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## Excerpt of Northern Union President's Report Given In Quadrennial Session

The Northern Union Conference was brought to birth upon the thirteenth day of April, 1902, and is, therefore, practically thirty years of age. When we call to remembrance our beloved leaders who organized this union conference and consider the work and growth during her existence, we are reminded of that familiar phrase, "While God buries His workmen, His work lives and moves forward."

At the time of our organization we had a reported membership of 4,000. Today we have approximately 10,000, an increase of 150 per cent. From the first report given we quote the following under the sub-heading "Finance:": "The tithe received by the union conference has amounted to \$4,505; regular offering to missions, \$7,308.47; special offerings, \$4,215.04; total to missions, \$11,523.51. Comparing this with the last year, we have tithe, \$17,488.33; and offerings to missions regular and special, \$176,246.97. These figures and comparisons will serve to show that notwithstanding our birth being upon the thirteenth day of the month, we have not lived in vain. We should, however, confine our report to the last quadrennium.

Pausing for a brief word regarding those who were fellow-laborers with us at our last session and have since passed under the dominion of death, we mention Elders J. W. Dorcas, M. S. Reppe, E. G. Olsen and Brother Gust Freeman. We believe these faithful workers are sleeping under the benediction of Rev. 14:13. To those who are called to mourn we extend our heartfelt sympathy with full and renewed assurance that we sorrow not without hope.

The reports of our union secretary-treasurer and departmental

secretaries will cover in detail our various activities during the past four years; consequently, I will avoid duplication by not referring to them here. I will say, however, in this connection that I have greatly appreciated my association with these secretaries in the work of our union conference. They all are men qualified in the line of work they have so efficiently carried; and wherever their future fields of labor may be, I am sure the cause of God will be acceptably served as has been the Northern Union through them in the past.

We have given a number of our best workers to serve other fields, both home and abroad, during the

past quadrennium. While it seemed from a human viewpoint perilous to give upon many occasions, I believe we can now recognize the principle enunciated by our blessed Lord and referred to by the apostle Paul in his farewell address to the elders of Ephesus that "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

This report will come to the Reaper readers as we begin our quadrennial session at Omaha, Nebraska. We are meeting jointly with the Central Union. The delegates and the appointed leaders of our General Conference have the future in hand. We are confident under the guidance of the Holy Spirit that they will do and plan what is best for the advancement and the finishing of the work of God upon earth. We solicit the prayers of the constituency at home to this end.

Charles Thompson.

## Report of the Secretary Treasurer to Delegates at Union Conference Session

Another four years has come and gone since we were last assembled in Union Conference session. Our activities in carrying out the plans laid have now become history never to be erased. We are glad we can report progress in the various lines of endeavor covering the time of the past quadrennial period. While we cannot help feeling a certain degree of regret in our own hearts because we failed to accomplish more, we do rejoice and thank God for His manifold blessings to us while laboring for Him and for the converts won for the kingdom of heaven in the different conferences comprising this Union.

We are happy to report that the last year (1931) was one of the best years of our soul winning endeavor in the history of the Northern Union Conference. Only three years in the history of the Union are credited with a greater number of

baptisms than the past year. Our baptisms in 1931 were 616, which is the greatest number baptized in one year since 1917, except the year 1926 when we baptized 620. The total number baptized during the quadrennial term is 2,085, and 452 were added to the church membership on profession of faith, making a total of 2,537 new members won for the truth during the quadrennial term, compared with 2,712 the previous quadrennial period. The following tabulated paragraph will show how many of these new converts were won in the different local conferences:

	Baptism	Faith	Total
Iowa	519	104	623
Minnesota	636	93	729
North Dakota	578	208	786
South Dakota	352	47	399
Total for Union	2035	452	2637



We have also received 2,495 members by letters, and granted 3,023 letters to members to join elsewhere. This reveals that members leaving our territory exceeded by 528 the number that came into our territory. While we feel keenly this exodus of 528 members from our territory, we are glad for the reduction of this number from 944 the previous quadrennial period. Our membership at the beginning of the quadrennial period was 9,294, and now we have a membership of 9,725, a net increase of 431. This membership is organized into 230 churches.

### Finances

It will not be necessary to give any lengthy statement to direct your minds to the trying economic conditions prevailing the past two years comprising the last half of the quadrennial period under review. The decline in tithe income has necessarily affected the work in all our conferences. Comparing the tithe receipts in our territory as received by the local conference treasuries of the last quadrennial period with the receipts of the previous period, we register a decrease of \$155,489.20 or 15 per cent. We are glad to notice in this connection, however, that while the tithe shows a decline of 15 per cent the offerings to missions show a decrease of only 7.6 per cent.

The change in economic conditions did not only make it difficult for our conferences and Book and Bible Houses to operate within their income, but it also affected the operation of our institutions. Every possible effort was made by the different managing boards of our academies to operate within their income, and at the same time provide as much work as possible for students, especially for those who were financially unable to pay the regular charges. Seventy-five thousand dollars was earned by students and credited to their accounts in our four academies during the past quadrennial term. We are glad we can report that three of the four academies show an operating gain for the four year term, and all the academies combined succeeded in showing a net operating gain for the four year period amounting to \$22,475.37 after applying the operating subsidy received from the conferences. All our academies were free from debt before the years of depression set in; and two of them have maintained this good record to the present time, while the other two slipped back to the amount of \$2,000 in the one case and \$1,500 in the case of the other. We hope, however, these schools will soon be on the free-from-debt list again.

Union College has been no small financial problem. The old indebtedness as of June, 1924, has been reduced from year to year. It was thought best by the two unions concerned to make an equitable division of the balance of this debt as in June, 1929. The Northern Union Conference assumed one half the remaining debt balance of Union College and Hutchinson Theological Seminary after deducting \$17,000 to be covered by an appropriation from the General Conference. The amount so assumed by our Union was \$32,647.79. The balance of this amount still unpaid at this time is \$2500, and we trust within a few more months enough debt-paying funds will be in hand to pay the last \$2500. We also provided \$10,000 for general repairs and improvements for the college, a portion of which has not yet been expended.

The Iowa Sanitarium, the only conference owned institution of its kind in the Union, had one of its most prosperous years financially in the year 1930. The last year, however, it has keenly felt the effect of the general depression, and the final operating result is not so encouraging.

In the year 1928, the first year of this period, our Book and Bible Houses reached the high peak in net sales since 1921, but the past three years the net sales have been falling off year by year, making a total net sales for the quadrennial term of \$219,895.47 compared with \$237,959.09 in the previous quadrennial period; a decline of \$18,063.62. For the first three years of this conference term the combined operating statements of the Book and Bible Houses have shown a small operating gain after paying salary and all other expenses. We regret to report, however, that in closing the record for 1931 we find a small balance in the red for the last twelve months.

To economize in space I will necessarily have to eliminate some interesting items which might be reported in this connection. It is impossible to give here the detailed figures covering the financial reports of the past four year period.

The gross income of the Union Conference treasury for the four year period was \$1,105,220.43. The gross disbursements for the same period amounted to \$1,103,390.48, thus leaving a net increase in present worth amounting to \$1829.95. Of the total amount received \$901,486.72 were forwarded to the General Conference treasury, of which \$718,532.23 represented our mission offerings.

We are very grateful for all the blessings the Lord has showered upon us during these past four

years, and wish to express our sincere thanks to all our people who have labored and sacrificed to make this good report possible. May the Lord's blessing rest upon His people forevermore. I. G. Ortner.

### GOOD NEWS FOR THE CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS

There has just come to my desk a copy of a much needed teacher's help, "Graded Lessons in Health." This book is just off the press, and has been eagerly awaited by our teachers everywhere. This book has been published for the educational and medical departments by the Pacific Press. The following quoted from the preface gives but a little idea of the rich and interesting content of this work:

"Since the health 'should be as sacredly guarded as the character,' we feel confident that our teachers will be delighted to make use of the material provided in this little book. It has been arranged systematically,—a definite project for each six-week period. The sixth period provides a general summary of the work of the preceding five periods. The work for each period is organized in such a manner as will make the material very usable. Each section has: Topic, Project, Goal, Plan by Weeks, Problem, Method, Materials."

Two hundred forty pages. The price is \$1.15, usual textbook discount. Order from the Book and Bible House.

H. J. Sheldon.

### WITH OUR COLPORTEURS

Francis Crofoot is a young man who decided to go canvassing this past summer; and to show how it helped him find himself, I am including the following experience and testimonial which he sent in to

## NORTHERN UNION REAPER

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Leslie Culpepper - - - - - Editor  
I. G. Ortner - - - - - Corresponding Editor

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In changing address, kindly give both old and new address.

Please make all checks and money orders payable to the Northern Union Reaper.



"The Courage Exchange," Minnesota's colporteur news letter.

"I'm having good experiences and am feeling fine. Last week I had quite a hard time getting places to stay, but the Lord was leading me to places where I could get orders for the large book. They seem to be interested, and of course these times are making them think. I hope it will make them study the Bible more. Since I have been canvassing, my view on life and people has changed much. Even in my own life I can see a great change. Everything seems more real to me. Of course it's life that is real. 'Life is real, life is earnest, and the grave is not the goal.' Before I began canvassing, my goal was to be 'some kind of a worker,' but now it is to be a personal worker to every one and if possible a personal Bible worker."

Yes there is no question but that these times do make people think. People today are becoming serious and wondering what is coming. Will you not join the colporteur army and bring the advent message of hope to these wandering ones?

Is God calling you?

Geo. A. Campbell.

## North Dakota

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Dakota Conference Association of Seventh-  
day Adventists

### SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR CHURCH BUILDING FUND

Sabbath, February 13

For some time we have been urged to have a special collection for the Church Building Fund in this conference because in a number of places where the work demanded the putting up of a church building, our people applied repeatedly to the conference for some financial assistance. We hesitated because very earnest pleas came from the General Conference to raise larger sums for the work in foreign fields. At this time, however, we have come to the point when we cannot turn a deaf ear any longer to the sincere pleas of several of our churches who were forced to get a proper meeting place.

In some of the country churches some might object to such a collection, but it must be remembered that in cities it is not so easy to get a proper meeting place; one of those places is Devils Lake. During

the last three years and a half that church had to turn over \$1400 in rent on a meeting house which was probably the smallest in the entire conference. They had an opportunity to buy a nice commodious church building from the Lutheran people at the very modest price of \$575 but the building had to be moved to town.

And furthermore, whenever our people want to put up a church in a city they always have to meet numerous obstacles and encounter a good deal of expense such as building regulations, sidewalks, sewerage, pavement and the like, things with which our country churches are not troubled. We have now a respectable church building in the city of Devils Lake, which is worth three times as much as it cost, but the congregation must have some financial assistance. And the church at Devils Lake is not the only one which finds itself in such perplexity; there are several others which should have some help. Therefore, it was voted by the conference committee to call for a special collection for the Church Building Fund to be taken up on Sabbath, February 13. Let all church elders and treasurers bring this to the attention of their respective congregations. We look for a liberal offering. If every church and company responds, then we shall certainly receive the required amount. All such collections should be sent to the conference treasurer at the close of the month.

H. J. Meyer.

### INVESTMENT RETURNS FOR 1931

The past year was a trying year in our mission offerings in North Dakota. We have had to record a heavy loss over the previous year. Last year our total Investment Offering was \$2691. This year it is only \$1568.71, a loss of over \$1123. A similar loss was sustained in the Sabbath school offerings as a whole. Last year our total Sabbath school offerings were \$16,029.07, that is, in 1930. In 1931 it reached only \$12,343.34, a loss of \$3,685.73. We regret this loss, but our faith and courage is as strong as ever. We are trusting the Lord for a goodly return in 1932.

Below is a list of the schools that took part in the Investment last year with their respective amounts.

Church	Amount
Ackworth	\$ 6.00
Beach	34.75
Bismarck	59.02
Butte Village	3.00
Belfield	27.82
Bowdon	46.37
Bowman	14.65
Brinsmade	1.00
Cathay	3.00

Cleveland	8.32
Conference Isolated	49.32
Crosby	107.63
Dale	3.50
Deisem	16.60
Denhoff	3.00
Devils Lake	.10
Dickenson	13.26
Dunn Center	53.18
Deering	36.73
Fargo	26.89
Goodrich	53.05
Harvey	77.13
Harvey English	10.50
Hazen	8.00
Hebron	27.35
Jamestown	23.37
Jamestown German	20.25
Kenmare	22.80
Kulm	128.40
Kief	9.50
Killdeer	20.30
Lark	12.00
Lucca	.36
Lehr	13.56
Lincoln Valley	19.98
Manfred	24.52
Max	17.95
McClusky	20.10
Medina	28.50
Medina Village	Just organized
Minot	34.30
Mohall	2.00
Mott	29.25
Napoleon	13.59
New Home	54.71
Oakes	18.07
Palermo	16.13
Petrel	35.10
Pettibone	29.25
Pleasant Valley	54.88
Robinson	12.00
Rock Lake	10.60
Paradise	16.10
Streeter	41.43
Taylor	9.00
Sheyenne	21.57
Turtle Mountains	14.70
Turtle Lake	2.01
Valley City	12.11
Wheelock	18.64
Williston	11.92
Woodworth	10.01
Watford City	37.70
S. R. Academy	11.70

Totals 1568.71  
A few schools failed to report their investments therefore they do not appear on this sheet.

It is not at all too early to start to plan for your 1932 Investment. Somehow I have a strong faith in the Lord for better things in 1932. Let us be sure that in our plans we do not forget Him.

In case of error in your report, feel free to write to me about it.

H. Wentland.

### NORTH DAKOTA NEWS ITEMS

Have you seen the new Junior Song Book? This is an excellent book to be used for the juniors and can be had for only 35 cents. Order from the Book and Bible House.



Elder Leiske was a caller at the office for several hours on Wednesday.

\* \* \*

Elder Meyer returned to the office Wednesday morning after an absence of more than a week.

\* \* \*

Elder Leiske has been conducting meetings at Valley City and reports a good attendance and interest.

\* \* \*

Brother Bietz is conducting Sunday night meetings at Bismarck and reports that the attendance was good the first night.

\* \* \*

Elder Schwindt has been conducting a series of meetings at Hurdsville where he reports a number are definitely interested in the truth.

\* \* \*

The little book, "The Cigarette as a Physician Sees It", is proving to be a very good book and clearly shows the evils of the cigarette or tobacco. These can be obtained from your Book and Bible House for 25 cents a copy.

\* \* \*

A number of our people would like to know where to get good Sanitary Communion Services and we have learned of a company that is putting out very fine Communion sets and at a very small sum of money. We would advise any of our people who are interested in this to write to the Sanitary Communion Service, Rochester, N. Y.

#### MINOT DORCAS SOCIETY

I have had such a wonderful time giving out the "Signs of the Times" that I felt impressed to write and tell others. I have a plan whereby I give out the three plain copies and then once a month I sell the colored number. After I take them to the people for a while I present them with an outline on a Bible study something like those in "Brief Bible Studies For Busy People". I then go over the most important points of the Bible lesson with them and then leave the study with them. They tell me how wonderfully plain the Bible is when you study that way. They ask me where I get these wonderful thoughts. I always have my prospectus with me and make a sale in the best binding of one of our larger books. A lady who bought one of these at the first of the year said she wouldn't take anything for the book if she could not get another like it. It is wonderful how an uneducated person can get highly educated people interested if he will work in this way.

Our Dorcas Society has been a great help to our people and to others. Nine hundred and nine garments were given out, about fifty dresses and six quilts being included in the number. Some of these dresses have been made over and even college students were helped in this way. The nice letters we receive from the people help to spur us on. We have even gone to the work of half-soling shoes. We get some pitiful letters asking for help, and we go and read them to people who have plenty and to spare. We have so many calls that we are just about out of clothing. If you have any clothes in your home to spare, send them to us and we will patch and fix them up for the needy.

We meet every two weeks at the school room in the church to sew. We have a small fee for each one. Sometimes we make a few things and sell them and so far we have about \$19 on hand with which we will help to pay church tax. Our Dorcas ladies are glad to help the church in this way. We should like to encourage every church in the state to form a Dorcas Society and help the poor. Mrs. Mortenson.

#### THE SABBATH SCHOOL SCORE SHEET

Almost all the Sabbath school reports are in for the last quarter of last year. At this time there are only four missing out of the 78 schools. We are looking for these in a few days. We do not want to hold up the records, however, for these four, so we are going to publish a few items of interest in regard to the Sabbath school work.

Every Sabbath school superintendent and secretary receives a score sheet on which his school is graded according to the report sent in by the Sabbath school secretary. These grades run all the way from 1,478 down as low as 365. If you will look over these scores you will see where your Sabbath school stands and you can also compare it with other schools in North Dakota. If there are any questions you wish to ask, feel free to write to me about them or ask your local Sabbath school officers.

School	Points
Ackworth	862
Beach	603
Butte	369
Butte Village	380
Bismarck	926
Belfield	809
Burt	574
Bowdon	776
Bowdon Village	363
Bowman	861
Cathay	758
Cleveland	368
Crosby	1478
Dale	771

Denhoff	452
Deisem	760
Devils Lake	758
Driscoll	1055
Dickinson	565
Dunn Center	933
Deering	1168
Epping	544
Fargo	1185
Greatstone	365
Gackle	500
Golden Valley	389
Goodrich	875
Grand Forks	855
Harvey	1080
Harvey, English	1242
Hazleton	409
Hazen	719
Hurdsville	312
Jamestown, English	1395
Jamestown, German	503
Kenmare	892
Kulm	1430
Kief	435
Lark	577
Lucca	500
Lehr	560
Lincoln Valley	484
Manfred	632
Max	383
McClusky	728
Medina	716
Medina Village	480
Minot	920
Mott	1266
Napoleon	472
New Home	706
Oakes	815
Palermo	1149
Petrel	1253
Pettibone	661
Pleasant Valley	730
Rock Lake	720
Paradise	1176
Streeter	1385
S. R. A.	6468
Taylor	2282
Sheyenne	2269
Turtle Mts.	1713
Valley City	1997
Williston	297
Woodworth	2771
Washburn	1660
Walhalla	676
Watford City	3017

We hope that our new Sabbath school officers, together with the new opportunities for 1932, will give earnest study to the advancement of the Sabbath school work in the year 1932. May the Lord bless them in their efforts.

H. Wentland.

#### S. R. A. NEWS ITEMS

Paul Fischer seems to realize the fact that he may soon be able to use his right hand again as usual, for he seems to smile more, lately. His thumb which has a bone infection is beginning to look as it used to.

\* \* \*

Thursday of last week the students had their physical examination. Some found that the ail-



ments from which they thought they were suffering were not in existence, and proceeded to their school work with new vigor. As a whole very few defects were reported.

\* \* \*

The life of Daniel and his prophecies were brought before us in beautifully colored stereopticon pictures which were well explained by Professor Michalenko Saturday night, January 2. Conditions in the world today and the spread of the advent message over all the earth, were also pointed out to us. In short, the "Past, Present, and Future" were presented to us. Following was a group of musical selections on the phonograph, reproductions of master musicians singing great music.

\* \* \*

Professor Berthelsen told us in union worship hour Wednesday what are the really beautiful things of life. They are not what we see but what we do. They are not manners that are worn for special occasions, but politeness and courtesy that come from a kind and gentle and refined heart and mind. They are not in the features of the face but in the expression written there of purity, kindness, truthfulness and uprightness. The young men and young women wanted today are those who think straight, talk straight, sit straight, walk straight, and act straight. They are healthy, happy, and full of life. They are developing noble, beautiful characters.

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## NEW SABBATH KEEPERS

A family, who have been living near the academy at Redfield for several years but who had not been responsive to the truth, have just recently begun to keep the Sabbath as the result of Elder Babcock's having given them the "Signs of the Times" during the past year. He tells me he has neighbored with them more or less in the past, but the man, especially, seemed to be quite prejudiced toward the truth. During this past year, however, the Babcock family have been giving them the "Signs of the Times" to read, and as a result of this, the prejudice was broken down, and as stated above, they are keeping the Sabbath now. Elder Babcock told me personally that he

attributed it largely to the work of the "Signs", which is but another evidence of the value of the "Signs of the Times" in soul-winning work.

At the present time when emphasis is being placed in evangelism, while at the same time our funds are lower than ever before for regular evangelistic work, in what better way could our churches cooperate than to plan definitely on an extensive use of the "Signs of the Times" during this year 1932? Remember the price is \$1 in clubs of fifteen or more, and the conference pays half of that. The date is February 7 to 12.

L. E. Niermeyer.

## LIBERTY EXTRA

The "Liberty" magazine is again ready to do battle in a special way in the interests of religious liberty. An eight page extra is now ready and should be used generously to combat the two Sunday law measures before Congress. This magazine has a petition on the last page. The price is cut down to \$1 a hundred or \$7.50 a thousand. Think of what a dollar or two can do. This calls for immediate action.

Gorden Oss.

## SOUTH DAKOTA NOTES

The little book entitled "The Cigarette as the Physician Sees It" is having a splendid sale. Twenty cents per copy; four for 58 cents; ten for \$1.35, postpaid.

\* \* \*

Four beautiful books known as the Old Homestead Tales are boxed, for only \$4.75, postpaid; single volumes \$1.25. These are splendid books for boys and girls to read during the long winter evenings.

\* \* \*

The attention of the isolated members of our conference is called to the fact that the "Signs of the Times" this year has reduced the club offer to \$1 on clubs of fifteen or more. On clubs less than that, the regular club rate of \$1.25 still prevails. The conference will pay half on any club orders of five or more.

## Iowa

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## IOWA ITEMS

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Howell and family, Mrs. Sylvia Howell, Dewey Howell, Ruth and Ruby Howell, and

others from Humboldt were at the Ft. Dodge meeting.

\* \* \*

Miss Ruth Dietel, of Hawkeye, who is teaching school at Somers, near Ft. Dodge, attended the convention at Ft. Dodge on Sabbath, January 23, and assisted in the music.

\* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Sample, daughter, Naomi, and Mrs. Nina Albertsen, secretary of the Humboldt Sabbath school, came to Ft. Dodge on Friday, January 22, and remained to the close of the convention.

\* \* \*

It is wonderfully interesting to look through the cash book that records the receipts from Conference church and isolated members. You note with pleasure their offerings, some of them equal to those of a regular Sabbath school. There are Mr. and Mrs. Emil Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Shellburg, Mrs. O. W. Kepler, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Nelson and others, who are in that record just as regularly as the clock ticks, and with the regular offerings, Thirteenth Sabbath, birthday and Investment items, remembered by many. These names were noticed in the birthday offering list: Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Nelson, Mrs. F. E. Shellburg, Ronald Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Allen, Alice, Owen and Harriet Bartholomew. We are told, "Those birthday gifts are recognized of Heaven." Sabbath schools are increasing their interest in the birthday offerings plan, making calendars with the names of members in their proper places, and in various ways reminding members of the privilege that is theirs as the years go by.

## A NEW BOOKLET

I have on my desk a copy of the booklet, "Welfare Work by Seventh-day Adventists." This book should be read by all Dorcas Society leaders, welfare workers, home missionary secretaries and also by individual members to awaken an interest in this work of giving help to the needy in a way that will quickly gain public notice and approval. The sentiment created in places where this work has been organized is very favorable, and unsolicited help and donations from many business men have been proffered. The work is giving Adventists a standing that is reacting to the good of the cause in general. This is a work that is upheld by the "Testimonies," Vol. VI, p. 276. The use of a reading rack or reading room in connection with organized help work will bring the message to the attention of many who are in a position to appreciate it. Send in your order for this book



and read for yourself what can be done and what is being done. The 64 page booklet is only 10 cents. If you become interested in promoting this welfare work in your community let me know, and help will be given you in getting started right.

J. C. Christenson.

### OUR OWN DOORYARD

Some time ago, I was asked by one of our workers, to go to a meeting being held by a certain class of people who lay great stress on speaking in tongues and prophesying. Space or time will not permit me to describe all that transpired while at this service. Whether the supposed prophet was under Satan's power or was just feigning, I cannot say, but of one thing I was most confident and that was that the Lord was not present. You may ask how I know. Let me explain this weird meeting of confusion and irreverence.

The supposed prophet was lying on the rostrum, clad in common working garments much soiled, while the minister and several others, attired in about the same manner, were either kneeling, sitting or walking about promiscuously, whispering and laughing, with no reverence for either the place of worship or the prophet, who was supposed to be uttering many wonderful prophecies. I know you will say, "How absurd such worship."

But, did you ever stop to take a survey of our own meeting places, and have you listened to the loud talking, visiting and laughing, that sometimes takes place in the house of God on the Holy Sabbath, in that sacred place where the Lord is to meet with His people? Have you noticed the commotion during the intermission? Sometimes I feel that the Lord's people leave the house of worship without receiving the blessing the Lord has in store for them, because they have grieved away His Holy Spirit. The Lord says, "Moreover this they have done unto me; they have defiled my sanctuary in the same day, and have profaned my Sabbaths." Eze. 23:38.

While visiting this church just mentioned, the one thing that proved to me beyond a doubt that it was not of God, was the irreverence and confusion. I sometimes wonder if those not of our faith who come to worship with us do not go away feeling about the same way. God is not a God of confusion, but "holy and reverend is His name." When talking with this supposed prophet the following day, I mentioned these facts to him

and he admitted that God was not a God of confusion. I then read him these verses found in Eccl. 5:1, 2. "Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil. Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter anything before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few."

In Volume V, page 492, I read these words: "When the worshipers enter the place of meeting, they should do so with decorum, passing quietly to their seats. If there is a stove in the room, it is not proper to crowd about it in an indolent, careless attitude. Common talking, whispering, and laughing should not be permitted in the house of worship, either before or after the services. Ardent, active piety should characterize the worshipers."

"If some have to wait a few minutes before meeting begins, let them maintain a true spirit of devotion by silent meditation, keeping the heart uplifted to God in prayer that the service may be of special benefit to their own hearts, and lead to the conviction and conversion of other souls. They should remember that heavenly messengers are in the house."

L. P. Knecht.

### FORT DODGE CONVENTION

The convention at Ft. Dodge was well attended and the interest excellent. Promotion material and suggestions were received with pleasure and plans were at once laid to carry them into practice. Their little church with its beautiful, stained glass windows and the just-right wall space, was admirably adapted to the usual convention decorations. Placards of striking quotations furnished material for earnest thought. Suggestions here and there helped one to understand the purpose of the various charts and pictures that, with their attractive arrangement, made the little auditorium a place of beauty and interest.

All entered heartily into their part of the program and helped to make each service enjoyable and profitable. Special music furnished by the church and by visiting members, added much to the program also. Cooperation is what is needed to make things move, and we had it in rich measure at Ft. Dodge.

Officers and members of the Humboldt church were with us at these meetings, some of them all the time, while others returned for their own afternoon service. It pays to bring the members along

at such a meeting, that all may receive full benefit. Especially should the officers improve the opportunity to increase their efficiency. Brother Griffin of Clarion risked a twenty-three mile walk to be with us and we appreciated his interest. Never miss a meeting like this, with its pleasant and helpful associations, if you can possibly be there. You will go home feeling well repaid and with your courage and enthusiasm at a high-up mark.

The afternoon program brought in home missionary interests and Bible Study League plans, which added to the profitableness of the meeting. Elder Christenson told us of recent and local experiences in using the "Signs of the Times" to bring the truth to others and we trust that when the "Signs" club lists are made up, these results will be remembered and that more of these good papers will be ordered for use among friends and neighbors.

We appreciated the hospitality and helpfulness of the members at Ft. Dodge and we trust that the blessings of heaven will be with those who were with us there as they seek to work for God.

Mrs. Flora V. Dorcas.

### RESULTS OF THE "SIGNS"

The winter months afford a splendid time for circulating the "Signs of the Times" among honest hearted people. Rather than being out spending money, most people are spending their evenings at home; and what would be more natural than that they should desire to read something of a serious, yet comforting nature. That is just the opening for the "Signs".

A number of our colporteurs have been watching for prospects to work with the "Signs", as they have sold their books from door to door. One colporteur has eight persons ready for baptism, and another has one who is getting ready to unite with the church. Some names were passed on to one of the members of the Nevada church a short time ago by one of our colporteurs. The "Signs" was sent to these addresses for a period of time, and then self-addressed postcards were mailed out, to ascertain the reception the "Signs" had been accorded. I have in my hand two of these cards which were returned a few days later. On one of these cards is the encouraging yet short message, "We are getting a great deal of good from those papers you are sending." The other card was from another person in answer to a letter which stated that a friend had handed in his name to receive a subscription to the "Signs". Here is the message



on this card: "We have received the copies of the "Signs of the Times" and like them fine. Please send more if possible." Then the writer guessed that it was the colporteur that had turned in his name and added this sentence. "Tell Mr. — if he were the friend, that we think of him often, and that we think he is surely a good man."

This cooperation between the colporteur and home missionary departments is gratifying and is bearing fruit for the kingdom of God. Anyone with a love for souls can obtain a list of names to which the truth filled "Signs" may be sent and in so doing he will experience the joy of receiving replies, similar to these just mentioned, in answer to the inquiry as to how the "Signs" is being appreciated.

Do not put off longer the urge that has come to you to send the "Signs" to a selected number of your friends. You have the responsibility of bringing the truth to the attention of these people in a way that will appeal to them. Follow up your work with correspondence or personal visits, and pray that God will bless your efforts.

J. C. Christenson.

#### OAK PARK NOTES

J. Lewis Neal, of Osceola, talked to the students in the chapel hour on January 22. His inspiring talk was enjoyed by all.

\* \* \*

We were glad to have Elder Jeys make his headquarters in the academy while working on the audit for the conference, sanitarium, and school.

\* \* \*

Meta Oden recently had the misfortune to fall down stairs. She received some minor injuries which were promptly cared for by the Iowa Sanitarium.

\* \* \*

The second number on the Lyceum Course was given Saturday evening, January 9, by Edward Brigham, dramatic reader and soloist from New York.

\* \* \*

Professor Crager, of the General Conference Educational Department, visited Oak Park Academy classes, and spoke in chapel January 13. He also talked to the boys and girls in their separate worship periods Wednesday evening.

\* \* \*

The Sabbath school officers for the second semester were chosen as follows: Superintendent, M. S. Culver; assistant superintendents, Gladys Heim and Willard Stevens; secretaries, Ruthita Shidler and

Irene Albertsen; pianists, Katie Davis and Valeta Anderson; chorister, Morton Davis.

\* \* \*

The new officers for the young people's Missionary Volunteer Society are as follows: Leader, Mrs. A. H. Parker; assistant leaders, Marguerite Will and Deo Root; secretaries, Loraine Arnold and Genevieve Kingland; chorister, Glenn Westerbeck; pianists, Audry Anderson and Nadine Darnell.

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#### IOWA SANITARIUM NOTES

Paul Oswald of Hazleton, Pa., brother of Mrs. Ames, submitted to a major operation on Monday.

Norman Pratti, Nevada school boy, was operated on early Wednesday morning for acute appendicitis.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Miller of Mapleton are the parents of a daughter born at the Sanitarium, Sabbath, January 23.

Mr. and Mrs. Hammet Lee of Hampton have been with us for a few days. Mr. Lee had his tonsils removed and Mrs. Lee is taking treatments.

Mrs. S. D. Meier of La Grange, Ill., Dr. J. C. Tribon of Sumner, Mrs. J. P. Keipp of Colfax, and Miss

Ida Johnson of Sioux City have registered in the last few days for examinations and treatments.

At our recent board meeting it was voted to complete classes for the girls now in training, but no more classes will be accepted. This action was taken because the State Department is anxious to rule out all the smaller schools, and it is planned that in a short time there will be only a few large training schools in the state.

The helpers' dining room is again ready for use and it is a much more cheerful place since its redecoration. The room in the basement which has been used as a classroom is now almost ready for use as the electrical treatment room. Beginning with this month, treatments are given in this department as part of the routine care in connection with or instead of the hydrotherapy treatments. This will mean much to the patients, as many received very material help from the light treatments. In some cases it may be deemed best by the doctor for the patient to have the full hydrotherapy treatment and electrical treatments in addition. In this instance the electrical treatments would be charged for.

## COLPORTEURS' REPORT

G. A. CAMPBELL, Union Field Missionary Secretary

Colporteur	Book	Hrs.	Orders	Helps	Total orders	Del.
<b>IOWA CONFERENCE, L. P. Knecht, Field Missionary Secretary</b>						
Week Ending January 15, 1932						
Shelton, Glenn	BR	47	8		56.00	
Jensen, F. M.	HW	25		22.45	22.45	
Hanson, Anna	BR	30	2	7.45	21.45	19.15
Wileox, Elva	OD	27	1	12.15	14.65	5.40
Kromer, Anna	Misc.	25		11.00	11.00	1.75
Johnson, A. E.	HW	13	2	.25	6.25	.25
Kaufman, A. D.	Mag.	42		4.80	4.80	4.80
Snovel, Mrs. A.	Crisis	9		1.50	1.50	
Totals		214	13	60.60	138.10	31.35
Week Ending January 22, 1932						
Shelton, Glenn	BR	45	6		42.00	
Hanson, Anna	BR	38	7	14.85	61.60	1.85
Smith, F. L.	Mag.	30		30.00	30.00	30.00
Jensen, F. M.	HW	24		17.85	17.85	7.00
Wileox, Elva	OD	33		15.10	15.10	7.15
Kromer, Anna	Misc.	7		7.25	7.25	7.25
Snovel, Mrs. A.	Crisis	17		4.00	4.00	4.50
Johnson, A. E.	HW	8				3.75
Totals		186	13	89.05	177.80	61.50
<b>MINNESOTA CONFERENCE, M. H. Odegaard, Field Missionary Secretary</b>						
Week Ending January 16, 1932						
Anderson, Fred (2)		42		9.80	9.80	13.45
Biggers, H. G. (2)		48	8		12.00	28.50
Evenson, Karl		21	6	36.85	73.85	9.85
Totals		111	14	46.65	95.65	51.80
Week Ending January 23, 1932						
Anderson, Fred		21		4.50	4.50	10.80
Engen, B. O. (2)	GC	75	2	40.55	50.55	32.65
Evenson, Karl	BK	14	4	.50	26.50	2.50
Totals		110	6	45.55	81.55	45.90



## Minnesota

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Make wills and legacies payable to The Minnesota Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists.

### MINNESOTA ITEMS

Anthony M. Martin of Hutchinson called at the office last Thursday while on a trip to the Twin Cities.

Professor A. W. Johnson of Hutchinson called at the office on Wednesday of last week while in the Cities on a business trip.

The offering in the church service next Sabbath, February 6, will be for home missionary work in the local churches as usual on the first Sabbath of the month.

According to the General Conference plan, next Sabbath, February 6, is to be observed in all our churches as Christian Home Day. An appropriate program has been prepared and published in the "Church Officers' Gazette."

A unique Investment chart made by Muriel and Doris Franklin and used last year by the Good Thunder Sabbath school has a prominent place on the walls of the conference office, and is an inspiration to those who view it.

In a letter received from Elder Pontynen last week, he wrote encouragingly with reference to the Finnish hall effort which he has been conducting at Virginia. He stated that the attendance was keeping up well, being about 150. He will greatly appreciate the prayers of our readers in behalf of this effort for the Finnish people of which there are many in northern Minnesota.

A brother desires very much to secure a copy of the two volumes of Questions and Answers published some years ago as premium books with the "Signs of the Times," but which are now out of print. If any of our readers have a copy or either volume or both which they are willing to sell will they please write the Minnesota Conference office quoting the price they will accept.

We hope you are among the number who are enjoying a daily study of the Sabbath school lesson and meeting with others for the weekly service, or, if isolated, hav-

ing this service at home. Sister O. E. Erickson of the Minneapolis English church, whose home is in St. Louis Park, some distance from the church, has begun her seventeenth year of perfect record.

Elder Aug. S. Anderson began a series of Sunday night evangelistic services in Duluth on Sunday night, January 24. He reports that the attendance was encouraging at the opening service, and he will appreciate the prayers of our readers for the success of the effort. The services are being held in the Forrester Hall at Fourth Avenue West and First Street. To those of our readers who have relatives or friends in Duluth, we would suggest that they be given a cordial invitation to attend these meetings.

Elder H. O. Olson of the Bureau of Home Missions Swedish Department called at the office on Wednesday of last week while spending a few days in Minnesota. He told us of his mother's death which occurred in California on December 7, and about which we had not heard before inasmuch as burial was made there where she had been residing for some time. We sympathize sincerely with Brother Olson and the other members of the family in this sorrow which has come to them.

### MAPLEWOOD NEWS

The prayer bands have been re-organized for the second semester.

The students are enjoying the rich milk they are receiving from the guernsey cows recently purchased by the school.

Mrs. M. H. Odegaard gave a much appreciated talk to the West Hall girls at their worship hour Thursday evening, January 28.

The Maplewood Press has just received another large order of job work from the J. C. Penny Stores. This one consists of 100,000 special two-color sale bills 25x38 inches.

Brother George A. Campbell spoke at the chapel hour on Thursday and Friday of last week while he and Brother Odegaard were at the school making plans for the organization of the co-porteur band.

Elder and Mrs. Emil Sauer visited at the school Monday, January 25, having brought a student, Miss Olive Biggers, to attend school the second semester. Brother Sauer spoke at the chapel hour on the "Conscience."

The teachers had the privilege of hearing the Don Cossack Russian Male Chorus in Minneapolis Wednesday evening, January 27. The thirty-six men of the chorus, who are former officers of the Russian Imperial Army, gave a varied and interesting program to a large audience.

Another important event of the school year took place Sunday evening, January 24, when the senior class of thirty-eight prospective members was organized by Professor Johnson. The following officers were elected: President, Floyd Smith; vice-president, Phyllis Peabody; secretary, Doris Zappe; treasurer, Robert Campbell; faculty adviser, Mr. Long. At this meeting it was also announced that John Christenson would be valedictorian.

### WINNING SOULS

Embedded in the heart of every true Christian is a deep desire to win souls to Christ. Many of us do not have the courage to speak to people as we meet them, pointing them to Jesus; but all can if we will, give a paper. The "Signs of the Times" is a splendid paper to give to our friends. It is interesting to learn, by contact with others, that many people are reading the "Signs". Just the other day, while visiting in a home, the lady told me that she gets it out of the reading rack, reads it and takes copies of it to the jail and distributes them among the prisoners, also among other people with whom she comes in contact. Eternity alone will reveal the good accomplished by these silent messengers of truth.

To make it possible for all churches to use this splendid missionary paper, the publishers of the "Signs" are offering a special rate of \$1 a copy per year, if the church will order a club corresponding to the size of the church. That is a church of twenty-five members would order a club of twenty-five or more "Signs". The \$1 rate applies to all clubs of fifteen or more "Signs" according to the size of your church. Dear church elder, why not invite your church members now, to subscribe for a club of the "Signs"? Special articles on current events by able writers, are being written for early issues of this year's "Signs". These articles will grip the hearts of men and lead many to Christ. It is our privilege to put these papers into the homes of many people and thus win some to a saving knowledge of the truth. Now is the time to lay definite plans for an aggressive "Signs" campaign in your neighborhood.

A. A. Dirksen.