### North Wisconsin Conference

In June, 1916, the North Wisconsin Conference was organized from territory in the northern part of the Wisconsin Conference and the western part of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The believers in the territory were few and widely scattered, and a few thought it a mistake to set aside this weak field as a conference. Indeed, when the reports of the church treasurers for the first month of our conference came in, and we found the tithe to be but \$539.92, and the two-per-cent \$16.30, Brother Johnson and I began to wonder how long the conference could exist.

As we visited the churches we found the brethren and sisters were well pleased with the change and willing to take hold and lift hard in carrying forward the work. Our conference began work July 1, 1916, and fortunately a general meeting had been called for the first days of July. At this meeting it was voted to locate the conference headquarters at Ashland. When we went to Ashland we quickly found rooms for an office, but found it very difficult to find rooms in which to house the workers. We had no church building, nor room in which to hold our church school. For the first two years we were obliged to have our church school in the home of one of the workers. Then in what seemed a providential way, we were able to secure a building which has been fitted up for a church and church schoolroom, with rooms upstairs for an office.

In order for us to get an idea of the growth of the work during this period, I will give you a comparison between the year 1915 which was the year that had just closed at the time of our last Lake Union meeting, and the year which has just passed, 1919.

#### **Financial**

During the year 1915, in the territory covered by our organization, the tithe amounted to \$7,396.51. In the year 1919 the tithe amounted to \$28,200.83, or a gain of \$20,804.32.

#### **Two-per-cent**

The two-per-cent has not made as large a gain as we desired, but a beginning has been made. In the year 1915 there was paid in two-per-cent to the amount of \$130. During 1919 we received \$1,141.36, or a gain in 1919 over 1915 of \$1,011.36. We look for a much larger increase this year, as the plans for the educational work depend largely upon the two-per-cent, and the people are taking hold of the plan.

#### **Missions**

Each year there seems to be a decided growth in the interest of missions. For the last two years we have made our 25-cents-per-week-per-member, and this encourages the brethren to believe that we can reach our 50-cents-per-week. A few of our churches almost reached that last year. A comparison of the year 1915 with 1919 will help us to see how the interest in missions is growing. In 1915 the offerings to missions amounted to \$3,959.40, or a per capita of 12 cents per week. In 1919 the amount was \$11,411.36 or a per capita of a little over 26 cents per week. In other words there was an increase in 1919 over 1915 of \$7,451.96, or a per capita of over 14 cents per member.

#### **Departmental**

We have endeavored to carry on all lines of the work, and have departments well organized, with the exception of the Home Missionary work. We have never seen our way clear to select a man to head this department, but hope to soon.

#### **Canvassing**

Our canvassing work has been interrupted. In the last three years we have had three field agents. In spite of this handicap, the work has been steadily pro-

gressing, and by making a comparison as before, we can get an idea of its growth. It is difficult to obtain the exact figures for 1915. There had been sold in our territory \$3,000 worth of books. For the year 1919 our book sales amounted to \$17,049.25, or in other words, a gain in 1919 over 1915 of \$14,049.25. At the present time we have eight regular colporteurs. Each summer we have recruits from the Walderly school helping to increase the amount of sales.

#### **Sabbath School Work**

In the Sabbath-school work we do not have the figures for 1915, but for the last six months of 1916, after the conference was organized, we had forty schools with a membership of 787, and offerings amounting to \$1,483.45. At the close of the third quarter of 1919, we had forty-four Sabbath-schools with a membership of 1,106, and offerings amounting to \$3,928.75 for the last six months of 1919.

#### **Missionary Volunteer**

This department is one that we consider of great importance, although it is one of our great problems. Our young people are so widely scattered that it is difficult for many of them to be where they can attend Missionary Volunteer meetings. We have in our conference nine societies, with a membership of 137. Each church school has a Junior Society. We consider these Junior Societies of great benefit to the children, in that the children receive a great inspiration for service, in the Master's work.

#### **Church School**

We have eleven church schools in the conference with an attendance of 167. We were obliged to limit the number of schools this year on account of not being able to secure teachers. We hope that this condition can be eliminated by another year, so that all of our children can have the privilege of church school.

#### **Academy**

We have but one institution, the Walderly Academy. This school was started while Wisconsin was all one conference. The management at the school has endeavored to impress upon the minds of prospective students the fact that an education is worth paying cash for. Gradually this idea is gaining ground and now the school is nearly self-sustaining. The school is well filled with an earnest class of young people, the most of whom are fitting themselves for work in the message. At the time of the organization of the conference, the facilities at the school were very meager. This has brought a tremendous burden upon the management, and we have tried to get matters arranged in better shape. More room has been provided, and we are doing all we can to equip the school for better service.

#### **Evangelistic**

We have among our believers English, Swedish, Danish-Norwegian, German, Polish, Indian and Finnish speaking peoples. We have laborers in four of these languages. In our work among the Finns we have one man working. He has a difficult time in gaining a footing with no constituency to help him in starting meetings. Then, too, his time is largely taken

up with work with the Finnish magazine. He has secured a few Sabbath-keepers, and we hope to see the work develop. Our members are scattered over a large territory, so it is very difficult to get them together for a general meeting. Many of the churches have made substantial gains. Tent meetings and hall efforts have been held and the work has been established in five new places. Our growth has not been all that we desired, yet there has been advancement made. At the beginning of 1916 we had a membership of 655, and at the close of the third quarter of 1919, our reports show a membership of 890, or a gain of 235.

J. J. IRWIN

### Illinois Conference Report

In consideration of the progress of the Illinois Conference, we can confidently say that the year 1919 has been by far the banner year of its history in all lines of spiritual and financial activities. It seems very appropriate that it should be the last and crowning year of the quadrennial period, concerning which we are now to report.

The Illinois Conference was first organized in the year 1871, and was divided and reorganized in the year 1902 under the name of Southern Illinois Conference, with a membership of 425. It was again reorganized January 1, 1919, with a membership of 1,444, when twenty-five counties from the Northern Illinois Conference joined the Southern Illinois Conference, under the name and constitution of Illinois Conference, which now comprises ninety-three counties, or all of the state of Illinois outside of the Chicago Conference. The conference is the largest in area of any conference in the Lake Union. For institutions, we now have one sanitarium, one academy, and one ten-grade school.

As this is the first quadrennial report of the conference, the writer has combined the two previous biennial reports in some instances, in order to get comparative statements, showing the growth of the conference during the past quadrennial period.

But first let us note the increase in tithe from the year 1902, when the conference was reorganized under the name of Southern Illinois Conference. The tithe for 1903, the first full fiscal year, was \$4,861.20, or a per capita tithe of \$8.84. The tithe slowly increased until in 1915 it was \$12,571.00, or a per capita of \$16.56, and only three years later, in the year 1918, it was \$23,094.53, a per capita of \$26.92, which shows an increase of nearly one hundred per cent over the year 1915 for Southern Illinois alone, and the following year 1919, under the present organization, the tithe was \$54,364.40, a per capita of \$37.02, and a gain of 135 per cent in one year, or more than double the tithe of the previous year. The tithe from the twenty-five counties which joined Southern Illinois, January 1, 1919, was \$17,447.66 for the year 1918, making a total tithe of \$40,542.18 for that year. By uniting our strength and pushing together for the year 1919, we have increased the tithe of the two sections to \$54.-

364.40, showing an increase in tithe for all the churches in the Illinois Conference of \$13,822.22 for the year 1919, over that for the same churches for the year 1918.

Taking a similar retrospective view, we find that the total offerings to missions in Southern Illinois for the year 1903 was only \$4,737.48, which slowly increased until the year 1915 when it was \$7,587.29. In the year 1919 it was \$22,712.82, which puts us over the top for the year 1919 on the Twenty-five-cent-a-week Fund approximately \$4,000.

We find that the Harvest Ingathering for the Southern Illinois Conference in the year 1912 was only \$326.77. This fund slowly increased until the year 1915, when it reached \$741.10. During the past quadrennial period, our people have shown great activities in the Harvest Ingathering work, each year climbing higher and higher until for the year 1919 we raised \$5,306.67.

And now, by way of comparison, let us refer to a few totals for the last quadrennial period, as compared with the quadrennial period between 1912 and 1915. The first quadrennial period shows a total tithe of \$45,291.71, while the last quadrennial period shows a total tithe of \$110,289.75, an increase of \$64,998.04, or a gain of 135%. The total offerings for missions for the first quadrennial period amounted to \$23,770.50 against \$54,680.65 for the last quadrennial period, a gain of \$30,910.15, or 130 per cent. The total Sabbath school offerings for the first quadrennial report show \$12,364.46, against \$27,234.19 for the last four year period, making a gain of \$14,869.73, or 122 per cent. The total offerings made by the young people during the first quadrennial period was \$800.11 against \$2,845.07, showing a gain of \$2,044.96.

The total Harvest Ingathering offerings for the first quadrennial period were \$2,031.99, against \$10,536.51, a gain of \$8,353.07, or 418 per cent. The conference also shows a healthy gain in all departmental work, and along all spiritual lines. The largest number of regular workers on the conference pay-roll at any time during the first quadrennial period, not including summer help, was thirteen, while we now have twenty-one, and last year for Southern Illinois alone we had seventeen. The number of believers baptized during the past year was 117, while the number baptized during the year 1918 was 107.

Our departmental secretaries are taking hold with earnestness to make their work a success. The first quadrennial period referred to closed with 97 reporting home missionary work, while the last quadrennial period closed with 435 reporting home missionary work. The young people of the conference have increased their offerings to missions during the past eight years from \$58.97 for the year 1912, to \$1,201.50 for 1919, and the membership of the Missionary Volunteer societies at the beginning of the last quadrennial period was 195, while it is now 483. We now have 15 church schools, with an enrollment of 211, against 7 with an enrollment of 100 for the year 1916.

We do not wish to forget our academy at Fox River, which is enjoying its banner year in Christian

experience, the number of students enrolled, and good work for the Lord.

When we consider the colporteur work, we are fast coming to believe that the Illinois Conference is prominent among the best fields of America for the sale of our books and periodicals. The total retail value of book and periodical sales for the last quadrennial period was \$132,690.44, showing an increase of \$48,491.75 over the previous quadrennial period. Our sales for 1919 were \$40,877.65.

We are also grateful for the splendid work our Sabbath schools are doing, not only in increasing their offerings to missions, but in increasing the spiritual interest in this department. The Sabbath school offerings for 1919 were \$12,714.04 against \$6,398.46 for the year 1918, showing a gain of approximately 100 per cent.

We are glad to say that the Illinois Conference has a firm financial standing. We began the year 1920, after paying all our bills, with a surplus cash on hand of \$11,138.80, divided as follows:

Operating Fund .....	\$ 5,774.75
Local Funds .....	3,789.05
Tract & Missionary Soc. Cash	1,575.00

Total .....\$11,138.80

While our ministers and Bible workers have not increased in numbers in proportion to the increase of tithes and offerings, yet their work shows a substantial increase in the salvation of souls. The number of believers baptized during the last four years was 375, against 287 baptized for the previous period of four years. We have twenty-one loyal workers on the conference pay-roll, and we expect to place more laborers in the field this year, and hope soon by faithful service to double our present membership. The people of Illinois respond to this message readily.

We thank God most heartily for His prospering hand which has been over us during the past year, and we earnestly desire to co-operate with him for the finishing of the work in our part of His vineyard.

W. H. HOLDEN.

### A Summons to Universal Action

FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 16

R. D. QUINN

The scripture in Ezekiel 6:11, "For they shall fall by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence," sounds strangely like a prophecy for our own time. Our brethren who have recently returned from Europe told us that there is no talk on the other side about a millennium, that the nations of Europe are preparing for another conflict, and they are confidently expecting that it will come. We are living in an exceedingly serious time. Our brethren in Europe told the General Conference that they felt that God had graciously given us a little breathing spell between these great crises to finish the work of God, and they were ready to join us in this last final push to accomplish this work. Their hope was in the great laymen's movement that has begun in this country among us, and

they invited the brethren to come to Europe next summer and hold conventions, summoning the whole church of Europe to universal action.

We often think about the finishing of the work—how shall this great task be finished and we be prepared for the coming of the Lord Jesus? This is the supreme question that every man and woman ought to ask himself. This question was a question that Jesus Christ Himself addressed Himself to. To be a true follower of Jesus will mean that we shall not only try to imitate Him in His life, but follow Him in His great line of service and His great mission for the lost.

The first public utterance of our dear Lord when He began His mission was, "I must be about my Father's business." His last utterance before He died was, "It is finished." Then as He left His disciples to go into heaven He said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." That is how He came, that is how He stayed with us, that is how He left us. Those are our orders—they have never been repealed.

There is only one hope of the church, and that is that we get into that blessed unity that marked the experience of the early church. The one eternal term that was used back in those days was "accord." They were of one accord. We cannot improve on it. The only thing that can meet the united foe is a united church with unity and vision.

Nothing will ever complete the work of the Lord but a band of men and women whom God has touched, all speaking the same thing. Every one who unites with this great laymen's movement is helping to increase the loud cry of this message.

In the early time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem, and they, the church, were all scattered throughout the region of Judea and Samaria, excepting the apostles. The church was doing a good share of the work in those times. Then it was that the Holy Ghost was poured out. By earnest, persevering prayer they went forth weighted with the burden of saving souls. They called on the believers to arise and do their part, that all nations might keep the truth and the earth be filled with the glory of the Lord. We cannot improve on the whole general outline, and so I appeal to you, let us study, let us be united, let us get together, let us believe the same thing, let us do the same thing. If we will only do that one thing, then there will come to this church such a revival as the world has never known.

The prominent message for the Seventh-day Adventist church today is a summons to universal action, and that is God's appointment for every one. Why not let it come in 1920? Why not let it come in the month of January of the year 1920 instead of looking ahead to some indefinite period?

The unprecedented advance in every conference of the Lake Union indicates that God is ready to meet the faith of His people and lead them on to victory.

## Report of Chicago Conference

This report will present the advancement and success of the work in the Chicago Conference for the past four years. To view its rush of humanity, its whirl of business, its corruption of society, and its indifference to religion, and compare these with the handful of believers and scarcity of workers, makes our effort seem almost insignificant.

### Territory

This conference is smallest in territory and one of the largest in population. Of the 3,500,000 inhabitants, 2,000,000 are of foreign extraction. It is because of these peculiarities that the Lake Union Conference saw fit to form the nine counties in the north-eastern part of Illinois, and Lake County of Indiana into a conference; and christen it the Chicago Conference.

### Membership

Four years ago the Northern Illinois Conference had 1,674 members, while at the beginning of this year we have 1,863 in the Chicago Conference alone. The Chicago Conference commenced its existence with 1,727 members and during its first year gained 138. 189 have been baptized into the faith and united with the church.

To accomplish these results we have conducted three strong hall efforts among the English people and six among the foreign speaking people. The largest of these efforts was the one conducted in the Central Music Hall by Elder M. H. St. John. The meetings were well attended and the results very encouraging. Elder I. J. Woodman also conducted a series of meetings on the South Side with very good results. The other English effort, Elder Forde conducted among the colored people. The meetings for the foreign people gave very encouraging returns. Eight tent companies were in the field last year, two of which were for the American people.

### Churches

There are at present in our Conference 25 churches, 14 of which are in Chicago and eleven in the counties outside of the city. One of these is in Lake County, Indiana. Two are German, two are Swedish, one is Danish-Norwegian and one each for the Italian, Roumanian, Hungarian, Polish and Checo-Slovak. Our laboring force to date numbers 46.

### Finance

The tithe of Chicago for the year just closed was \$70,506.15, a per capita of \$46.62½. This was an increase in tithe of \$30,991.42 over what the tithe of Northern Illinois was four years ago. This is an increase of \$23.99 per capita. The tithe has nearly doubled; the per capita has more than doubled; the last year being a report for the Chicago Conference alone, while four years ago it was for all of Northern Illinois. The tithe for this past year was about \$3,000.00 more than the tithe for Northern Illinois in 1918. This means a gain in the territory of the Chicago Conference of about \$20,000.00 in the first year of its history.

In our mission funds the Lord has likewise blessed. In 1918 the Northern Illinois Conference reached its goal and raised \$10,279.91 over, a per capita of .363. In 1919 Chicago raised \$30,447.29, which was \$10,791.29 more than the required 25 cents a week, or a per capita of .386, a gain of .023 per week per member over the preceding year. Taking Chicago alone, however, for the comparison between 1918 and 1919, the churches in the territory of the Chicago Conference in 1918 raised \$21,963.06, a per capita of .386 while in 1919 they raised \$30,447.29, a per capita of .386, a gain of \$8,484.23 in mission funds and a gain of .054 per week per capita.

The faithful efforts of our Sabbath school secretary, combined with the interest of the local Sabbath school officers, were no small factor in the success of our effort for the fields beyond. The Chicago Conference Sabbath school department raised in 1919, \$18,182.55, or .231 of the .386 raised in the conference for missions. The Thirteenth Sabbath donations have been a great encouragement. These alone amounted to about half of the total of the Sabbath school offerings.

The brethren and sisters of the conference took hold in earnest in the Harvest Ingathering campaign. Two different goals were set by the conference. The first was for \$7,000.00. This goal was passed November 15 and then we went on to raise the full \$5 per member figured on the same basis that the missions were figured. We raised this, and the final report shows \$7,958.76 for the year, or a per capita of \$5.26. Comparing this with the year before, it is a gain over all of Northern Illinois of \$1,648.99. The amount per capita in 1918 was \$3.61 as against \$5.26 for 1919.

For many years the office of the Northern Illinois Conference was maintained away from the center of the business district of Chicago, but with the organization of the Chicago Conference it was thought best by the committee to move the office to a more central location. A beautiful suite of rooms was secured in the loop district of the city. The advantage of this change was manifested through the business of the Tract Society, if by no other means; for the total sales of all of Northern Illinois for 1918 were \$40,973.53, while the total sales for Chicago during the past year were \$49,026.29. Taking into consideration the reduced territory and constituency, we see that our sales have increased more than \$1,000.00 a month over the entire year. The Chicago Conference in 1919 did about twice as much business as all of Northern Illinois in 1916.

The colporteur work in our field has shown real advancement under the leadership of Brother W. A. Bergherm. In 1916 the sales of subscription books amounted to \$12,000.00 approximately; in 1917, \$15,000.00; in 1918, \$21,000.00, while in 1919 it amounted to \$27,500.00.

Our Educational and Young People's departments have been without a leader a large portion of the time the past year, and now our Sabbath school department is in this same situation. We have recently secured

Brother W. A. Woodruf, of Montana, for our M. V. work, and hope at this meeting to fill the position of Educational secretary and Sabbath school secretary.

At times, as workers, we feel like Gideon of old as he faced the encamped host of Median, but take courage, realizing that the same God who chose the few to overcome the many in his day, is able to lead the handful of Israel today into the camp of the enemy and gain as signal a victory. As Gideon's band won by breaking the pitchers and blowing the trumpet, so we feel to break the covering which hides our light and sound the trumpets of alarm and victory and see the salvation of God.

A. J. CLARK.

### Conference Sabbath School

At the opening of Sabbath school, Mrs. Flora Plummer, of the General Conference Sabbath school department, gave a short talk to the members. She showed how the Sabbath school had grown to be one of the greatest educational institutions in our work. In setting forth its world-wide character, she said:

"As the earth rolls around its circuit today, 175,000 men, women and children will attend Sabbath school. They form the student body of the greatest educational institution in the world. There are no graduates from this university. Children, youth and older brethren and sisters meet together to study God's word. And while the children here today listen to the story of the birth of Christ in this land, little children of China, Malaysia, India, and dark-skinned little ones in Africa will listen wide-eyed to the very same story. It is a big thing that we are connected with.

"We want the Sabbath school to reach out through all its branches and lay its hands upon these people and draw them nearer and dearer to the Lord with bands that are stronger than iron.

"The first word that came to us from Europe after the struggle was over was from Roumania, thanking us for the Sabbath school lessons that had been such a help during all these years of strife and trouble. They were so isolated that they did not know who the president of the union conference was, and wanted to know if the Review and Herald was still being published.

"The missionary spirit that is to carry this message to earth's remotest bounds is evident in our Sabbath schools throughout the world. One woman in China who earned her living by washing wanted to give an offering on the 13th Sabbath for Africa. She did without one meal a day for a week and saved 25 cents. On the way to church, as she went rejoicing, she saw a coin, and stooping, found it to be another 25 cents. Instead of thinking that the Lord had rewarded her for her privation, she joyfully put both pieces into the collection box, thankful that she could do so much for Jesus."

The review of the lesson was conducted by Elder Clark of Chicago.

He said that, "Grace, the unmerited favor of God, is really forgiveness of sins. There is nothing better that we can ask for anybody. The relationship that we ought to have with our workers today is that we will pray for them always. There is a bond of fellowship when the minister is praying for the church and the church is praying for the minister, that brings them into true Christian fellowship.

"How are we to get into this fellowship? Paul had the people on his heart, and they had him on their hearts. He prayed that they might abound in love that manifests itself in love, righteousness, judgment, knowledge and sincerity. Love is manifested to God in a sincere life. It is possible for us to be without offense to God and to man in this world. This should be the great object of the church of God."

Elder Westworth took charge of the lesson study. His remarks were substantially as follows:

"Paul was in bonds for the furtherance of the Gospel. He was not feeling bad about it, either. It is not the personal experience that counts, but whether or not in some way or other God can turn things to the furtherance of the Gospel.

"Sometimes we are able to let the light of God shine when things are dark that we could not have done at all if things had been sunny. Sometimes it is necessary for God to lead His people into adversities so that light may shine into some hearts that could not otherwise be reached.

"Persecution has always stimulated the advance of the Truth of God.

"Paul said, 'I am set.' How many of us folks are set? Too many folks are wobbly. They don't know whether they are going through to the end or not. Paul was not planning to preach the gospel one day and then go into some other line of business another day. Paul had a job and he ment to stick. He determined to know nothing but Jesus Christ and Him crucified. Do you know your job? God is demanding of every Seventh-day Adventist to be set. Let nothing or anybody turn us aside.

"Our joy should be in adversity if it be for the furtherance of the Gospel. It should not worry us one way or the other how things go with us just so things go alright with the Gospel. Men go to the individual to see Christ on this earth, for He is magnified in our bodies. It is much better to have Christ on the inside of us to keep us from falling, than it is to have Him on the outside to help us up when we fall."

### Our Youth and the Advent Movement

SABBATH MORNING, JAN. 17, 1920

M. E. KERN

Jer. 13:20, "Lift up your eyes, and behold them that come from the north: where is the flock that was given thee, thy beautiful flock?" These words were spoken by the Lord through the prophet to an ancient king of Israel, who because of his sins and his transgressions, was about to lose the flock which God had

given him Just as the ancient kings were responsible to God for the young people that God had given them, so the church of God in these days is responsible for the young people God has given them, and I want to ask this question this morning of the ministers and delegates of the Lake Union Conference assembled, and the officers and ministers of the Battle Creek church, "What shall we say in that day when God shall put this question to us, Where is thy flock that was given thee, thy beautiful flock?"

The Lord gave definite instructions to ancient Israel in regard to teaching the word of God to the children. See Deut. 6:6-7. The matter of training the children and youth should be given very earnest and diligent consideration. In Vol. 6, page 196, we read: "The work that lies nearest to our church members is to become interested in our youth." That places the sacred responsibility upon every adult member of the church and it is the work that lies nearest. It is near to us physically and in point of importance. Another word from the same page says, "Altogether too little attention has been given to the children and youth. God requires the church to arise from its lethargy and see what manner of service is demanded in this time of peril."

Among the other agencies that the church has set in operation for the training of its youth is the Missionary Volunteer Department. By appointment of the General Conference this day, January 17, is Missionary Volunteer Day. In all our churches everywhere it is expected that in this morning's service special programs shall be given in behalf of our youth and children. The object of this department is primarily the salvation and development of our youth by means of prayer, study and personal missionary effort. What are we doing and what shall be the outcome of the effort we shall make for the flock that God has given us?

Why should we have a special effort for this special class in the church? Why should there be a young people's department? I answer, First of all we need this special effort because what is put into the first of life is put into all of life. We have the word of God for it that if we train up a child in the way he should go, when he is old he will not depart from it. When Jesus was on earth, He invited the children to come unto Him, and I believe the heart of the Saviour longs after our children and youth. I have often thought of a remark made by the late Col. Roosevelt. He said, "If you are going to do anything of a permanent value for the average man, you will have to begin before he is a man. The chances for success lie in working for the boy and not for the man."

Second, we need a young people's movement because adolescence is a decisive time in life. The period of youth, the period of change from childhood to manhood and womanhood is a time when great decisions are made both for time and eternity. We have this in the word of God. Great physical changes are taking place in the body, also mental changes, and it is a time when the child awakens to the fact that he is an

individual with an initiative. A great majority of the Christians become such before the age of twenty-three. The church ought to stand ready to lay hold on the boys and girls in this decisive time in their lives and save them.

Third, there is need of a young people's movement because it is easy for the church to neglect the young people. We are told in the spirit of prophecy that we have an army of young people who can do much if they are properly trained for the work. Is there not something we can do for young people who are losing their hold upon this message? This ought to rest upon our hearts heavily, and we ought to sanctify ourselves this morning for their sakes.

Fourth, I believe we need a young people's movement because with young people activity counts for more than theories and exhortations. We can never accomplish what we should by exhorting or by scolding them. No individual has ever been scolded into the kingdom of God, but there have been many people led in by kindness, love and sympathy. God has placed in the heart of every boy and girl a constructive instinct. They want to do something and it is for the church to give them something to do in the church that will inspire them with ideals of church service, of service for God.

Fifth, we need a young people's movement because God has asked us to have one. We read in Volume 7 that God has appointed the young people to be His helping hand.

I am sure we all know more or less of this movement, of the efforts we are making to spiritualize our young people by outlining reading courses that will be suitable for them. This is a reading age, and oh, that we might have the cooperation of the parents and officers to turn the attention of the young people from the reading of the fiction of the world to books that are uplifting and helpful.

Then we must lay plans for the young people and children. It isn't always easy; they can't do every kind of missionary work, but they can do much. I believe in the words of another, that a new hour has struck in the unfolding of the divine purpose for mankind, and it is a summons to the entire membership of the church. I know from experience and observation that these efforts we have put forth are having their influence in the lives of the young people.

In answer to the question of my text, I trust we shall be able to answer in the words of the prophet Isaiah, "Here am I and the children whom Thou hast given me."

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We cannot rely upon the workings of the Spirit of God in apostolic days for our present day success: God will work now with as much miraculous power for the finishing of the work as He did for the early church when we as a people get to the place where they had to get before He could work for and through them.



## Service

SABBATH AFTERNOON, JANUARY 17

ELDER QUINN

The fourth chapter of I Peter, 7th verse, reads like this, "But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober and watch unto prayer." We are living in exceedingly serious times. The daily press reveals a situation that absolutely puts us on the verge of chaos. This world is profoundly disturbed and it is a serious question in the minds of all men whether or not it will ever be able to fully right itself or not. With the stupendous work we have facing us we ought to be sober men and very serious minded men, men given to prayer.

We are 75 years back this side of the judgment. This generation will see the end. The most vital thing needed now is the great refreshing of the Holy Ghost and the latter rain. Without that we can never accomplish our task.

There was once a people, a band of men and women to whom God could address Himself, and He sent them forth on the same mission that we are sent forth. That is, the carrying of the gospel to all the world. When God told them to go they had no literature, no money, no trains, no telephones, no telegraph wires, airships or steam-ships. They did not have any of the equipment we have. They had a prayer meeting that lasted ten days, and we do not have a record that they ever held another meeting of that character. Now I believe in union conferences and councils and conventions and world conferences and all of them. We will have to keep right on holding them until we get hold of the same power that got hold of those men, for that is the only way to do it. Somehow those men got something at Pentecost that led them on and on, and they didn't have to come back to see how they were going to fill certain places, but every man got the spirit of Christ and he went out and tried to imitate the Lord.

The apostolic program and method is for the church to go out and get something started. Then when the report comes back to the brethren that are at headquarters, they will come down and join the laymen's movement where it is, and pray for them that they may receive the Holy Ghost.

Our Lord lived not only a perfect life but He lived a life of great activity. We must not follow Him only in His characteristics, but in His activities. We must be like Him in His great mission for the lost.

It is not essential that we become absolutely perfect before we work for God. It is very desirable that we should be perfect, but God even uses imperfect men to work for Him. He took Peter, James and John with all their faults and failures. They went out and made mistakes and they failed many times and they came back, but He taught them and prayed for them and sent them out again.

Paul was always ready at the front and made great sacrifices, but we are timid and fearful. When anyone is urged to go to work they say, "It is out of my line." There is a sort of timidity which comes over

us. Most of us are on the wrong side of Pentecost. Let us venture something and we will find as we go we will be led. I know very well that this home missionary work, this personal touch, is not a thing we desire. Men would rather pay their tithe, do carpenter work or most anything to keep from doing the very work to which we are called. But God will lead us around and around in this wilderness until we get the victory over these things. If we will try to do our best, the good Lord will recognize this fact by a great outpouring of His spirit without measure.

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## The Black Cloud

Two men in Palestine were watching a black cloud that floated in the sky. While they gazed, it began to grow thin, and in a few minutes it had disappeared. It seemed strange to the men, for clouds did not dissolve in that way in their country. Then one of them remembered a Bible verse, and quoted it: "I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions." "I understand that verse now," he said. "That is what the prophet meant. God took away the people's sins, made them disappear and be forgotten, as this cloud has gone." It is true. As the sun and wind dissolved that cloud, so will the Son of God remove our transgressions. When we trust him, they are gone forever, forgiven freely, and forgotten. No matter how black the clouds may be, the sun and wind can dissolve it; and no matter how black sin is, God can take it away.

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## "The Kingdom of God"

"The Kingdom of God, Established, Invaded, and Restored from Invasion," is the title of a new book, written by Elder R. C. Porter shortly before his death. It contains 300 pages.

This book "deals with a subject interesting to all men who expect to live hereafter. The author sets forth the beauties and blessings of the better eternal life and the way to gain it. The work shows evidences of the inspiration of the Bible and gives an interesting discussion of salvation and creation." The many friends of Elder and Mrs. Porter will welcome this memorial of his life work. The price is \$1.50 net, cloth binding, and may be obtained from Mrs. Hattie Irene Porter, Oak Lawn, Battle Creek, Michigan.

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When the intensity which marks every line of worldly endeavor takes hold of Seventh-day Adventists, the work will rapidly reach its climax and the Lord will come.