

# PACIFIC UNION RECORDER

"Then They that Feared the Lord Spake Often One to Another."

VOL. 15

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No. 34

## CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE S. D. A. ANNUAL MEETING Mountain View, March 6 to 9, 1916

The first meeting of the forty-fifth annual session of the California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was called to order by the president, J. L. McElhany, at 10:30 A. M.

The delegates joined in singing from "Christ in Song," No. 207, "There Shall Be Showers of Blessing," after which Elder E. W. Farnsworth read a portion of that great missionary chapter, Ezekiel 33. Earnest prayer was offered by Elder E. E. Andross, asking for the Lord's blessing upon the conference meeting, and especially asking for the divine guidance of the Holy Spirit.

An address of welcome was given by Elder M. C. Wilcox, expressing the sentiments and appreciation of the Mountain View church and of the Pacific Press Publishing Association in having the conference held at Mountain View. Elder J. L. McElhany responded to this welcome by accepting in behalf of the delegates the hospitality of the friends, brethren and sisters of the Mountain View church and the Pacific Press family.

The work of the conference was all finished in nine business meetings held on March 6, 7, and 8, getting through one day earlier than the program called for. Of the 106 delegates that the churches were entitled to, there were present seventy-nine from the following churches: Alameda, Berkeley, Fruitvale, Hayward, Hollister, Los Gatos, Mission (San Francisco), Monterey, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Oakland, Richmond, San Francisco, San Jose, and Santa Cruz. Nineteen delegates at large were seated, making a total representation of ninety-eight. These nineteen were as follows:

Two delegates, general.—Francis E. Stafford and C. E. Weaks.

Three delegates from the North American Division Conference.—Elders M. C. Wilcox, A. O. Tait, and L. A. Reed.

Six delegates from the Pacific Union Conference.—Elders E. E. Andross, E. W. Farnsworth, J. L. McElhany, M. E. Cady, and Brethren F. E. Painter and Frank Coffin.

Eight delegates from the California Conference.—Elders A. Brorsen, C. E. Ford, A. S. Marchus, R. S. Fries, James Taphouse, A. E. Place, W. F. Hills, and B. M. Shull.

### Committees

The delegates authorized the chairman to appoint five committees to bring before the conference items of business and nominations, which were appointed as follows:

Plans.—G. C. Hoskin, J. L. McElhany, F. E. Painter, C. E. Ford, H. B. Thomas, W. V. Sample, E. E. Parlin, Mrs. Vesta J. Farnsworth.

Nominations.—E. E. Andross, A. O. Tait, H. E. Randall, R. L. Bond, H. O. Dalbey.

Credentials and Licenses.—E. W. Farnsworth, M. C. Wilcox, A. Brorsen, B. M. Shull, W. E. Johnson.

Seating of Delegates.—R. S. Fries, C. A. Smith, E. R. Holm.

Music.—R. S. Fries, C. A. Smith, Mrs. Crane.

### Officers

Officers for the ensuing term were elected as follows: President, J. L. McElhany; secretary and treasurer, H. B. Thomas; auditor, the auditor of the Pacific Union Conference.

Executive Committee: J. L. McElhany, C. E. Ford, A. Brorsen, R. S. Fries, A. S. Marchus, H. G. Childs, and B. M. Shull.

### Credentials and Licenses

It was recommended that the papers granted by the conference be for a period of one year.

Ministerial Credentials: J. L. McElhany, A. Brorsen, R. S. Fries, C. E. Ford, W. F. Hills, A. S. Marchus, A. E. Place, James Taphouse, L. E. Froom.

Missionary Credentials: C. H. A. Brooke, Mrs. Vesta J. Farnsworth, Miss Celia Green, Miss Ida B. Hudson, Mrs. Ada LaFrance, Mrs. J. L. McElhany, C. C. Morlan, K. Nozaki, L. C. Nelson, Mrs. E. E. Parlin, Miss Sarah E. Peck, D. R. Sperry, Mrs. A. W. Tarver, H. B. Thomas, Y. Watanabe, Mrs. Ettie Lane Williams.

Colporteur's Credentials.—William Nelson.

## California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

### Legal Session

The association held two short meetings, and the same committees which were appointed to handle the work of the conference were appointed to bring in reports for the legal body. A board of seven trustees was elected for the ensuing term as follows:

J. L. McElhany, C. H. Jones, H. G. Childs, Claude Conard, E. E. Parlin, C. E. Rice, J. A. Stevens.

### Resolutions Adopted

#### Gratitude

Recognizing the manifold blessings of God in the preservation of peace in our country; in the temporal prosperity that has attended our work; in the large number of souls who have embraced the truth during the past year; and for sparing the lives of our workers,

*Resolved*, That we hereby express our deep gratitude to Him, and solemnly renew our consecration to the finishing of this work, laying ourselves and all that we have upon the altar for service to be used by the Lord as He sees best.

#### Missionary Volunteer Work

*Whereas*, The Young People's Missionary Volunteer societies are ordained of God to be used in educating and training our youth for more efficient work in this closing message; and

*Whereas*, The Missionary Volunteer societies are being greatly blessed of God to the salvation of many of our young people in those churches where faithful work is done; therefore

*We Recommend*, That our church officers and parents do all in their power to encourage the young people's work by taking a personal interest in their meetings and urging the young people to attend; by laboring for the conversion of the youth; by urging all to become Standard of Attainment members, and to follow the reading course outlined by the general department for both senior and junior societies; by encouraging the young people to participate in all lines of missionary activity; and to follow the plans formulated by the general Missionary Volunteer department.

*Whereas*, In the development of our Missionary Volunteer work experience has shown that the work prospers best when under the direct supervision of the church; therefore

*We Recommend*, That all Missionary Volunteer society officers be nominated by the church nominating committee, and elected by the church.

#### Colporteur Work

*Whereas*, The house-to-house visits of our gospel colporteurs are calling the attention of people everywhere to the fact that the end of all things is at hand; and the books left in the homes are deepening the impressions thus made, and as a result a constantly increasing number of people are accepting the message which these books contain; therefore

*We Recommend*, That the spiritual character of the colporteur work be constantly emphasized, and that we seek by this means to attract a class of devoted men and women who are longing for an opportunity to engage in continuous, self-supporting, soul-saving service for God.

*Whereas*, The spirit of prophecy has said so much about the importance of the colporteur work, and recognizing the difficulties under which our colporteurs are called upon to labor; therefore

*We Recommend*, That conference officers, workers, church officers and members extend to our colporteurs the same courtesies and respect, and the same welcome to our homes that have always been accorded to our ministers, and that we will do all we can to encourage them to continue their earnest, self-denying labors until our Heaven-appointed work is finished.

*Whereas*, Many of our students who desire to enter the colporteur work at the close of school are without sufficient funds to get to their field of labor; and

*Whereas*, Because of sickness or other misfortune our colporteurs are often financially embarrassed;

*We Recommend*, That an emergency fund for these workers be created by personal solicitation, to be used under the direction of the president of the conference, the tract society secretary and the field missionary secretary.

#### Home Missionary Work

*Whereas*, The spirit of prophecy has told us that "the work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers" (Vol. 9, p. 117);

*We Recommend*, That earnest efforts be put forth by all our workers and church officers to enlist the entire membership of our churches in an active and continuous missionary campaign, and that our churches foster this work by again holding the old-time missionary meeting.

#### Mission Offerings

*Whereas*, The rapid growth of the third angel's message in foreign lands calls for an ever-increasing army of

workers, and consequently for larger gifts for their support; and

*Whereas*, Many of our church members are unable to give an average of twenty cents per week, making it necessary for others to give larger amounts; therefore

*We Recommend*, That a vigorous campaign be carried on in all our churches throughout the conference to get as many as are able to pledge to give weekly a regular amount in excess of 20 cents, and that all our ministers and church officers unite their efforts in making this campaign a success.

#### The Ministry

*Whereas*, At the last fall council of the North American Division Conference committee a series of resolutions on the work of the gospel ministry were passed and later adopted by the Pacific Union Conference; therefore

*We Recommend*, That these resolutions be endorsed and the plan outlined therein be henceforth followed by this conference.

#### "Church Officers' Gazette"

*Whereas*, Our church officers are in need of useful instruction and latest information to help them to carry on their work with greater efficiency; and

*Whereas*, The *Church Officers' Gazette* provides such information and has proved to be a great help to those using it;

*We Recommend*, That each church plan so that their officers shall regularly receive the *Gazette*.

#### Instruction to Church Officers

*Resolved*, That definite plans be laid for increasing the efficiency of church officers by personal visits to churches on the part of department leaders, and also by systematic instruction at our camp-meetings and other gatherings.

#### Church Membership Lists

*Whereas*, It is desirable that there be uniformity among our churches in listing and reporting members; therefore

*We Recommend*, a. That there be but one church membership list, and that names be dropped from this list only on account of death, apostasy, disorderly conduct, or failure to report to the church for a period of one year, and then only after the church has performed its whole duty toward its absent members.

b. That members moving from the location of one church to another apply at once for letters of transfer to the nearest accessible church.

c. That church officers write to non-resident members at least quarterly, and if after the lapse of one year they do not respond, notice be sent that the church will take action relative to their case.

d. That the instruction contained in "Gospel Workers," pp. 498-503, be faithfully followed by the church officers in all cases.

#### Bible House

*Whereas*, The outstanding accounts on the books of the California Bible House are unduly large, and are a serious handicap to the prosperity of the institution;

*We Recommend*, That the cash policy be more strictly adhered to in the future, and that special efforts be made to collect the present outstanding accounts as rapidly as possible.

#### "Review"

*Whereas*, The *Review and Herald* is the official organ of this great movement, and, in this capacity, presents the world-wide field, bringing the reader into close personal touch with the progress and needs of our work in these fields;

*Resolved*, That every family of believers be urged to subscribe for the *Review*, and that a thorough campaign be inaugurated to accomplish this end.

#### "Signs of the Times" Weekly

*Whereas*, The goal of the North American Division Conference is that every member bring one soul to Christ this year, and believing that the circulation of the *Signs of the Times* weekly will aid materially in accomplishing this;

*We Recommend*, That we, as a conference, set our hands definitely to the reaching of our goal for the *Signs of the Times* weekly,—"every member to secure at least one yearly subscription."

#### "Signs Magazine"

*Whereas*, The *Signs of the Times Magazine* continues to prove its calling as a soul-winning agency, and is increasing in circulation; and

*Whereas*, The special offer of a year's subscription with the premium "Questions and Answers" at \$1.50 and continuing the commission of forty per cent makes quite an attractive agent's proposition, and quite a number are taking up the work of soliciting subscriptions;

*We Recommend*, That many of our people in all localities be urged to plan for definite work with this magazine, both in selling single copies and soliciting subscriptions.

#### "Our Little Friend"

*Whereas*, We recognize the need of pure, clean literature to offset the influence of undesirable reading on the tender minds and souls of our children; and

*Whereas*, *Our Little Friend* is doing a splendid work for the children, and is increasing in circulation and growing in favor, not only with our own people but by others as well;

*Resolved*, That we put forth greater effort to place *Our Little Friend* in every English Seventh-day Adventist family where there are children, and that we use the Temperance number, soon to be issued, as an entering wedge in placing the paper in outside homes.

#### Religious Liberty

*Whereas*, We believe that the passage of H. R. Bill No. 491 and H. R. No. 6468, introduced into the present session of the Congress of the United States, would result in abridging the freedom of the press, and the right to free discussion of religious subjects, and would be a dangerous and an unwise delegation to the Postmaster General of the power of censorship over all

newspapers, periodicals and magazines; and

*Whereas*, The first amendment to the Constitution of the United States very properly provides that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press;" and

*Whereas*, The present federal laws against libel now give full redress in case the rights of individuals or sects are infringed; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we, the delegates of the California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, in conference assembled hereby respectfully but most earnestly protest against the passage of these bills, or any others of like nature which may be presented to Congress; and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the United States senators and the members of the House of Representatives from this state.

*We Recommend*, That a religious liberty secretary be appointed by the incoming conference committee from the workers now employed, to look after that department of the cause in our local conference.

*Whereas*, The state of California has so far resisted the efforts of those who have endeavored to induce its legislature and people to enact religious laws and thus darken its fair record; and

*Whereas*, The diligent work done by our people in the past has had no small part in maintaining religious liberty in this state;

*We Recommend*, That our ministers and church members put forth diligent efforts to keep before the legislators and people of California the dangers of religious legislation, and a knowledge of the true principles of religious liberty.

#### Biennial Conference Session

*Whereas*, At the last session of the North American Division Conference council the following recommendation was passed; "That the local conferences be held every two years, beginning with the year 1916;" and

*Whereas*, This plan is being adopted by our local conferences generally;

*We Recommend*, That this conference hereby adopt this plan.

#### Committee on Plans

*Whereas*, The work of our conference sessions would be greatly expedited if the committee on plans were appointed before the conference session convenes;

*We Recommend*, That the conference committee be authorized to appoint this committee prior to the conference session, so that its work may be well in hand by the time the conference assembles.

#### Amendments to Constitution

*We recommend amendments to the constitution and by-laws as printed in another column of this paper.*

#### Church School Work

*Whereas*, In the providence of God our schools are designed especially to prepare our youth to act their part in

the work of the closing message; therefore

*We urge parents to make the sacrifice necessary to provide their children with a Christian education.*

#### Uniformity

*Whereas*, At the council and convention held at Pacific Union College in the summer of 1915 much careful study was given to the church school work, and certain recommendations made covering forms, blanks, courses of study, text-books, support of our church schools, junior society work, vacation periods and final examinations, etc.;

*We Recommend*, For the purpose of unifying our school system, the adoption and ratification of the above mentioned recommendations as outlined on page 3 of the RECORDER of Dec. 2, 1915.

#### Equipment

*Whereas*, In order to reach the standard defined by the General Conference educational department our church schools need better equipment for carrying forward successfully the work outlined in the course of study; therefore

*We Recommend*, That each church make a contribution on the semi-annual educational Sabbaths and on the first Sabbath in May and November of each year to be known as the Church School Equipment Fund, which contribution shall be retained by each church conducting a school, but forwarded by other churches to the conference office to be distributed to schools most needing assistance, as determined by the president of the conference and educational superintendent.

#### Teachers' Institutes

*Whereas*, No provision has been made for summer school the present year;

*We Recommend*, That the conference committee and the educational superintendent arrange for conducting such institute work as is needed.

#### Teachers' Salaries

*Whereas*, There is at present considerable difference in the teachers' salaries paid by our various churches; and

*Whereas*, This difference has a tendency to retard the progress of the work;

*We Recommend*, the following schedule of salaries according to the membership and difficulty of the school, and subject to the family obligations of the teacher: a. Teachers having no normal training and no experience, \$35 to \$40 per month. b. Teachers having less than one year's normal training and not more than two years' successful experience; or, teachers having no successful field experience, but having at least one year's normal training, \$40 to \$45 per month. c. Teachers having full normal training and at least two years' successful field experience, \$45 to \$55 per month. d. In places where street-car fare is involved, the salary be increased sufficiently to cover this item.

#### Tuition Rates

*Whereas*, There is from many of our school boards a request for definite and uniform church school tuition rates;

*We Recommend* The following schedule of tuition as nearly as local conditions may warrant:

Grades 1 and 2 \$2.00 per school mo.  
Grades 3 and 4 2.25 per school mo.  
Grades 5 and 6 2.50 per school mo.  
Grades 7 and 8 3.00 per school mo.  
Grades 9 and 10 5.00 per school mo.  
Families with two children 20% off.  
Families with three children 30% off.

#### School Year

In order to insure a closer cooperation among our schools, thus increasing efficiency and economizing time and means;

*We Recommend*, That our school year provide at least for thirty-six full weeks of schoolroom work, and that as far as possible the school year in our different churches begin and close at the same time.

#### Selecting Teachers

In harmony with the recommendations of the General Conference department of education;

*We Recommend*, That in considering the selection of a teacher, the school board advise with the educational superintendent before taking up the matter with the individual concerned.

#### Sabbath School

*We Recommend*, a. That every officer and teacher in our Sabbath schools fit himself for greater efficiency by taking the Teachers' Training Course prepared by the General Conference Sabbath school department.

b. That vigorous efforts be put forth to secure every church member as a member of the Sabbath school, either personally, or as a member of the home department.

c. That the local schools put forth earnest efforts to secure all isolated members who cannot attend church regularly, as members of the home department.

d. That we make our goal for missionary offerings \$12,000 for 1916.

e. That we devote one Sabbath as a "rally day" in all our churches each year, when the church service shall be devoted to the consideration of the Sabbath school work, and the securing of new members.

f. That our ministers and workers show their interest in the Sabbath school as they visit families and churches by: 1. Attending the Sabbath school themselves. 2. By studying the lessons each week. 3. By conducting the review or teaching a class when invited to do so, encouraging the superintendent and secretary, and manifesting a live interest in the children and in every exercise of the school. 4. By studying the lesson with families where they visit, thus assisting parents and children to have a greater interest in the lessons.

g. That every officer and teacher study the *Sabbath School Worker*, and supply himself with literature that will give information as to how to do better service in the Sabbath schools.

#### Temperance

*Whereas*, The question of the abolition of the liquor traffic is again before

the people of California, to be voted upon in two distinct measures at the election this year; and

*Whereas*, Seventh-day Adventists have always been strict advocates of true temperance, and have when opportunity offered stood for the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of alcoholic liquors; therefore

*Resolved*, That we pledge anew our loyalty to the abolition of the liquor traffic, our sympathy with those who are working for the suppression of this awful curse, and our hearty cooperation in the use of every legitimate means and propaganda for this purpose in the distribution of literature and other such support as we are able to render; further

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this body that we favor a clean-cut prohibition issue, and discountenance any effort to unite with it anything else that would detract or divide the temperance forces.

*Resolved*, That we hereby extend to the Mountain View Register-Leader and other nearby newspapers our thanks for their courtesy in publishing accounts of our sessions.

*Whereas*, Our beloved brother and fellow-laborer, Prof. H. R. Salisbury, has been stricken down and removed from the ranks of the Lord's army by an untimely death; therefore

*Resolved*, That we do hereby extend to his wife, Sister Salisbury, an expression of our deepest sympathy and love, and unite in praying that the consoling power of the Lord may ever sustain and help her.

*Voted*, That a resolution embodying our appreciation of the way he has guided the ship of state in keeping this nation in peace, be formulated by Elders J. L. McElhany and M. C. Wilcox and sent to the President of the United States. The letter containing this resolution follows:

March 20, 1916.

To the President of the United States,  
The White House,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir: We have the pleasure to forward you the following resolutions passed by the recent session of our conference:

*"Whereas*, Our beloved country has thus far escaped the ravages of war, with all its attending hardships and horrors, now afflicting so many of the nations of earth; and

*"Whereas*, The peace that we enjoy, and the prosperity which comes through peace, has been maintained and preserved through this stormy period by the wisdom, patience, and probity of our chief magistrate; therefore

*"Resolved*, That we, the California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, in forty-fifth annual session assembled, do hereby extend to Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States, our deepest appreciation of his noble efforts in the preservation of peace. We pledge our loyal support to his endeavors to place the principles on which peace and liberty are founded before every other consideration, and we unitedly pray that the Most High, who

ruleth in the kingdoms of men, will support and sustain him in his arduous duties."

We are, sir, your most obedient servants,  
(Signed) J. L. MCELHANY,

President.

(Signed) H. B. THOMAS,  
Secretary.

Since the Pacific Press Publishing Association has recently sustained a severe loss in the burning of the International Publishing Branch at College View, Neb.:

*Resolved*, That we express our deep sympathy with the Pacific Press in this unfortunate experience, and pledge the association anew our loyal and continued support until our work is finished.

*Resolved*, That we hereby express to the members of the Mountain View church and to the Pacific Press Publishing Association our heartfelt appreciation for the cordial welcome and hospitality extended to us during this conference session.

H. B. THOMAS,  
Sec. Cal. Conf.

### President's Report

To the Delegates and Brethren and Sisters of the California Conference Assembled in the Forty-fifth Annual Session: Greeting:

The time has come when your officers must place upon these delegates the responsibility of conducting the affairs of this conference. To measure up successfully to this responsibility you will need the guidance and direction of the Holy Spirit. As varied and as great as are our needs at this hour, all will agree that our greatest need is that of a fuller baptism of the Holy Spirit.

There are a number of things to which we desire to direct your attention at this time, but first of all we wish to emphasize the feature of our work that seems to us most important; namely, the spiritual interests of our churches. To what purpose shall we gather here to discuss the affairs of this conference and to lay plans for the future, unless there shall come to us from above the divine blessings necessary to qualify us to do the work before us? We ask you, as the representatives of the churches in this conference, to consider the spiritual condition of the churches. Are you satisfied with their spiritual attainments? Are you satisfied with the service they are rendering in helping to finish the work of God? Do you believe the members of the churches that you represent are living lives of victory over sin? Are they filled and controlled by the Holy Spirit to the extent they might be? Are they ready for the work to be finished and for the Lord to come?

We ask you to give serious consideration to these matters. Let this conference gathering be devoted to seeking a solution to these questions. We should not become so absorbed in the routine work of this session that we will lose sight even for a moment of these fundamental questions. We should not be nearly so much concerned about the reports of the committees, as we

are about seeking God at this time for a mighty awakening to a sense of the times in which we live, and for power to qualify us to meet the needs of the hour.

We ask all to consider the encouraging words that follow: "Throughout our churches there is to be a reconversion and a reconsecration to service. Shall we not, in our work in the future, and in the gatherings that we hold, be of one accord? Shall we not wrestle with God in prayer, asking for the Holy Spirit to come into every heart? The presence of Christ, manifest among us, would cure the leprosy of unbelief that has made our service so weak and inefficient. We need the breath of the divine life breathed into us. We are to be channels through which the Lord can send light and grace to the world. Backsliders are to be reclaimed. We are to put away our sins, by confession and repentance humbling our proud hearts before God. Floods of spiritual power are to be poured forth upon those prepared to receive it." Volume 8, page 46.

### General

While this is the forty-fifth annual session of the California Conference, it is the first session of the conference in its present reduced size. Fifteen years ago this conference embraced the entire state of California, but at the present time we find our territory confined to what is practically the bay region of California. Although our conference territory is not large, it is interesting to note that nearly half the population of the state, —1,084,000—lives within our borders. Having the next largest population is the Southern California Conference with 877,000 people. This means that we have a population to evangelize of 207,000 people in excess of our next largest sister conference. The problem of reaching this great cosmopolitan population with the limited means and workers at our disposal will be apparent when we remember that the Northwestern California Conference has a population that is less than the difference between the Southern California Conference and our own. What lessons can we draw from these statistics? When we remember the fact, taking the gross tithe income of the various conferences into consideration, that they are spending between ten and eleven cents each year for every individual who lives within the borders of their field, while we are spending between two and three cents, it must be evident that they are spending too much in proportion to their population or we are spending too little. Does not this situation call for greater faithfulness in returning to the Lord His own in tithes and offerings, and is it not also an appeal for more earnest endeavor in soul-winning on the part of conference workers and lay members?

### Evangelical

During the year several efforts have been held, and a number of people have embraced the message as a result.

Elders A. S. Marchus and M. A. Hollister labored together in Berkeley, Elders J. W. McCord and R. S. Fries in San Francisco and Oakland, and Elder A. S. Marchus in Richmond. These workers have been assisted by our other ministers and Bible workers whose help has greatly contributed to the success of the public efforts. Elder T. T. Babienco held meetings in San Francisco for the Russians, and during the few months he spent there, thirteen took their stand for the message. The increase in the number of baptisms has been very encouraging. Taking the reports of the church clerks as a basis for our figures, we find the number baptized during the past four years as follows: 1912, 29; 1913, 31; 1914, 88; 1915, 207. These figures do not take into account those who possibly were baptized by our ministers and united with churches in other conferences.

Our membership for 1914 was 1513, while on December 31, 1915, the churches reported a membership of 1749, which is a gain of 236.

In considering our evangelical work, should we not give serious consideration to the part our lay members ought to be taking in soul-winning work? We believe we are now in the closing days of this message. This work must be finished in this generation, and it must be finished in the California Conference in this generation. How can this be done with the small force of ministers and Bible workers we are able to support? Obviously some method must be adopted to accomplish the purpose, and it should not be difficult for us to discover the proper methods. "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers." Volume 9, page 117.

The conference committee has already taken steps to arrange for practical field work along home missionary lines, and we believe much good has been accomplished. We trust this conference session will not close until plans have been laid for enlisting every church member in the home missionary campaign. The officers of every church should feel a personal responsibility in seeing that such plans are carried into effect. Is it setting our goal too high to endeavor to win 250 souls to the Lord during 1916? We believe it can be done.

#### Financial

The treasurer's report will set before you the present financial standing of the conference. A study of this feature of our work will show that some very encouraging gains have been made for which we thank the Lord. A budget carefully prepared at the beginning of last year showed that the expenses of the conference would exceed the income by at least \$4,257. By eliminating some heavy items of expense, and on account of a splendid gain in our tithe, we have come within \$694.03 of meeting our expenses. The tithe income

from the churches in this conference for 1914 was \$30,917.37, while for 1915 it was \$34,418.84, which was an increase of \$3,501.47.

Out of our tithe income we have passed on through the regular channels 20 per cent to the North American Division Conference, 15 per cent to the Union Conference, and 6 per cent to the sustentation fund, making a total of 41 per cent passed on for work outside our own field.

We are being continually pressed to take on additional workers and to launch out into new enterprises. But how can we reasonably be expected to do so when our resources are not sufficient to support the present force of workers? We have two suggestions to make to this conference looking to a relief of this condition: first, a rousing campaign in every church to increase the tithes and offerings; second, authority from the conference to reduce our force of workers to such a number that we will be able to pay our way without running behind. If every member of this conference were honest in the payment of tithe, there would be sufficient means to carry on the work as now organized and to undertake some work among the foreign-speaking population in our midst.

We plead for the cooperation of every minister, worker, church officer and member in the conference to help place the work where it can be carried forward without being crippled. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit will never be given to those who are robbing God in tithes and offerings. Let those who are guilty of this sin repent of it, and bring forth fruit meet for repentance. The constitution provides that "this conference shall not employ any worker and pay him from the tithe unless he is himself a tithe payer."

Our mission offerings showed an encouraging increase over the previous year. The following figures show the steady upward trend of our gifts to missions: 1912, \$7,512.98; 1913, \$11,007.10; 1914, \$12,132.93; 1915, \$16,613.34. The gain for 1915 over the previous year was \$4,480.41. For 1914 the weekly per capita was .159 per member, while for 1915 the per capita was .2076.

It is none too early to seriously consider the matter of raising our quota of mission offerings for 1916. Let us not derive too much self-satisfaction from the fact that we reached the goal last year, and thus relax our efforts for the present year. The conference committee has already inaugurated a plan to encourage those who are able to give much more than 20 cents each week. We recommend to this conference the adoption of such plans as will insure our reaching the goal this year.

#### Bible House

Since the division of the conference a year ago, the California Bible House has continued to serve both fields as before the division. The volume of business in the California Conference amounted to \$14,230.50, and in the Northwestern California Conference to

\$7,348.13, or a combined business of \$21,628.63. The business for the year before was \$18,624.42. Thus a gain in volume of business of \$3004.21 is shown. On the other hand when we come to examine the annual financial statement, we find that the Bible House shows a loss of \$1029.66. The loss for the previous year was \$844.04. This shows an increase in loss of \$185.62. In this connection it is well to note that for the previous year only \$921.65 was charged to the Bible House for salary; the balance of salary being met by the conference.

For 1915, however, all the Bible House salaries—\$1,474.75—were charged. If the former methods of paying salaries had been continued, the Bible House would have benefitted to the amount of \$553.10. This would have reduced the loss to \$476.56, which would have been an improvement over the previous year of \$367.48.

We are much concerned over the large number of unpaid accounts due the Bible House. Operating as it does on a margin of profit that under most favorable circumstances scarcely admits of self-support, how can we expect the Bible House to exist and to pay its bills promptly when those who owe the Bible House allow their accounts to mount up to such large proportions? We believe that, in justice to this institution, a radical change must be made in the policy of the Bible House; and that its business be conducted on a more strictly cash basis. We suggest that these delegates give your officers authority to make such changes as will help to remedy these conditions.

#### Departmental

The departmental secretaries are no doubt prepared to render detailed reports of their work. A few statements regarding them may be of interest, however.

#### Educational

At the present time we have six church schools employing eleven teachers, and having an enrolment of 255 pupils. We desire to do everything possible to encourage this important work, and trust that all our churches will give serious attention to the matter of providing schools for the training of our children. Let there be no backward steps taken by any, but let us press on and accomplish greater things.

#### Missionary Volunteer

At the close of 1915 there were eight senior societies and seven junior societies, making a total of fifteen. These young people gave to foreign missions, during 1915, \$1120.03, which was considerably in excess of their goal. We have reason to be grateful for this earnest body of young people, and trust that all our church officers and workers will unite in the endeavor to lead them to places of usefulness in the Lord's work.

#### Sabbath School

Twenty-one Sabbath schools are now being conducted in our conference; and

**Treasurer's Report of the California Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists**

Year Ending December 31, 1915

**REVENUE ACCOUNT**

**Expenses and Losses**

Chinese work - - - - -	\$	106.66	
Canvassers' Transportation		24.80	
Donations paid - - - - -		490.00	
Loma Linda - - - - -	\$	250.00	
Miscellaneous - - - - -		240.00	
Expense accounts - - - - -		617.45	
Free literature - - - - -		7.20	
Gen. Conf. Council and P. U. Conf.		122.95	
Japanese school - - - - -		465.60	
Orphans and aged - - - - -		194.02	
Oakland conference - - - - -		45.62	
Depreciations - - - - -		542.19	
Joint property - - - - -	135.66		
Office furniture - - - - -	47.65		
Tent Equipment - - - - -	358.88		
Pacific Union College teacher		678.48	
Pacific Union Conf. convention		177.69	
Rent - - - - -		360.22	
Richmond camp - - - - -		642.26	
Students' expense - - - - -		17.15	
Teachers' transportation		73.05	
Salary and laborers' expense		19162.61	
Salary - - - - -	13121.91		
Expense approximately	5112.53		
Joint salary - - - - -	928.17		
Conference remittances		14111.36	
Div. Conf. support 20%	6883.64		
Sustentation fund 6%	2065.02		
First tithe 10% - - - - -	3441.80		
Second tithe 5% - - - - -	1720.90		
			\$37839.31

**Income**

Tithe - - - - -	\$34418.84		
Donations - - - - -	2461.56		
Interest - - - - -	264.88	37145.28	
Net loss for 1915 - - - - -		694.03	\$37839.31

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

**Resources**

Cash on hand - - - - -	\$	4665.38	
Central Bank - - - - -	\$	1372.48	
Central Savings Bank - - - - -		3000.00	
Cash in office - - - - -		292.90	
Inventories - - - - -		4735.61	
Office furniture - - - - -	716.50		
Joint property - - - - -	1570.86		
Property - - - - -	2448.25		
Bills receivable - - - - -		226.45	
California Bible House loan		2110.60	
California Conference Assn.		3004.14	
Laborers' account - - - - -		53.22	\$14795.40

**Liabilities and Surplus**

Trust funds - - - - -			3648.19
Calif. religious liberty	\$	92.38	
Church school equipment		75.71	
Deposit accounts - - - - -		339.51	
Northwestern Conference		2764.08	
Ship mission - - - - -		121.42	
Worthy students - - - - -		137.00	
Miscellaneous accounts		118.09	
Surplus January 1, 1915	\$12591.24		
Less Appr'tions to P.P.I.E.	750.00		
	\$11841.24		
Less net loss 1915 - - - - -		694.03	
Surplus January 1, 1916	\$11147.21	\$11147.21	\$14795.40
Offerings for 1915 made up the following named funds received from the churches:			
Annual offering \$ 1006.12	Miscellaneous home	\$ 4.00	
African students 379.78	Missions - - - - -	3194.29	
Blind work - - - - -	3.25	\$150,000 fund - - - - -	1563.25
Church school equip. 55.04	Religious liberty - - - - -	18.73	
Ingathering - - - - -	1704.43	Sabbath school dona. 7911.94	
Midsummer - - - - -	282.44	13th Sabbath offer. 2114.40	
Misc. foreign - - - - -	866.66	Total - - - - -	\$18204.28

**Auditor's Statement**

To the Delegates and Members of the California Conference S. D. A.:

This is to certify that the accounts of the California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for the year ended December 31, 1915, have been examined, and I believe the operating and financial statements presented show the standing of the conference on the date named, as disclosed by the records of account. CLAUDE CONARD, Auditor.  
Oakland, Cal., March 2, 1916.

**California Bible House**

**Revenue Account for Year Ending December 31, 1915**

**Expenses and Disbursements**

Salary secretary and helper - - - - -	\$	1474.75	
Divided expense - - - - -		260.20	
Rent - - - - -		180.57	
Expense - - - - -		239.04	
Sustentation 1% - - - - -		163.01	
Depreciation property - - - - -		57.10	
Stationery and printing - - - - -		160.21	
Insurance - - - - -		17.50	
Doubtful accounts - - - - -		133.10	\$ 2658.48

**Income**

Merchandise gain - - - - -	\$	1655.82	
Net loss for 1915 - - - - -		1029.66	\$ 2658.48

**Financial Statement for Year Ending December 31, 1915**

**Resources**

Cash in office - - - - -	\$	6.38	
Merchandise inventory - - - - -		2049.94	
Expense - - - - -		55.82	

they report an enrolment of 1408. We should never be satisfied until the enrolment of our Sabbath schools equals or exceeds our church membership. Not until then can we feel that we are really accomplishing what our Sabbath schools were ordained to do. Let all work with untiring energy to accomplish this end. During 1915 our Sabbath schools gave to foreign missions, \$9126.29. We have reason to rejoice over this splendid achievement.

**Conclusion**

We desire to personally express to the members of the conference committee, workers of the conference, church officers and members, our appreciation for the kind and courteous consideration shown us, and for their co-

operation during the past year. As the delegates now take up the work of this session, we add our prayers to yours that rich measures of the Holy Spirit may rest upon you, and lead to the adoption of such measures, and the selection of such officers, as will result in the work moving forward with greater strength than ever before. We pray for great manifestations of power and blessing to rest upon all God's dear people during the days to come, to qualify all for the speedy finishing of the work.  
J. L. MCELHANY.

And they shall call them, The holy people, The redeemed of the Lord; and thou shalt be called, Sought out, A city not forsaken.—Isa. 62: 12.

**Constitution of the California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists**

As Amended at the Conference Session in Mountain View, Cal., March 6-9, 1916.

**Article I—Name**

This organization shall be known as the California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

**Article II—Object**

The object of this organization shall be to extend the work of the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ in its threefold setting throughout the world.

**Article II—Territory**

The territory of this Conference shall consist of the following counties in the state of California:

[Continued on page 8.]

Property - - - -	197.75	
Stationery and printing - - - -	91.71	
Unexpired insurance - - - -	24.50	
Library - - - -	47.00	
Accounts receivable - - - -	2207.23	
(Cal. Conf.) \$577.13		
Church societies		
(N. W. Cal.) 344.54	\$921.67	
Personal - - - -	870.10	
Miscellaneous accounts - - - -	415.46	
Christ's Object Lessons	9.14	
Due from institutions - - - -	173.97	\$ 4863.44

**Liabilities**

Accounts payable - - - -		\$ 173.01
Loans:		
California Conf. \$2110.60		
N. W. California 1807.72	3918.32	
Canvasser's tract account	7.38	
Circulating library fund	3.90	
Ship mission (Launch)	10.42	
Provisions for: - - - -	167.66	
Sustentat'n unpaid \$ 24.00		
Doubtful accounts 8.67		
Merchandise - - 134.99		
Surplus January 1, 1915: - - - -	1612.41	
California Conf. - 895.21		
N. W. California 717.20		
(Cal. Conf.) 571.66		
Less net loss (N. W. Cal.) 458.00	1029.66	
Pres. worth Jan., 1, '16:		
California Conf. - 323.55		
N. W. California 259.20	582.75	582.75 \$ 4863.44

H. B. THOMAS, *Treasurer.*

**Auditor's Statement**

To Whom It May Concern:

The books and records of account of the California Bible House have been checked for the year ended December 31, 1915, and according to my judgment, the revenue account and financial statement here given present the financial standing of the Bible House on December 31, as shown by said books of account.

CLAUDE CONARD, *Auditor.*

Oakland, Cal., March 2, 1916.

**California Conference Association Property**

The following was presented as a list of property held by the California Conference Association:

- Alameda, block 196, lot 33, Encinal Park tract.
- Arcata, block 257, lot 50x50.
- Berkeley, block D, lot 18 on map showing subdivision of southwest portion of plot 53 of Kellersberger's map of Peralta Ranch surveyed for E. D. Harvey.
- Blue Lake, lot 60x120.
- Calistoga, the front one-half of lot 18, block P Middle Addition to the town of Calistoga, as laid down and delineated upon Morgan's map of Calistoga in 1871.
- Eureka, block 109, lots 3 and 4, second enlargement of Clark's addition to city of Eureka, and
- Lots 3 and 4 in block A of the Foster Addition to the city of Eureka as the same is marked and delineated on the map or plat thereof now on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder of the county of Humboldt, state of California.
- Fort Bragg, block 51, lot 1.
- Ferndale, block 13, lot 8.
- Fortuna, commencing at a point in Section 21 of Township 3 north of Range 1 west, H. M., where the county road crosses the north line of land deeded to Henry Masseman et al., by Rose Clancey by deed dated Oct. 19, 1904, and recorded in book 88 of deeds at page 326, Records of Humboldt County, state of California, and running thence east 158 feet, thence south 88 feet, thence northwesterly following the line of the county road to the place of beginning.
- Healdsburg, lots 60, 61, 62, 63, 64 of Knook's addition to town of Healdsburg.
- Los Gatos, lot 53, Nott subdivision.
- Mountain View, lot 1, Titus subdivision; lots 7, 8, 9, Pacific subdivision.

- Morgan Hill, block 60, lots 10, 11, Haller Addition.
- Melrose, Oakland, block L, lots 53, 54, Hamphill tract.
- Pepperwood, lot 30x67.
- Petaluma, church and church school, portion lot 195.
- Richmond, block 3, lots 33 and 34.
- Santa Cruz, front half subdivision of lot 1, Smith estate.
- San Jose, the north one-half of lot 8 in block 1 in Range 7 north of the base line.
- Soquel, lot 34x129.
- Sebastopol.
- St. Helena, lots 32 and 33 of the subdivision of lot 41 of the La Jota Rancho, Napa County, Cal.
- Ukiah, block 42, lot 32x65.
- Vallejo, block 483, lot 3.

It is requested that information be sent to the California Conference Association office, 537 Twenty-fifth Street, Oakland, Cal., of other properties which should appear in the above list.

H. B. THOMAS.

**California Conference Association of the Seventh-day Adventists**

Revenue Account, Year Ending December 31, 1915

	<b>Income</b>	
Interest received - - - -	\$ 6433.47	
Interest accrued and receivable - - - -	450.34	\$ 6883.81
	<b>Expenses and Losses</b>	
Interest paid - - - -	\$ 3718.57	
Interest accrued and unpaid - - - -	1965.70	
Annuities paid - - - -	934.52	
Expense - - - -	112.21	
	\$ 6731.00	
Net gain - - - -	152.81	6883.81

**Financial Statement, December 31, 1915**

	<b>Assets</b>	
Cash in bank - - - -	\$ 762.93	
Cash in office - - - -	63.00	
	<b>Notes Receivable</b>	
Loans on church prop'ty, contr'ts etc.	10702.07	
California Conference edu. note - - - -	53608.45	
Central California Conf. edu. note - - - -	9534.68	
Pacific Union College note - - - -	10636.27	
Pacific Union College interest unpaid	1637.21	
Oakland office lot lease - - - -	1500.00	
Oakland office building - - - -	2584.30	
Miscellaneous real estate - - - -	1750.00	
	<b>Provisions</b>	
Interest receivable - - - -	450.34	
Annuities inventory - - - -	9.27	
Healdsburg property provision - - - -	1000.00	
Pacific Educational Assn. real estate	10000.00	
Pacific Educational Assn. furnishings	14555.93	
Pacific Edu. Assn. Cal. Conf. Assn.	542.31	\$119336.76
	<b>Liabilities and Surplus</b>	
Notes payable - - - -	\$57766.57	
Annuities bonds - - - -	9050.00	
Annuity property - - - -	1750.00	
California Conference - - - -	3004.14	
Deposits and trust funds - - - -	3734.23	
Deposit on \$150,000 fund - - - -	14385.66	
Healdsburg home provision - - - -	1000.00	
Reserve for interest payable - - - -	1965.70	
	\$92656.30	
	<b>Surplus</b>	
Surplus Pacific Edu. Assn. \$25098.24		
Surplus January 1, 1915 1429.41		
Net gain for 1915 - - - - 152.81		
Surplus December 31, 1915 - - - - 26680.46		\$119336.76

H. B. THOMAS, *Treasurer.*

[Continued from page 6.]

Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, San Mateo, Alameda, San Francisco, Contra Costa, San Benito and Monterey.

#### Article IV—Membership

This Conference shall be composed of such churches as are or may be organized in any part of its territory, under the direction of its executive committee, said churches having been accepted by vote of the Conference in session.

#### Article V—Representation

SECTION 1.—The voters of this Conference shall be the duly accredited delegates from the local churches, members of the executive committee, all ministers holding credentials from the Conference, and such representatives of the Pacific Union, the North American Division, and General conferences of Seventh-day Adventists as may be present at any meeting.

SEC. 2.—Each local church shall be entitled to one delegate in the sessions of this Conference, without regard to numbers, and one additional delegate for every twenty church-members or major fraction thereof.

SEC. 3.—Unorganized companies of Sabbath-keepers shall be represented by the delegates at large.

SEC. 4.—A majority of the delegates present at any regular or specially called meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

#### Article VI—Officers

The officers of this Conference shall be president, secretary, treasurer, auditor, and an executive committee of seven members, including the president, all of whom shall be elected at each biennial meeting.

#### Article VII—Meetings

SEC. 1.—Meetings of this Conference shall be held biennially at such time and place in the California territory as the executive committee shall determine and designate, for the purpose of electing the officers of this Conference, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the Conference. Notice of such biennial meeting shall be published at least three weeks prior to such meetings in the PACIFIC UNION RECORDER.

SEC. 2.—The executive committee may call extra sessions as occasion may require by a like notice, and the transaction of such sessions shall be equally valid with the regular sessions.

#### Article VIII—Corporations, Trustees, Departments, Agents, Committees

SECTION 1.—This Conference shall authorize the creation of corporations necessary for the execution of its business or the operation of its institutions, and may at each regular session elect the boards of management of such institutions and enterprises as are or may be operated by this organization with the acts governing the same.

SEC. 2.—This Conference shall maintain such departments as may be provided for by the Conference in regular session, and employ such committees, agents, ministers, missionaries, and make such distribution of labor, as may

be necessary to effectually carry on its work.

#### Article IX—Laborers

Credentials and licenses shall be granted by the Conference at its regular sessions to all its approved laborers, and during the interval between sessions, when deemed necessary by the executive committee, in conformity with the recommendations of the Union, North American Division, and General Conferences.

#### Article X—By-Laws

The delegates regularly assembled at any meeting of this Conference, may make by-laws and amend or repeal them at any session thereof, and the scope of such by-laws may embrace all subjects not inconsistent with the constitution.

#### Article XI—Amendments

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting in any session, provided, that if it be proposed to amend the constitution at a special session, notice of the proposed amendments shall be given in the call for such special session.

### By-Laws

#### Article I—President

It shall be the duty of the president to preside at all meetings of the Conference, to report annually the condition of the work, and to make such recommendations as may seem best in the judgment of himself and the executive committee, and to attend to all the duties that usually pertain to this office.

#### Article II—Secretary

It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep a record of the proceedings of each session of the Conference; to give immediate notice to officers and committees, trustees and agents, of all votes pertaining to their respective duties; to have charge of the records; to collect from the churches in the territory such financial and statistical reports as may be required, and forward copies of the same as may be directed; and to conduct the general correspondence of the Conference.

#### Article III—Treasurer

SECTION 1.—It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive all moneys belonging to the Conference, keep an account of the same, and disburse them under the direction of the president, and make a full report thereof at each regular session of the Conference, and at such other times as may be required by the president or executive committee.

SEC. 2.—It shall be the duty of the treasurer to forward monthly all trust funds to their proper destination through the Pacific Union Conference.

#### Article IV—Auditor

The Conference shall elect an auditor to examine thoroughly at least once a year all accounts of the Conference and of its several departments, and to report on the same to the Conference annually.

#### Article V—Executive Committee

SECTION 1.—The executive committee shall have full administrative power during the intervals between sessions of the Conference, and shall exercise a general watchcare over all matters pertaining to the work of the Conference; and shall fill for the current term, any vacancies that may occur in its membership, or in the boards, committees, or agents which are appointed or selected by the Conference. It shall direct the movements of the employees of the Conference, and pay them for labor at regular intervals from the funds of the Conference.

SEC. 2.—The executive committee shall appoint such department secretaries and committees as shall be provided for from time to time by the Conference in session.

#### Article VI—Auditing Committee

The executive committee shall appoint a number of brethren who shall exceed their own number by one, who shall not have been in the employ of the Conference during any part of the preceding year; and these, together with the executive committee, shall constitute an auditing committee to examine and settle all accounts which are presented to the Conference at the close of each Conference year.

#### Article VII—Funds

The funds of this Conference shall consist of the tithes paid by various churches and individuals in the Conference, and of such other funds as it is proper to use for Conference work.

#### Article VIII—Laborers

SECTION 1.—It shall be the duty of laborers in the employ of this Conference to make a written report of the labor performed from month to month during the year, together with such receipts and expenditures as are required by the Conference, and to send the same at the close of the month to the Conference secretary.

SEC. 2.—This conference shall not employ any worker and pay him from the tithe unless he is himself a tithe-payer.

SEC. 3.—Those who may feel it duty to exercise their gift in preaching, colporteur, or Bible work in a public way should express their wish to the Conference.

#### Article IX—Churches

SECTION 1.—Each church of this Conference shall render faithful support to the Conference work by the prompt payment of its tithe and such other funds as may be set apart for that purpose.

SEC. 2.—Each church, through its clerk, shall make a written report every quarter to the Conference secretary of its standing, its additions and losses, the amount of its tithe, and the number of members of its Sabbath school and young people's societies, and such other information as may be called for.

SEC. 3.—Any church or scattered brethren desiring labor in their vicinity should make request for the same to the Conference.