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The Advent Review and Sabbath Herald

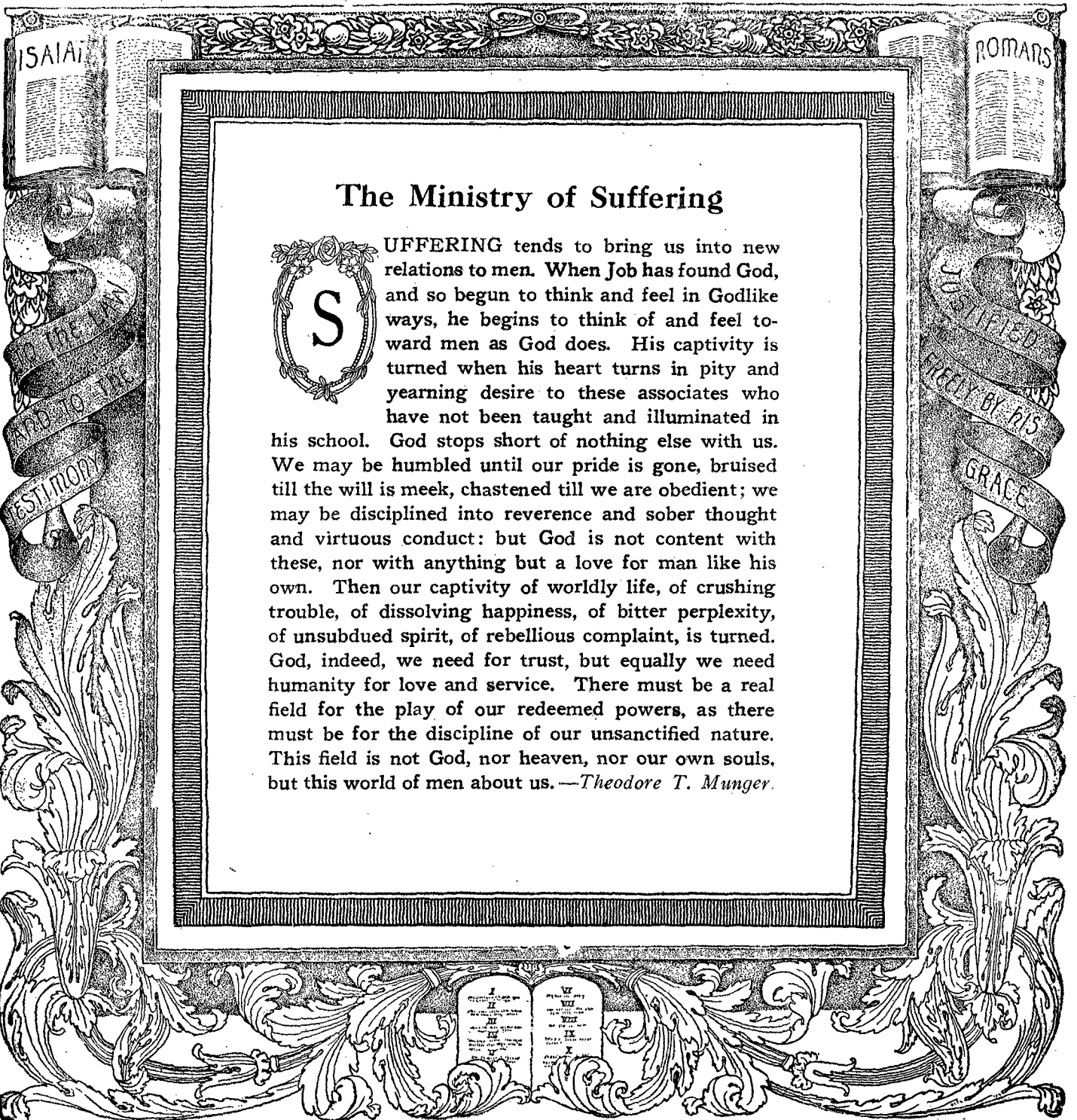


Vol. 95

Takoma Park Station, Washington, D. C., Thursday, May 2, 1918

No. 18

THE GOSPEL TO ALL NATIONS



The Ministry of Suffering



UFFERING tends to bring us into new relations to men. When Job has found God, and so begun to think and feel in Godlike ways, he begins to think of and feel toward men as God does. His captivity is turned when his heart turns in pity and yearning desire to these associates who have not been taught and illuminated in his school. God stops short of nothing else with us. We may be humbled until our pride is gone, bruised till the will is meek, chastened till we are obedient; we may be disciplined into reverence and sober thought and virtuous conduct: but God is not content with these, nor with anything but a love for man like his own. Then our captivity of worldly life, of crushing trouble, of dissolving happiness, of bitter perplexity, of unsubdued spirit, of rebellious complaint, is turned. God, indeed, we need for trust, but equally we need humanity for love and service. There must be a real field for the play of our redeemed powers, as there must be for the discipline of our unsanctified nature. This field is not God, nor heaven, nor our own souls, but this world of men about us. —Theodore T. Munger.

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INSTRUCTION FOR NONCOMBATANTS

PRESIDENT WILSON, on March 20, prescribed the duties of noncombatants who are drafted into the army during the present war. Let our young men who have been drafted give careful study to the provisions of this executive order, and to the proper modes of procedure to obtain the immunities and privileges therein guaranteed.

Each individual will have the privilege of expressing his preference with respect to these four lines of service, and if feasible, all future assignments of noncombatants will be restricted to the several detachments and units of the medical department. The President's executive order was published in the *Official Bulletin* of March 22, and reads as follows:

"By virtue of authority contained in section 4 of the act approved May 18, 1917, entitled, 'An act to authorize the President to increase temporarily the military establishment of the United States,' whereby it is provided:

"And nothing in this act contained shall be construed to require or compel any person to serve in any of the forces herein provided for who is found to be a member of any well-recognized religious sect or organization at present organized and existing and whose existing creed or principles forbid its members to participate in war in any form and whose religious convictions are against war or participation therein in accordance with the creed or principles of said religious organizations; but no person so exempted shall be exempted from service in any capacity that the President shall declare to be noncombatant."

"Noncombatant Service

"I hereby declare that the following military service is noncombatant service:

"a. Service in the Medical Corps wherever performed. This includes service in the sanitary detachments attached to combatant units at the front; service in the divisional sanitary trains composed of ambulance companies and field hospital companies, on the line of communications, at the base in France, and with the troops and at hospitals in the United States; also the service of supply and repair in the Medical Department.

"b. Any service in the Quartermaster Corps, in the United States, may be treated as noncombatant. Also, in rear of zone of operations, service in the following: Stevedore companies, labor companies, remount depots, veterinary hospitals, supply depots, bakery companies, the subsistence service, the bathing service, the laundry service, the salvage service, the clothing renovation service, the shoe-repair service, the transportation repair service, and motor-truck companies.

"c. Any engineer service in the United States may be treated as noncombatant service. Also, in rear of zone of operations, service as follows: Railroad building, operation, and repair; road building and repair; construction of rear-line fortifications, auxiliary defenses, etc.; construction of docks, wharves, storehouses, and of such cantonments as may be built by the Corps of Engineers; topographical work; camouflage; map reproduction; supply depot service; repair service; hydraulic service; and forestry service.

"Assignment of Objectors

"2. Persons ordered to report for military service under the above act who have (a) been certified by their local boards to be members of a religious sect or organization, as defined in section 4 of said act; or (b) who object to participating in war because of conscientious scruples, but have failed to receive certificates as members of a religious sect or organization from their local board, will be assigned to noncombatant military service, as defined in paragraph 1, to the extent that such persons are able to accept service as aforesaid without violation of the religious or other conscientious scruples by them in good faith entertained. Upon the promulgation of this order it shall be the duty of each division, camp, or post commander, through a tactful and considerate officer, to present to all such persons the provisions hereof, with adequate explanation of the character of noncombatant service herein defined, and upon such explanations to secure acceptances of assignment to the several kinds of noncombatant service above enumerated; and whenever any person is assigned to noncombatant service by reason of his religious or other conscientious scruples he shall be given a certificate, stating the assignment and reason therefor, and such certificate shall thereafter be respected as preventing the transfer of such persons from noncombatant to combatant service by any division, camp, post, or other commander under whom said person may thereafter be called to serve, but such certificate shall not prevent the assignment of such person to some other form of noncombatant service with his own consent. So far as may be found feasible by each division, camp, or post commander, future assignments of such persons to noncombatant military service will be restricted to the several detachments and units of the Medical Department in the absence of a request for assignment to some other branch of noncombatant service, as defined in paragraph 1 hereof.

"Reports by Commanders

"3. On the 1st day of April, and thereafter monthly, each division, camp, or post commander shall report to the Adjutant General of the Army, for the information of the Chief of Staff and the Secretary of War, the names of all persons under their respective commands who profess religious or other conscientious scruples as above described, and who have been unwilling to accept, by reason of such scruples, assignment to noncombatant military service as above defined, and as to each such person so reported a brief, comprehensive statement as to the nature of the objection to the acceptance of such noncombatant military service entertained. The Secretary of War will from time to time classify the persons so reported and give further directions as to the disposition of them. Pending such directions from the Secretary of War, all such persons not accepting assignment to noncombatant service shall be segregated as far as practicable and placed under the command of a specially qualified officer of tact and judgment, who will be instructed to impose no punitive hardship of any kind upon them, but not to allow their objections to be made the basis of any favor or consideration, beyond exemption from actual military service, which is not extended to any other soldier in the service of the United States.

"Maintenance of Discipline

"4. With a view to maintaining discipline, it is pointed out that the discretion of courts-martial, so far as any shall be ordered to deal with the cases of persons who

fail or refuse to comply with lawful orders by reason of alleged religious or other conscientious scruples, should be exercised, if feasible, so as to secure uniformity of penalties in the imposition of sentences under Articles of War 64 and 65, for the wilful disobedience of a lawful order or command. It will be recognized that sentences imposed by such courts-martial, when not otherwise described by law, shall prescribe confinement in the United States Disciplinary Barracks or elsewhere, as the Secretary of War or the reviewing authority may direct, but not in a penitentiary; but this shall not apply to the cases of men who desert either before reporting for duty to the military authorities or subsequently thereto.

"5. The Secretary of War will revise the sentences and findings of courts-martial heretofore held of persons who come within any of the classes herein described, and bring to the attention of the President for remedy, if any be needed, sentences and judgments found at variance with the provisions hereof. WOODROW WILSON.

"The White House, March 20, 1918."

If any desire further information on this subject, be free to write to the undersigned at Takoma Park, Washington, D. C.

C. S. LONGACRE.

NOTES FROM THE CONFERENCE

THE address of Dr. A. Wesley Mell, representative of the American Bible Society, on the work of that society in the distribution of the Bible, was listened to with sympathetic interest. There is no power in all the world like the power of the Word of God, and its victories are by no means confined to the ages of the past. In every land its power is being witnessed to by the changes wrought in human hearts. These are living witnesses and miracles of the power of the Scriptures of truth.

QUITE contrary to the expectations of some of the Eastern visitors, the weather conditions of San Francisco were all that could be desired. California really did credit to itself, and that is saying a great deal, for it is noted as a land of sunshine and flowers. It surely greeted the Conference with its sunniest smiles. This, with the cordial fellowship and hearty hospitality of the great West, combined to make the Pacific Coast a most desirable place for this general gathering.

The large reception committee, which met all visitors, had the happy faculty of making every one feel at home at once. The locating committee, which had the difficult task of housing two or three thousand people, performed its work with commendable patience and efficiency. We heard no faultfinding or complaint. A spirit of good cheer and courage possessed the Conference.

"THE victorious church in Christian life will triumph at the second coming of Christ." This was one thought emphasized in the Sabbath morning service at the opening of the Conference. It rests with each individual to determine whether he will have a part in the victorious life here and a part in the triumph at the end of the Christian race.

The Advent And Sabbath **REVIEW HERALD**

"Here is the Patience of the Saints: Here are they that keep the Commandments of God, and the Faith of Jesus." Rev. 14: 12.

VOL. 95

TAKOMA PARK STATION, WASHINGTON, D. C., MAY 2, 1918

No. 18

JOINT SESSION OF THE GENERAL AND NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION CONFERENCES

MARCH 29 TO APRIL 14, 1918

THE FINISHING OF THIS WORK *

A. G. DANIELLS

WHEN arrangements were made for this service, and I was asked to speak, it was suggested that I sound the keynote of this Conference. I have been thinking about that keynote ever since, and I confess to you that I have endeavored to prepare for sounding what seems to me to be the keynote of this Conference; yea, more than the keynote of this Conference,—the keynote of this movement with which we are connected, the keynote of this great threefold message, the keynote of this people the world over. And I shall tell you before beginning the study what I mean by the keynote, and what I understand it to be.

I understand that the keynote for this Conference is the highest preparation we can possibly make for the speedy finishing of the work God has committed to us, and the highest preparation that can be made is the spiritual preparation. That towers above all other facilities, all other bases of equipment for the finishing of this work. The spiritual forces of the living God alone are adequate for the finishing of the mighty work we have to do in our limited time.

That is the subject I have chosen for this morning, and I ask for your sympathetic thought and co-operation; I ask for your prayers, that the keynote shall be God's idea, and that he shall give us his message on this occasion.

The Harvest

The text I have chosen you will find in the fourth chapter of the Gospel of Mark and the twenty-ninth verse:

"When the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come."

When is the harvest? Jesus says, "The harvest is the end of the world." The harvest, then, and the end of the world are synonymous terms, and so we may read that into the text: "When the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle,

because the harvest [the end of the world] is come." Then the ripening of the fruit is inseparably connected with the end of the world; and the fruit must be ripened before the end of the world can come, according to this. The sickle will never be thrust in to reap the harvest until the fruit is brought forth.

From this I judge that the great objective of all Heaven is the ripening of the fruit. The great purpose that fills the heart of God, of our Saviour, and of the angels, who are ministering spirits to this world,—the great thought of all is to ripen the grain, for it will be the grand climax, the glorious consummation of the whole vast scheme of human redemption.

Brethren, it seems to me that this is the great, all-absorbing, overshadowing thought of the message we have embraced, of the message we are proclaiming. We cannot be satisfied with the advantages the message has brought to us, we cannot fold our hands and sit down in gladness, rejoicing over our own benefits that have come to us. We must be inspired by a loftier sentiment than that. We must be inspired with a higher motive. And what is it? — So to proclaim the message of God that every soul in the world will have an opportunity to hear it and receive it, and to be ripened for the garner of God. No motive short of that will do for this people. When we embraced this message, we committed ourselves to just such a service as that. Here is the great message:

"I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come."

I believe that message; I believe it is due this world today. I believe that I should live that message; and in living it, I am bound to do all that I possibly can to proclaim it to my fellow men. That is God's purpose for every soul who embraces this message. This is the climax of the gospel, when that

message is finished; it is the great climax to which we are all looking. [Voices: "Amen!"]

The harvest is coming; the sowing time is here; and we, praise God, are permitted to share in the sowing, and in the cultivation of that which springs up from the seed. We are permitted to water the seed with our tears, and to hasten its growth by our prayers and our attentive service to the soil where we drop it. But, thank God, it will also be our privilege to see the harvest. We are not always going to sow. The day is coming when we shall reap. The psalmist says that those who go forth with weeping, bearing precious seed, shall come again with rejoicing, bringing their sheaves with them. [Voice: "Praise the Lord!"]

Yes, it is something to praise God for, that we in this life of turmoil, of trial, may devote our lives to the sowing of seed that will ripen into redemption that will bring men and women into the kingdom of God; and the time when they are brought in is the harvest. So my text says:

"When the fruit is brought forth [the margin says "ripe"], immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come."

A Time for Courage

I have said to you that I believe the hour has come for the last act of sowing, and that when this hour closes, the harvest will be on. I believe that, and you believe it; and now I raise the question, Are we right in this belief? [Voices: "Yes!"] Have we good ground for this faith, or may we possibly be mistaken? I am not sure there are any here who are faltering. This is a bad time to falter, friends. It is not the time to grow weak-kneed, doubtful, fearful. If ever this people had occasion to thank God and take courage, it seems to me it is now. But as I travel about I find people somehow a bit troubled and fearful and faltering. A friend of mine expressed it to me on this wise,—he was an old schoolmate of mine; I had lost all trace of him until my return from the Far East two years ago; then I received a letter from him, and in that letter he said:

"Brother Daniells, I want to ask you a question. You have been preaching ever since I knew you that we are in the end of time,—that this generation is the last generation. Do you know how far we have

* Sermon delivered at San Francisco, Cal. Sabbath morning, March 30, 1918.

gone? We have passed seventy years and more. Surely there cannot be very much left, if we are right. Now this is the question I want to put to you: You have just been over in India with its 300,000,000, in China with its 400,000,000 — you have been over in that great beehive of humanity, and you have seen those people. I want to ask you if you can, now, go about among the people in America and tell them honestly that you believe this message is to be finished in this generation; if you believe that this is the last generation, and that the end is to come to the generation starting where we have placed it."

In his question I read a great big question, a twofold question, a question in words, and a great big question in his mind, in his heart, as to the soundness of our position. Well, I was glad to hear from my old friend, and I was glad to answer him, and I want to tell you my answer. I wrote:

"I want to tell you that I can go before our people, and all other people in North America, now after my visit to the Far

multitudes; he would have us look at the giants, the obstacles, and the walled cities. But, brethren, these are not obstacles with God. They are not difficulties with him at all. What God wants is a church that he can use. What God wants is a people surrendered to him, a people ready to put away all sin, a people ready to give themselves and their means for the finishing of the work, and he will take care of the multitudes. [Elder Butler: "I believe it."] Yes, I believe it, Brother Butler. If this is not so, brethren, then I throw up my hands. But I believe that a victorious church in life and in spirit will be a triumphant church in work, in the finishing of the work of God.

Our Place in the Lines of Prophecy

Aside from this, how can we ever explain these marvelous lines of prophecy, and that great sermon of Jesus concerning his coming, and all

years before Christ,— and I trace my way down step by step to the birth of our blessed Lord, to his baptism, to his crucifixion, to his ascension; and then on down the rest of the period to its consummation in 1844, and there I read that the sanctuary of God in heaven is to be cleansed. We know from the study of the Bible that the cleansing of the sanctuary is a work of judgment. And there I am down to within seventy-four years of this hour. What can I do with this great line of prophecy? I can do nothing with it but to receive it or reject it. There is no ground for rejecting it. Everything about it speaks to my judgment, speaks to my heart, so I believe it, I receive it, and I go forth confident that in 1844 the great judgment hour of this world began, and has been going on ever since.

There are other prophecies in Revelation which I have not time to men-



WEST INDIAN UNION DELEGATES

Top row (left to right): Mrs. C. B. Hughes, C. B. Hughes, W. G. Kneeland, E. C. Boger, F. H. Raley, A. J. Haysmer, R. E. Bowles, G. A. Roberts, W. R. White. Lower row: Son of C. B. Hughes, Mrs. R. E. Bowles, Mrs. E. C. Boger, Mrs. F. H. Raley, Mrs. A. J. Haysmer, Mrs. and Mr. M. E. Anderson.

East, and I can tell them as honestly as I ever did, and far more intelligently than I ever did, that I believe this is the last generation of men who are to live on this earth. Don't misunderstand me; I believe still, today, to the very depths of my heart, that this is the closing message of God, that this is the last call to humanity, that this is the generation for the finishing of that call, and that it will be finished in our day."

That is where I stand, and I want to tell you that there has been no reversal of my conviction. Three hundred million people — that is not the problem with God. There are some other things that seem a great deal smaller to us than that. I believe that the state of your heart and my heart — our state of mind — is a much greater problem with God than three hundred million people in India. If God can get my mind where it ought to be, and get the grip on my heart that he wants to get, and can endue me with his divine Spirit as he wants to, he will take care of the three hundred millions in India.

The devil would have us look at the

those other prophecies in the Bible? Why, brethren, I have gone over them, taking the second chapter of Daniel, and have worked my way down through every specification, and traced the lines in revelation down to the specification that "in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed." And there I stand. I cannot go back of it.

Then I take the seventh chapter of Daniel, and I trace my way down without any mistake to 1798, and there I read, "The kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High." And there is nothing after that. I thank God there is not. Yes, I glory this morning in the great fact that this brings us to the end. Then on and on, through all eternity, the saints of the Most High will possess the kingdom.

I take the eighth chapter of Daniel, — that long line of prophecy beginning back more than four hundred

tion. I come to this great chain of prophecy recorded in the fourteenth chapter,— the threefold message. I have already quoted the first call, and as we go on to the climax of that message, we find it to be this:

"I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle."

This is the climax of the threefold message. Brethren, I can reach no other conclusion than that that message is to close with the glorious coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

I do not understand that there will be any break between the proclamation of the message and the end. The message reaches down to the end. Why, this message means that the day of his preparation is at hand. This message is the call, "Come, for all things are now ready." And this message will go on, growing stronger and brighter until it is finished, then Christ will come. Brethren, is that the truth? Where else can we stand if we accept the Scriptures at all?

How many times the question has come up,—or used to,—Do you not think that you may be mistaken? Why, think of what it is to be right on such a question! And so I would ponder it over, and then I would go back and look at the bulwarks again, and every time I would have to put my foot down hard and solid and say, Yes, this is the truth of the living God, and it is right, and I am right theoretically.

But, my friends, such questions do not come to me these days. I have a settled conviction that this thing is the truth of God, and that it will triumph. I don't want to be bothered with doubts and questions and with fears and tremblings. Those things sap one's courage.

Our Responsibilities to the World

But with this message there comes the tremendous responsibility of its proclamation to the world, and the

motives, all other achievements in the world.

When we take hold of God's work, and do our part to the extent that we can honestly look up into his face and say, "Lord, I have finished the work thou gavest me to do, I have glorified thee on the earth," we have reached the highest achievement possible in human life and effort.

Sharers in the Work

Brethren, every man today has his work given him. It may be large, or it may be small, it does not matter; that is God's affair, whether it is large or small; it may be with five talents, or it may be with one. But God will be just as pleased with the completion of one-talent service as with the five-talent service. And you, sister, sitting down in that seat, can reap just as great comfort and joy and hope this morning as I can standing here on this platform addressing you.

"You said that every Christian should be doing something every day to advance the cause, and to win souls."

"Yes, but what is the matter with that? Is that not true?"

"Oh, yes," she said, "and that is what discourages me. I know it is so, and it has overwhelmed me."

"But why?" I said.

"Just because I cannot do anything to advance the cause, I cannot do anything to win souls."

It finally developed, as I inquired about her life and her home, and her opportunities and associations, that she had a son in the mission field.

"Well," I said, "what country is he in?"

"In Korea."

"And he is a Seventh-day Adventist?"

"Yes."

I began to get very much interested.



NORTHERN LATIN AMERICAN MISSIONS REPRESENTATIVES

Top row (left to right): Henry Brown, J. B. Stuyvesant, G. W. Caviness, William Steele, R. W. Parmele, Isaac Baker, John Brown, E. W. Thurber, J. A. P. Green, Karl Snow, Mrs. Snow. Lower row: Mrs. J. B. Stuyvesant, Mrs. G. W. Caviness, Mrs. R. W. Parmele, Mrs. John Brown, Mrs. J. A. P. Green and daughter, Mrs. F. G. Lane, Miss Lane.

finishing of the gospel work in the world. I understand that this is the work that this denomination faces. We are a peculiar people. We have a peculiar message. We face a peculiar situation. No people living before our day were ever called to just such a work.

The prophets were called to proclaim God's truth, and they did it. Jesus came with a definite work to do, and he did it, and said to his Father, "I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do." Oh, what a splendid experience that must have been! How good that he could look up into the face of his Father, knowing his divine perfection, and say to him, like a son to his father, "I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do"! "I have glorified thee on the earth." From that I gather, brethren, that when a man takes hold with God to do his work, and finishes that which is assigned to him, he glorifies God in the earth. That is the highest purpose for which any one can live. It transcends all other purposes, all other

The number of talents does not matter, it is the faithfulness with which we use the talents God has given us that will glorify him, and that will give us joy and reward.

One time I was at the southern Illinois camp-meeting. My first study was on the service that every Christian should render in soul-winning for Christ. When I had finished, and had shaken hands with a number of the brethren and sisters, I started down the aisle to dinner. An old lady sat on a bench alone. She seemed depressed. I hurried on to get my dinner, but came back, and slipped up among the seats, and said to her:

"Sister, you seem to have it all to yourself."

It startled her, and she looked up, and said, "Yes."

I said, "I hope you are not discouraged."

"Yes, Brother Daniells, that is exactly what is the matter with me."

I replied, "I am sorry. What is the trouble?"

because I knew every missionary in Korea. And so I said, "What is his name?"

She told me his name.

"Oh, he is your son?"

"Yes; when I embraced this message, I gave him to God; I put him on the altar, and I have prayed all his life that God would take him and use him."

"Then you must be a partner with him in his work. With all that, you are sitting here this morning disconsolate, discouraged, with great tears in your eyes, because you cannot do anything to win souls! O sister," I said, "look up. Take courage. Let me give you this assurance, that you are a partner indeed with your boy over there; that you are a sharer with him in the sowing, and you will be a sharer with him in the reward that will come."

She said, "O Brother Daniells, do you really think so?"

I said, "I know it. Our God is that kind. Don't think now that after you have given birth to that lad, and have

given him to God, and have prayed for him all his life, and he has gone from your home, and you have been called to be separated from him for the good he could do over there,—don't think for a moment God is going to overlook that now. He sees it all; and I fully believe that when the Lord calls him up to the crystal sea, and he calls those Koreans, those whom your boy has won to Christ, you will stand by him, you will be one of the company."

Well, the poor woman brushed the tears away, and said, "Brother Daniels, if I could believe that, I should be happy the rest of my life."

I said, "You believe it, and keep happy."

Brethren, that is God's way of dealing with us poor, weak, humble people. He does not overlook the service that is rendered in any form,—service that is rendered from pure motives, with sincerity of heart, with a desire to cooperate with God in finishing his work.

Again I say, It is not the multitudes of India that is the problem with our God; it is not the high walls that trouble him; it is not the giants of Anak that trouble God. The great problem with God is to have his way with his people, with you and with me.

The Finishing of the Work

We have come to the hour when this denomination should deal with this question of finishing God's work with a greater seriousness than we have ever dealt with it before. Every condition in the world calls for that. The situation we face; the conditions that are coming upon us like a tornado, demand that we as his people rise to the full heights of his purpose for the finishing of his work.

Brethren, the sands of the hour-glass are nearly gone. We are in the time of the end. We have been seventy-four years in the hour of God's judgment. At the very least calculation seventy-four years of this generation have passed away, bringing us that much nearer to the time when all these things shall be fulfilled. Is not that so? If it is not, what shall we do with the Word? Oh, we shall have to drop it, we shall have to lose our hope, we shall have to go mourning the rest of our lives, if we cannot rely upon this Book, this Word of God.

That is where we are, brethren. It is perfectly plain that many decades cannot come yet, isn't it? O, I am glad to find a pretty solid conviction taking hold of a good many, that we are very close to the end. I have sym-

pathized with a great many who have thought perhaps this might be the last General Conference that we should ever hold. I do not say it will be; but many have wondered if this might be so. And why?—Because of their faith in the immutability of this message. Some believe that this is the time to do our last work in the world.

With these considerations before us, I close with this main issue—the preparation necessary to finish the work, and the equipment required. We might spend hours on that. We could suggest conditions that are nec-

If I were to take an expression here, I should find hundreds in this audience who found their way into the light through that message-filled literature.

Then we need organization, that everything may proceed without confusion, in proper order; that we shall be so joined together the wide world over—that we shall be so associated—that we can work together without confusion, without loss of energy, without loss of time or anything of that sort, and be able so to arrange matters that every one can work with his talent, whatever it may be, and wherever he may be situated.

I believe that God aims to have his people so organized, and his work so planned, that all over the wide world, people of every color, every language, great or small, can each contribute their all efficiently for the finishing of the work of God. That comes through a perfect organization. If a man can preach, there is a place; if a man can teach, there is an opportunity; if he can render medical service, there is an opening; if he can distribute literature, there is a great field; if he can speak to his neighbor, he has something to aid him in his speech; if he can do no more, he can pray on his sickbed or in his closet for the triumph of the work of God. God has given us all a part.

Spiritual Equipment the Essential

And so we might go on speaking of these various facilities that have been given us; yet I do not believe that any one of these material facilities is the essential thing. All of them put together must fail without one other vital, essential thing, and what is that?—The spir-

itual equipment to use all these material facilities. That is the thing that bulks largest in this whole problem before us. We know this by a number of facts.

First of all, the Saviour, when he was about to leave the earth, turned over to his apostles,—and we may apply it to ourselves,—his work in the earth. He would not again be the visible Leader of that work among men. His disciples, his people, his church, would be the visible instruments in carrying on the work of God, and the forces of power and of righteousness and of good would all be back of them, and be seen only as they were revealed through those men.

When Jesus was about to do that, upon what did he place chief empha-



GEORGE B. THOMPSON

Field Secretary for the General Conference.

essary for the finishing of the work. One thing is a great, clear, clean-cut message for the world. Thank God, we have it! Another thing is a literature explaining that message, making it clear and plain—a message-filled literature to put into the hands of the teeming millions. Thank God, we have that.

Away back when the message started, the burden was laid upon the hearts of men to prepare literature, and they did it; and what a service those men have rendered the human race! How many millions of pages of that message-filled literature have gone into the homes of humanity, and how many thousands and tens of thousands have taken that as a thread that has led them out of the dark labyrinths in which they were wandering!

sis, brethren? He placed emphasis upon only one thing, and what was that? He said:

"Behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high."

Now that is the thing that he emphasized; that was the all-important thing with Christ when he was handing over his work to his church. And then just a little later, perhaps on the same occasion, we have this:

"And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1: 4, 5, 8.

That was the program; they were to proclaim the message to the uttermost parts of the earth. The work was urgent; people were dying. Yet there was one thing more urgent and more necessary, and that was that his messengers should be equipped to give the message.

I believe that that instruction applies today with all the force that it has ever applied in the history of the church of Christ. That is the vital thing for every man to ponder. We shall never have the power to finish this work of God without it. You may look at our colleges, you may look at our well-equipped sanitariums, you may look at our splendid organization; you may count our means.

There is no power in any of these things to finish the work of God among men. The power to use them must come from God. We may go through the form; we may turn the crank; we may have our program in the home field and in the mission fields; we may pass our resolutions; we may fix up our plans, but they will prove abortive in the accomplishing of the great objective we have before us, unless the Spirit of Almighty God is in the wheels.

The power of God awaits our reception; it awaits our urgent plea. This promised blessing, claimed by faith, brings all other blessings in its train. It is given according to the riches of the grace of Christ, and he is ready to supply every soul according to the capacity to receive.

These are messages that do not miss the way; they point out the path clearly. Are we ready to comply with the conditions? Are we ready for what God is ready to bestow? I pray that that same divine Spirit will work on our hearts and make them ready, make them willing, to pay the price necessary to receive this gift. But the price is not in money; we cannot buy it. Brethren, the price is in the surrender of the life to God. Are we ready here now, facing a world that is heartbroken? are we ready to pray this prayer?—

"Then, Lord, here is my money, the money thou hast intrusted to me, little or much, a hundred dollars or a hundred cents, the amount does not matter, it is what God has given. Lord, here is my money; now call for it; I hold my hand open. Here is the altar; tell me when to put my money on it, and how much at a time. Just help me; for, Lord, I want thy cause to have it all at the right time, and be sure to have it all before the work is finished."

When we give up our minds, our bodies, our time, our money, absolutely to God, we are in a position to be baptized with the Holy Spirit. He has said, "Ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." It is my fervent desire and earnest prayer that that baptism shall come to us during this Conference. [Voices: "Amen!"]

I have been very much perturbed about this great city and the conditions here, and how we should get on as a people; but I will tell you that I have settled it that right here, with the influences and with all the attractions about us, we must stem the current, and find our way to the throne of God, and get the help we personally need. It came to me, Why there are brethren who have to live here all the time. There are preachers that have to go into these great cities, and why can we not right here press together and toward the throne, and receive in our upper chamber the help that we need to go forth for the speedy finishing of the work of God?

If we do not get help, we shall be greatly disappointed. Shall we now, here this morning, join in

offering up ourselves unreservedly to God? Do you know of anything that stands between you and God? Do you think of one thing that is a hindrance, and can you let it stand? Will you not say from the depths of your heart, "Lord, take that thing — take it from me, and remove the last obstruction"? God give us the grace and the heart and the earnestness to do it for his name's sake!

"I KNOW that, whatever of sorrow
Or pain or temptation befall,
The infinite Master has suffered,
And knoweth and pitieth all.
So tell me the sweet old story,
That falls on each wound like a balm,
And my heart that was bruised and broken
Shall grow patient and strong and
calm."



WILLIAM W. PRESCOTT
Field Secretary for the General Conference.

"Lord, I have had my way too much, and too long. Your way is the right way; it is best; and now help me to surrender. Help me to give up my mind to be cleansed from all sin, all selfishness.

"Lord, here is my body: I surrender that; place it where thou wilt,— in the homeland, in the foreign land, in this State or in that State — anywhere. Lord, take me, and use my eyes, my lips, my hands, my feet, for service, for the finishing of thy work.

"Then, Lord, here is my time, every day, twenty-four hours, take that, just as many hours as I can stay awake and serve; take that service; and when I must rest, give me refreshing that I may come forth in the morning thoroughly equipped for another busy day.

General Conference Proceedings

Thirty-ninth Session

NINTH MEETING

April 4, 8 P. M.

THE ninth meeting of the General Conference was called at 8 P. M., April 4, with J. E. Fulton in the chair.

The Conference was led in prayer by Elder George F. Enoch, of India.

The India Union Mission

The Chairman called upon W. W. Fletcher, superintendent of the India Union Mission, to report for that field.

By request, our brother laid aside his written report, and talked about India, and related experiences. (Some of these experiences will be given to our readers later.)

C. H. Watson, president of the Australasian Union, also presented his report at this meeting. (Some of the interesting experiences he related we shall be glad to print later.)

After hearing these reports the meeting was adjourned.

J. E. FULTON, *Chairman.*
W. A. SPICER, *Secretary.*

TENTH MEETING

April 5, 10:30 A. M.

THE tenth meeting of the General Conference was called at 10:30 A. M., April 5, with J. E. Fulton in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Elder A. E. Place.

The Chairman then called for the report of the Missionary Volunteer Department, which was presented by the secretary, M. E. Kern. The report was as follows:

REPORT OF GENERAL CONFERENCE MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT

General Statement

THE leaders of the Advent Movement have always been deeply interested in the salvation of the youth. Many of the pioneers were themselves young people, and stand forth as noble examples, to the young men and women of today, of what God can do through young people who are consecrated to his service.

As the message extended and the number of young people increased, the Lord's messenger called our attention to the need of more earnest and compassionate work for our children and youth, and reminded us that these young people constitute an army with great possibilities for missionary conquest.

Twenty-six years ago these messages began to come, calling for the organization for service of the younger members of the Lord's family.

"Young men and young women, cannot you form companies, and, as soldiers of Christ, enlist in the work, putting all your tact and skill and talent into the Master's service, that you may save souls from ruin? Let there be companies organized in every church to do this work. We want our children to act a part in well-organized plans for helping other youth. Let all be so trained that they may rightly represent the truth, giving the reason of the hope that is within them, and honoring God in any branch of the work where they are qualified to labor."

Here and there in churches and local con-

Department was organized. Denominational leaders entertained the highest hopes that this step would result in the doing of great things for and by our youth. And while not all has been accomplished that might and should have been done, we should be remiss in our duty did we not render praise to God for the advancement made during these ten years. There has not been the mighty forward movement that we all would have been glad to see, but we are thankful that there has been no reactionary movement. While the part our young people are to act in giving the advent message is spoken of in very strong terms in the Spirit of prophecy, we have never felt that this Missionary Volunteer work is the all-important thing or that the young people alone would finish the work. But we have been grateful to God that he gives even the children a part to act in his great work, and that in doing their part the youth develop spiritual strength for future and greater service.

The development of this work has not been without perplexities and hindrances. This department has as its constituency children and young people who have a natural tendency to instability and vacillation. Besides this, there is no material thing to hold a society together — nothing to rally around, such as a church school building or something that represents a money investment. It is not felt that the good name of the cause is at stake in dropping a society, as it would be if a church organization were allowed to lapse. It is easy for young people, with all the natural tendencies of the human heart and surrounded by worldly attractions, to lose interest in soul-winning activities. And it is easy for us who are older, sad to say, to go on quite contented whether or not the youth are receiving the uplift and training that comes from a well-organized Missionary Volunteer Society.

The only sure foundation for the young people's work is the unflagging interest of the older members of the church in the children and youth, and the persevering prayers of a nucleus of young people. Successful Missionary Volunteer Societies are born and nourished by prayer.

The Morning Watch

The work of our young people has steadily advanced from the day it was organized. We shall not burden you with statistics, but simply call your attention to a few salient facts that indicate the growth of the work.

We have endeavored to emphasize a change of heart and the reception of the Holy Spirit as fundamental in all our efforts for the youth. Foremost among our devotional plans is the Morning Watch. The distribution of the little Morning Watch Calendar is, we trust, a fair index to the growth of the prayer habit. The calendar sales year by year have been as follows:

Year	No. copies	Year	No. copies
1908.....	6,200	1913.....	33,320
1909.....	14,720	1914.....	64,600
1910.....	17,731	1915.....	48,250
1911.....	22,275	1916.....	46,000
1912.....	25,300	1917.....	71,745

JOHN L. SHAW
Associate Secretary for the General Conference.

ferences, efforts were made to follow this instruction. As I have heard of the blessings of these early societies, and what a molding and holding influence they exercised on the young people, I have been led to think of what the results might have been if the denomination had made a quick response to the call to organize its youth. From the children and young people of twenty-six years ago have come the faithful burden bearers and tried workers of today. How sad to realize that "much has been lost by lack of attention to the young."

Sixteen years ago the General Conference provided for a young people's organization. The Sabbath School Department, which has done so much through the years to instruct and fix the ideals of our people, took up this work of organizing the children and young people for service. From only a small beginning the work was developed into a well-organized department, with a regular reporting system.

Ten years ago the Missionary Volunteer

The Morning Watch idea has gone around the world. Other English editions of the calendar have been published in Australia and England, and it has been published in seven other languages.

Standard of Attainment

In one of those early messages quoted, reference is made to the desirability that all our young people be able to give a reason for their hope. So we have the Standard of Attainment, which indicates a degree of proficiency in Bible doctrines and denominational history which all our young people are asked to reach.

As we have studied the cosmopolitan nature of our work, we have felt that this is one feature that can be made the same throughout the world, so the General Conference Committee has asked the department to adopt a uniform plan for the Standard of Attainment in all conferences and mission fields. Whether it be an American girl or a boy from Battakland who receives the Certificate of Attainment, it will be a General Conference certificate, and will indicate about the same proficiency of knowledge in these great fundamentals. The Certificates of Attainment, we trust, will be so many links to bind our Adventist youth together all around the world.

Missionary Endeavor

It is interesting to note that the average size of our Missionary Volunteer Societies has been just about the same all along, about nineteen members to the society. The growth in work done is not due merely to a growth in the number of members, but there has been a steady increase in the amount of missionary work done per capita. For instance, the average amount of personal work done during the last four years by each individual is five times the average amount done during the first six years; the number of periodicals distributed is four times as great for each individual; and the money given to foreign missions is ten times as much.

Results of This Work

All this has not only brought good results in the giving of the message and in the salvation of souls, but the agitation and the efforts put forth have created a tremendous impression among our young people that it is the duty of every Christian youth to be about his Father's business. One young person writes:

"Until taking up the Missionary Volunteer work, I little realized the work there is for us as Volunteers to do. Through this department I have received an inspiration to become a soul-winner."

A young Hindu, returning to our training school in India after vacation, thanks God that he was able to catch one soul. A union conference president says:

"Not only has the Missionary Volunteer Department enabled us to answer more of the ever-increasing mission calls, but the young people in all our schools and churches have a growing appreciation of their own responsibilities as Seventh-day Adventists. The conviction that God can use our young people, and has a place for them in the work, and is depending upon them for the finishing of the work, is having a leavening spiritual influence upon all our people."

Europe and Africa

It is impossible to present a complete report of our work for the whole world, on account of the war and other conditions. There are large sections not represented in these figures.

Before the war the European division reported 154 societies, with a membership of almost 3,000. But in 1916 the president of the division wrote:

"At the present our work must be entirely suggestive and prospective. We receive excellent letters in which we are told that as soon as the struggle is over, the young people will more than ever fully give themselves to the cause of the Lord. We have also wonderful experiences with some of our youth, showing how God is watching over them in the most trying times, and preserving them for future usefulness."

In Great Britain, even in the midst of the war, the work is advancing. W. E. Read, the secretary, writes:

"It is encouraging to note the increase in the number of societies and also in the membership during the last year. At the close of 1916 we reported 29 societies, but at the end of 1917 the number had increased to 36. The membership likewise showed a good substantial gain. At the end of 1916 the number reported was 418, but at the close of last year the figures stood at 537."

A Missionary Volunteer goal has been set for the union, and the prospects are very encouraging.

The young people of Scandinavia have not been idle. Along with other activities, they have supported a young missionary in Lapland.

In South Africa added attention has been given to the development of the young people as workers in the churches, with very gratifying results. Missionary Volunteer Societies have been organized at the mission stations. The Missionary Volunteer Society at our old Solusi station stands alone, perhaps, in having every member a reporting member, and a Standard of Attainment class with a larger membership than the society.

The West Indies and the North Latin Field

All through the fields there is a stir among the youth. In the North Latin mission fields a deep interest in the Missionary Volunteer plans is manifested by some of the workers, even to the point of translating into Spanish the helps for programs and the Standard of Attainment.

The story is told of a faithful Missionary Volunteer heroine in Haiti, only fifteen years old, who more than once walked to the mission office, a distance of seventy-five miles, to bring the Missionary Volunteer report, and that in a time of revolution.

Stories like this from the South Caribbean Conference, come from all parts of the field:

"In former years we used only about 400 Morning Watch Calendars. This year we used more than 800."

South America

More than a year ago the General Conference sent Prof. C. P. Crager to the Austral Union in South America to take charge of the educational and Missionary Volunteer work. The committee also made a small appropriation of money to start the Missionary Volunteer work in that field. A beginning has been made in publishing some helps in Spanish for the departmental work, and the work is getting a firm foothold, although there are few statistics as yet to show the results. Professor Crager writes of the hearty response on the part of the young people in taking the Reading Course, Bible Year, Morning Watch, and in missionary activities. Earnest efforts in the field will be necessary, he says, to develop the work.

The conference officials of that field, realizing the absolute necessity for developing the youth if the cause is to move forward, are giving serious attention to the Missionary Volunteer department. The president of the Argentine Conference writes:

"Looking over the church records, we have been trying to work up a list of our young people, and we find that we have in

the Argentine Conference very nearly 200 young people. It will require much patience and diligence to lead them on in the regular organized line of young people's work. However, we are organizing some strong societies; and though in the past we have not gained the full co-operation of the churches, at the present time we can see improvements in this direction. In all our church officers' meetings we have very carefully studied this question, and many who have taken strong positions have confessed that they had been hindering the young people in their work."

The Asiatic Division

We have long been accustomed to good Missionary Volunteer reports from Australia. The young people's work is a great strength to the cause in that field, in doing home missionary work, supplying funds, and contributing workers. The Australasian Union Conference, with 148 churches and a church membership of less than 6,000, has 120 Missionary Volunteer Societies, with a membership of more than 3,000. This represents an associate membership, which we do not have in the North American Division, but the results seen in Australia indicate that the conference leaders have this work for the youth upon their hearts, and have provided efficient and continuous leadership for its Missionary Volunteer department.

Aside from the societies in Australia, which include two societies among the Aborigines, there are now societies in the Cook Islands, Fiji, Friendly Islands, Norfolk Island, and Society Islands.

During 1917 the Missionary Volunteers of Australia raised more than \$10,000 for the purchase of the mission schooner "Melanesia," to be used in the island work. Part of this fund was raised by the sale of a large part of an edition of 20,000 Morning Watch Calendars to persons not of our faith. As showing the determination of the children to buy this boat, the West Australian Missionary Volunteer secretary wrote:

"Some of our children and young people who live away out in the country do not have much chance to earn money, and it is really wonderful the amounts they manage to get together for mission work. One little girl earns her money by catching mice. The mice have been very bad in the country this year, owing to such an amount of wheat being around, and this little girl receives one penny per head for all she can catch. Two other little girls save all the newspapers that come into the house, and sell them to the butcher in the town ten miles away for one penny per pound. Others have different ways and means of earning their money."

No wonder Elder F. Knight, the union secretary, could write:

"As the reports come in each quarter, we find that the missionary work in many branches has been doubled, and that the state secretaries are very much encouraged at having good success with their individual members."

The work in most other parts of the Asiatic Division is not so well developed as in Australia, but efforts are being put forth that give promise for the future. More than a year ago Prof. S. L. Frost was sent over to act as educational and Missionary Volunteer secretary for the division, and an earnest effort is being made to put the work on a solid footing.

If much has been lost in the homeland for lack of attention to the young people, surely we must not for the same reason suffer such losses in these great fields where the work has been built up at such great cost. How important that our missionaries understand the absolute necessity of giving special attention to the development of the children and youth as workers in the

companies and churches where they are! How important that this Conference recognize the necessity of furnishing adequate leadership for this important work!

The superintendent of the Malaysian Union Conference voiced the sentiments of other leaders in this great field, I am sure, when he said:

"It is to the young that we must look for new recruits all the time. This is true in the mission field as well as at home, and we are finding that our young people are our greatest asset. . . . We should hold up before them the value of their powers, and should try earnestly to steer each one to just the place where he may do the best service. I have always been interested in the young people, but can see more than ever the need of carefully looking after each one, and trying to help each one to become a power for good in connection with our work."

This appreciation of the needs on the part of our Asiatic Division leaders, and their willingness to sacrifice that the young people may be built up, is reflected in this word from the superintendent of the Japan Conference, who for a time wrote out lessons for the Japanese Missionary Volunteer Societies:

"I have not been able to continue getting out the studies for the society meetings. If I had a translator or some help for writing and running off the lessons on the manifold, I could perhaps manage, but no help is provided for this. I should like to finish the 'Mission Outline' studies this year, and begin next year with studies on doctrines and denominational history, with the idea of developing the Standard of Attainment; but when this all has to be written out by hand, it seems like a stupendous undertaking, together with my other work. I have also given considerable thought to the question of selecting some books for a reading course."

Such calls for help ought to be filled, brethren and sisters. In one instance at least, in the Far East, complaint has been made by other societies that we do not properly look after our converts. However that may be, we should strive to meet the mind of God in looking after all those who come to our light, and especially to lay hold upon the youth, to train them for service where they are, and to give many a special training in our schools.



LOUIS H. CHRISTIAN

Secretary North American Foreign Department.

We ought to send men out to these great fields to do this work who have had some experience in Missionary Volunteer work at home, or who at least have given some thought to it,—men who understand the problems, and will address themselves to the task with vigor. One such young man, who now has charge of the Missionary Volunteer work in the Philippine Islands, wrote:

"A month ago I organized a society with more than fifty members, and we have been holding meetings every Sabbath afternoon. I wish you could see our young people here. They are as bright, interesting, good-looking, and lovable as you can find anywhere. I believe that if their efforts are wisely directed, they will be a great power for good. I am gradually introducing the various features of the Missionary Volunteer work. We are going to have several bands. We have already begun the Morning Watch, and the first of the year we shall begin reading the Bible through. Next month I am to have a series of studies on the history of our denomination. Very soon I expect to start the King's Pocket League. Our young people are very enthusiastic, and I hope really to do things with them."

I could quote other letters like this, and some not so hopeful, from men who see the great need and feel the burden, but can do little because of other duties.

Response of the Young People in Mission Lands

Do the young people of the Far East respond to efforts in their behalf? Can the plans worked out in the home field during these sixteen years be adapted to the young people of the mission field? To both these questions we answer, Yes. A Singapore boy, Tan Sim Hong, wrote to me:

"Though with the little knowledge of English at my command, I am thankful that I can take part in the efforts of the Missionary Volunteer Society, and do a little work for the Master. Our society has indeed done a lot of good to its young people by uniting them together for Christian work."

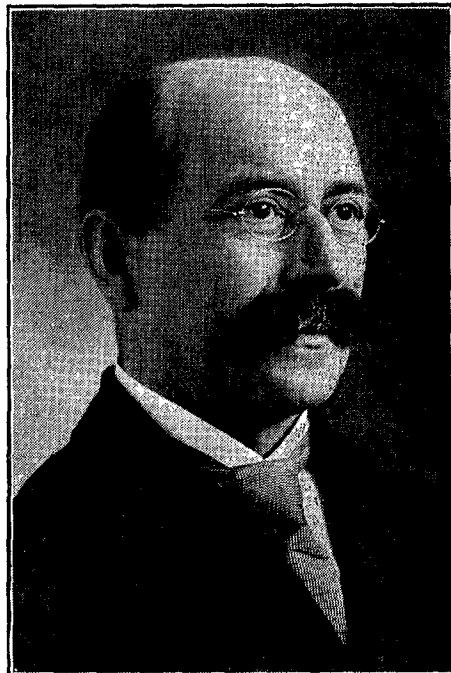
Since that letter was written, three Missionary Volunteer Societies have been organized at Singapore, instead of one: a good-sized English society, a church society of 33 members, and a Malay society of 17—the first Malay Missionary Volunteer Society in the world, I think.

These young people, so recently redeemed from darkness, when they are given good leadership, do not come behind our American youth in any way. Indeed, it has seemed to me sometimes that they show more fully their appreciation of the truth by their zeal in giving it to others.

Brother Frost writes of the society in connection with our training school in China, —how, after their meeting on Sabbath afternoon, they go out in six bands, preaching in the villages and distributing literature. In one day twenty-five or thirty short sermons are preached and many silent messengers put into the hands of those who can read.

The same kind of reports come from India, the Gibraltar of heathenism. The secretary of the Missionary Volunteer Society at Coimbatore, south India, writes:

"Usually once a month we go to different villages round about this place, and after preaching the blessed gospel to them, we sell gospel portions. Some time ago we felt that we ought to present the gospel oftener than we had hitherto done, and therefore we formed a missionary band to visit the town every week for this purpose. We are having varied and interesting experiences. The girls are not behind in this kind of work. At first they thought that they would not be able to go out and preach and sell the literature as the boys did, and so they sat in their home and made handkerchiefs, ties, etc., and sold these to the



JULIUS T. BOETTCHER

An Assistant Secretary of the North American Foreign Department.

boys, and with the money realized they purchased tracts and papers, and gave these to the boys to be distributed freely in the town. God blessed them in a way least expected by them. They got bolder, and instead of giving the literature to the boys to be distributed as they had been doing, they took the tracts themselves and went and distributed them, and stood before crowds of people and sang songs and told them about the love of our Saviour. They have gone out like this about ten times, and have proved that the young Indian woman, too, can do something for the love of her Saviour. As three languages—Tamil, Telugu, and Malayalam—are represented in our school, when we go out we preach in these three languages, as we find occasion."

The Need

Thus we might go on giving illustrations of what can be done for and by the Adventist youth the world around. The great need is leadership. Surely it would be a wise policy to take adequate measures to enroll and train for service every youth in all the world who accepts the advent message, both for his own sake and because the young people of today are the leaders of tomorrow.

We do not come at this time with a long list of recommendations. The great principles of the Missionary Volunteer Department have been firmly fixed, and have proved effective. What is needed is their universal application.

M. E. KERN, Secretary.

Following this, Prof. C. C. Lewis, principal of the Fireside Correspondence School, presented his report (to appear later).

Following this, H. E. Rogers, statistical secretary, presented a report treating of the languages in which we are doing work. (This very interesting table, with the explanatory statement, will appear in the Review later.)

In addition, Brother Rogers gave the following interesting totals for the year 1916, which will be included in a future general report:

Membership, 141,488, in 92 countries; comprising 243 conferences and mission fields; operating 149 institutions; employing



PETER E. BRODERSEN

An Assistant Secretary of the North American Foreign Department.

in all — both conferences and institutions — 10,149 laborers, speaking over 123 languages; issuing denominational literature in 94 languages and dialects. The contributions for the sixteen years from 1901 to 1916 totaled \$31,904,908.99, or 8.74 per cent of all the contributions raised since the organization of this work. For the previous thirty-seven years, from 1863 to 1900, the total contributions were \$7,128,775.72, or 18.26 per cent of the grand total.

The total valuation of conference and institutional property in North America is \$10,219,205.09; outside this country, \$5,065,010.18, or a total of \$15,284,215.27. Of this amount the investment in evangelistic lines of work is \$7,219,740.31; in institutional lines, \$8,064,474.96.

Meeting adjourned, with benediction by Elder S. N. Haskell.

J. E. FULTON, *Chairman*.
W. A. SPICER, *Secretary*.

ELEVENTH MEETING

April 7, 10:30 A. M.

THE eleventh meeting of the Conference was called at 10:30 A. M., April 7, with O. Montgomery in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Elder I. H. Evans.

The Chairman called upon the president of the British Union Conference, M. N. Campbell, to present his report.

Speaking of the effect of the war upon our work in Great Britain, Brother Campbell said:

"At present we find it very difficult to hold evening services of a continuous character in the district affected by air raids, as the meetings are broken up so frequently by these hostile attacks. Twenty minutes before air raiders attack, a warning is given, and all assemblies must dissolve and the people seek shelter. In other sections of the field there is no hindrance, and the people attend Adventist meetings in large numbers.

"There is a deep anxiety on the part of the people to hear expositions of prophecy. Spiritualism is making tremendous headway. The friends of slain soldiers are flocking to

spirit mediums to get in touch with the supposed spirits of their loved ones. These conditions show the need for the truth on the state of the dead, and open a wide avenue for us to reach the people.

"So far our ministers have been left free from the operation of the conscription act. Many of our churches, however, have lost their elders and deacons. The South England Conference has had a tenth of its membership taken by the military. Our force of canvassers has been depleted, and that department has to depend chiefly on women to carry it forward. The workmen in our printing plant and food factory, students of the college, of eighteen years or more, are gone. All males between eighteen and forty-one (and now fifty) are conscripted. In spite of these handicaps, our work is progressing in each department. The high price and scarcity of paper have given our publishing workers deep concern, but so far we have been able to secure all we needed."

Other features of the work in England will be given later. In closing, Brother Campbell emphasized the need of a church building in London, and asked for an appropriation from the General Conference for this purpose.

Following this report, Brother V. E. Toppenberg presented a report of the Victoria Nyanza Mission.

The Chairman called upon W. H. Anderson, of the South African Union Conference delegation, to speak for the South African mission work. Elder W. B. White, president of the union, had decided not to come to the Conference, feeling that his work required his attention in the field in these times. The South African Union had therefore appointed as their delegates, missionaries already in this country on furlough, with a request that Elder Anderson represent the president.

(Some of the interesting things told by Brother Anderson have already been printed in past reports from that field. Other experiences we shall present later.)

Following the African report, the meeting adjourned.

O. MONTGOMERY, *Chairman*.
W. A. SPICER, *Secretary*.

TWELFTH MEETING

April 8, 10:30 A. M.

THE twelfth meeting of the General Conference convened in the Auditorium at 10:30 A. M., April 8, with A. G. Daniells in the chair.

The Conference was led in prayer by Elder C. T. Everson.

At this point the Committee on Plans and Recommendations introduced a partial report, which was read by W. A. Westworth, the secretary, as follows:

PARTIAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. *Resolved*, That for the mercies of our heavenly Father, manifest in firmly establishing among men this soul-saving, three-fold message, in rapidly extending its work to most of the nations of the earth, in the great spiritual blessing bestowed upon its faithful believers in all lands, for their increased activity in all forms of personal missionary endeavor, for the rapid growth

of our church membership, for the increasingly liberal amount of money devoted to God for the advancement of his work throughout the world; and further, for the fact that during the present period of almost universal strife, which has involved in destructive warfare so much of the world's wealth and so many from the best of its manhood, resulting in conditions of wrong, doubt, and perplexity never before known, God has maintained among us a firm confidence in the purpose and justice of divine Providence, and has preserved to us so large a measure of life, liberty, and ability to serve humanity,—for these, and for all other blessings, we hereby express our heartfelt gratitude, and by God's grace we pledge our unstinted devotion and continued loyalty to his compelling calls for enlarged service.

In Memory of Fallen Workers

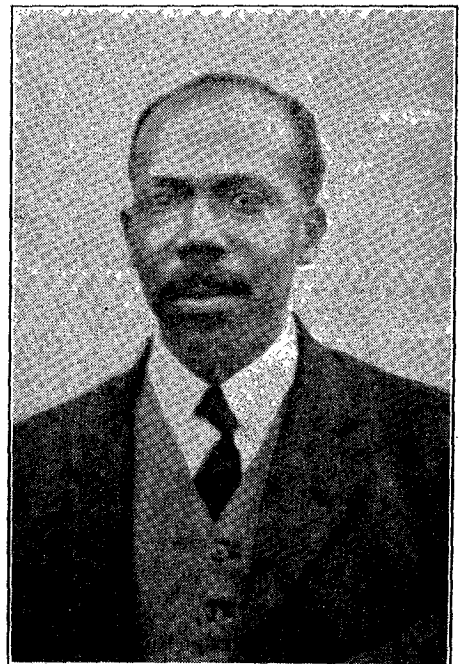
WHEREAS, Since our last Conference the hand of death has removed from us our beloved sister, E. G. White, a servant chosen by the Lord for a special work; our esteemed brother, Elder O. A. Olsen, who for years filled many of the highest positions of responsibility in our denomination; also, in a most sad and tragic manner, our esteemed fellow laborer, Homer R. Salisbury; and other consecrated workers and burden bearers in various parts of the world whom we cannot mention by name; and,

WHEREAS, There have thus been removed from our councils comrades in labor whose long experience, counsel, and mature judgment we greatly miss, and whose faithfulness, sterling integrity, spiritual power, and devotion have been an inspiration and guide to us in the trials and perplexities in past years; therefore,

2. *Resolved*, That while we bow in submission to the divine providence which has removed from us these faithful fellow laborers whom we greatly loved, we place on record our appreciation of their faithfulness to the cause of God, and strive to emulate the Christian example which they have left us; and that with sad yet hopeful hearts we press together and courageously fill up the vacancies left in the ranks where these true-hearted and loyal standard bearers fell.

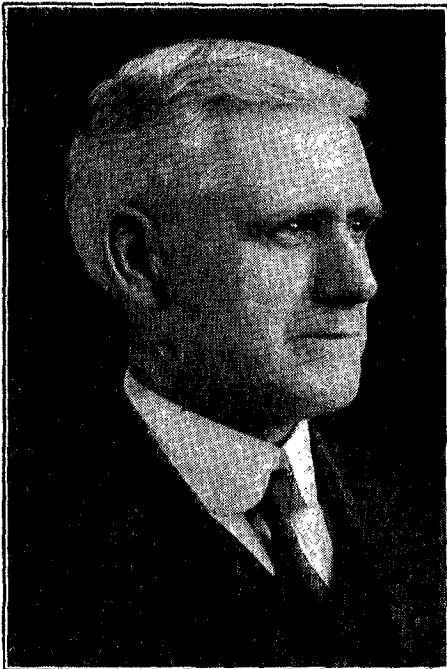
North Latin American Union Conference

WHEREAS, It is very desirable that all the Latin territories in the West Indian Union



W. H. GREEN

Secretary of the North American Negro Department.



FREDERICK W. PAAP
Assistant Secretary Home Missionary Department.

Conference and the Northern Latin American Missions be under one general supervision, on account of language and general conditions; therefore,

3. *Be it resolved, a.* That we request the West Indian Union Conference to relinquish the following fields: The West Caribbean Conference, Venezuela, Guadeloupe, and Martinique; and,

b. That these territories, with the Northern Latin American mission fields, be organized into a union conference, to be known as the North Latin American Union Conference.

c. That this union conference be supplied with strong departmental secretaries, in order that suitable help may be provided for all the fields—that each may be visited at least once annually.

Southern Junior College

WHEREAS, At the spring council of the North American Division Conference Executive Committee the following action was taken:

Voted, That we favor the raising of \$60,000 for construction work at the Southern Junior College, to be secured in the following manner:

a. The Southern and Southeastern Unions to raise \$20,000 for one of the three main buildings, and also to provide the auxiliary buildings and all other improvements.

b. That permission be given to these two unions to solicit, in the territory of the other unions of the North American Division—the Eastern Canadian Union excepted—from some person or persons, another \$20,000 for a memorial building.

c. That the unions of the North American Division—the Eastern Canadian, Southern, and Southeastern Unions excepted—raise \$20,000 for the remaining building, to be paid, one half by April 1, 1919, one fourth by July 1, 1919, and the final one fourth by Oct. 1, 1919." And,

WHEREAS, The representatives in attendance at the fall council held at Minneapolis, reaffirmed this action in the following terms:

We recommend, That the above plan be adhered to, and that the Standing Committee on Finance appointed at this council be requested to work out in detail the plans for the solicitation of all funds in territory

outside the Southeastern and Southern Union Conferences." And,

WHEREAS, The Southern Junior College is in great need of the facilities covered in these recommendations; and,

WHEREAS, The cost of building material and labor has greatly advanced since the above actions were taken; therefore,

4. *We recommend,* in reference to paragraph "c,"

a. That the amount specified be changed to read \$30,000 instead of \$20,000, and that all the union conferences concerned make an early effort to secure this amount.

b. That the amount thus called for (\$30,000) be apportioned to the specified unions as follows:

Atlantic Union	\$2,921.76
Central Union	3,737.26
Columbia Union	8,541.20
Lake Union	5,063.50
Northern Union	2,991.56
North Pacific Union	4,102.37
Pacific Union	4,944.49
Southwestern Union	1,737.80
Western Canadian Union	960.06

each union conference to be left free to adopt such measures for raising its amount as may seem best.

Enlargement of Oakwood School

WHEREAS, At the spring council held at Huntsville, Ala., in April, 1917, the following action was taken:

We recommend, a. That the educational standard of the Oakwood Manual Training School be raised to fourteen grades, and that it be known henceforth as the Oakwood Junior College.

b. That when funds are in hand, the Negro Department, under advice of the North American Division Conference Executive Committee, be hereby authorized to enlarge the facilities for educating our Negro young people, in such a way as the needs of this people can best be served.

c. That we approve of plans for extending the facilities of the school, that will not exceed a final cost of \$60,000, the colored people to raise \$10,000; and that these extended plans be carried out within a period of four years.

d. That we appropriate annually from one fourth to one half of the required amount, according to the needs of the situation, from such funds as may be in hand for the extension and completion of this work, it being understood, however, that this work is to proceed only as rapidly as the funds will permit, without the institutions incurring any indebtedness.

e. That in the annual collection for our colored people, we call for a specific donation of one dollar per member from the membership of the North American Division Conference, for the purpose of financing this work, and providing a fund for church extension work among the colored people." And,

WHEREAS, The representatives in attendance at the fall council held at Minneapolis reaffirmed this action in the following terms:

Voted, a. That the Negro Department be authorized to proceed to erect the first building—a dormitory for the boys—as soon as possible, and that if the recent collection proves to be insufficient to cover the expenses of this building, the Division Conference Committee be asked to provide the needed amount by a special appropriation or a second collection. It is estimated that the building will cost \$20,000.

b. That a sufficient amount be authorized to provide an adequate library for the Oakwood Junior College.

c. That representatives of the Negro Department be permitted to solicit funds in the division conference for the improvement of the Oakwood Junior College, after

making satisfactory arrangements with the conference officers." And,

WHEREAS, The offerings received from the special collection of Oct. 20, 1917, were altogether inadequate for the purpose designated;

5. *We recommend, a.* That Sabbath, Sept. 7, 1918, be set apart as a day upon which the great and pressing needs of our work among the colored people of the South shall be presented to the churches of the United States and Canada.

6. That this be preceded by an educational campaign through the REVIEW AND HERALD and all union conference papers, to inform our people of the urgent necessity of speedily supplying an efficient and well-equipped training school for colored workers in the South.

c. That each union conference be requested to set definitely before its constituency a goal of one dollar per member.

Special Increase of Mission Funds

WHEREAS, The General Conference has undertaken a volume of work for 1918 greatly in excess of its prospective income; and,

WHEREAS, Many requests for additional appropriations continue to be received from the fields;

6. *We recommend, a.* That the General Conference Committee, in harmony with the original provisions of the sustentation plan, be authorized to transfer from the Sustentation Fund to its foreign mission work such an amount as can be spared from its surplus without injury to the fund.

b. That all conferences in North America and Europe that are carrying surpluses larger than their immediate needs require, be requested to make liberal appropriations to the general treasury, in order that the pressing needs of our mission fields may be supplied.

Thirteenth Sabbath Offering — World-Wide Plan

WHEREAS, It has been abundantly demonstrated that uniformity of action and policy has, under the blessing of God, produced the best results in our denominational work, this being especially manifest in our Sabbath school work; and,

WHEREAS, The plan of the Sabbath School Department, designating a special field or enterprise as the object of the offering of



CLEMENT L. BENSON
Assistant Secretary Educational Department.

the Sabbath schools for each thirteenth Sabbath, has been enthusiastically received by our Sabbath schools, and has resulted in greatly augmented offerings; therefore,

7. *We recommend, a.* That our conference and mission fields throughout all the world adopt this plan, setting before their constituencies, as the object of their gifts, such missionary enterprises as shall be selected by the Sabbath School Department of the General Conference.

b. That all fields pay into the General Conference treasury the full amount of the gifts reported as the Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings.

Individual Support Not Best Mission Plan

WHEREAS, There has developed in recent years among some of the members of our North American constituency, a marked tendency to devote at least a portion of their offerings for foreign missions to the support of native workers, students in our mission schools, etc., requiring personal reports from or concerning the individuals thus supported; and,

WHEREAS, Experience has demonstrated that under existing conditions in our mission fields, in a large number of cases it is impossible to secure such reports with regularity or certainty, on account of the inability of the native worker to correspond in the English language; and,—

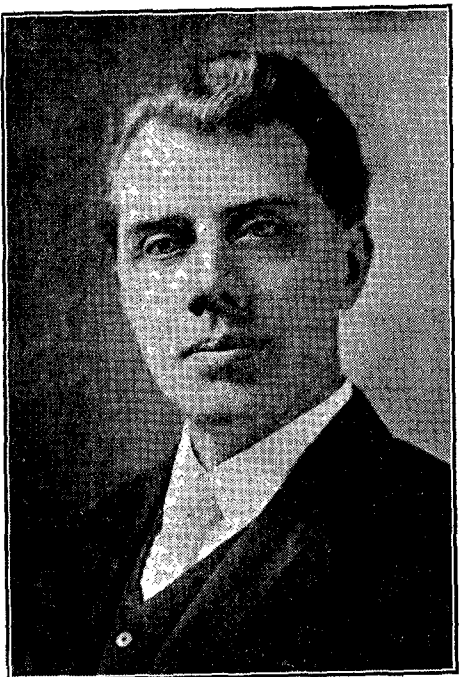
WHEREAS, The placing of this task of correspondence upon the foreign worker or superintendent of the field, who is already carrying work that taxes his energies to the limit, places a heavy additional burden upon him that he is unable to discharge satisfactorily, from lack of proper help and time; and,

WHEREAS, The General Conference is always willing and pleased to carry out to the fullest extent possible the wishes of our brethren concerning their offerings to foreign missions; therefore,

8. *We recommend,* That the disadvantage of this form of offerings be set before the people, with the suggestion that better results will accrue and less embarrassment and confusion result, if their offerings are bestowed in the regular way.

Ministerial Department

WHEREAS, The teaching of the Word is the principal agency in the proclamation of



HARRY W. MILLER, M. D.
Assistant Secretary Medical Department.

the gospel, and in this branch of our work there are a large number of laborers; and,

WHEREAS, They need instruction, assistance, and encouragement in working for development and efficiency in their work; and,

WHEREAS, In all other lines of gospel work, such as the educational, young people's, Sabbath school, and publishing, we have created departments which provide for the training of laborers in special lines; and,

WHEREAS, By conducting institutes and by continuous correspondence these departments have rendered material assistance in increasing the efficiency of such workers; and in order that the ministry may receive similar assistance; therefore,

9. *Resolved,* That there be, and hereby is, created, a Ministerial Department.

Training Helpers for Literature Work

WHEREAS, Our rapidly developing literature work is continually creating very urgent demands for field leaders, publishing house managers, secretary-treasurers, and editors in the mission fields, especially in the Far East; and,

WHEREAS, These workers must be secured largely here in the homeland; therefore,

10. *We recommend, a.* That each union conference in the United States take upon itself the definite responsibility of developing colporteur leaders for the mission fields, so as to be able, as called upon by the Publishing Department, to supply one or more qualified leaders each year.

b. That each of our publishing houses in the United States follow the policy of giving an all-round training in the publishing work to such young men as the Mission Board may call for to take charge of mission printing plants.

c. That each of our large publishing houses accept the responsibility of developing in their editorial departments, editors who may be called for by the Mission Board for editorial work in mission fields.

d. That the faculties of our colleges and academies encourage young people who show adaptability as editors, field missionary secretaries, publishing house managers, and secretary-treasurers, to prepare for these definite lines of responsibility.

e. That our three large publishing houses in the United States be invited to accept into their circulating departments young people who give promise of becoming successful office workers, with a view to giving them a special training as tract society secretaries.

Home Missionary Department

WHEREAS, The home missionary work is a distinct department, rather than a branch of the Publishing Department; therefore,

11. *We recommend,* That it be duly organized, and known as the Home Missionary Department, and that it be inserted in the list of duly organized departments in Article V, Section 2, of the General Conference Constitution.

Home Missionary Reports

WHEREAS, There are differences in the report blanks used in the reporting of the home missionary work in various countries;

12. *We recommend,* That as rapidly as possible a uniform system of reporting be brought into use in all parts of the world.

Harvest Ingathering for 1918

WHEREAS, The Harvest Ingathering campaign has proved a great blessing both in raising funds to help swell our gifts to missions, and at the same time in acquainting the public with the character and growth of this great world-wide movement,



WILLIAM W. EASTMAN
Assistant Secretary Publishing Department.

13. *Be it resolved, a.* That the month of October, 1918, be the time to open the campaign.

b. That our general goal be \$250,000.

c. That we ask our members to make their individual goal at least \$5.

d. That we aim to realize an average of twenty-five cents for each paper circulated.

Training of Nurses

Realizing the great need of trained nurses, both men and women, to meet the emergencies of the present conditions,

14. *We recommend, a.* That during the present crisis we encourage large numbers of young men and women to enter our nurses' training schools.

b. That our sanitariums provide suitable facilities to meet the need of this increased enrolment.

c. That we place the age limit of entrance for men at not less than eighteen nor more than forty, and that the educational requirements for entrance be ten grades of school work or its equivalent.

Realizing the great need of unity in the training of nurses, and improved methods of work throughout our institutions,

15. *We recommend,* That the Medical Department secure the services of a nurse of large experience in training-school work, to devote at least three months' time annually, making a tour of our sanitariums which have training schools, for the purpose of rendering assistance in unifying their curriculum and securing co-operation in carrying out the recommendations of the Medical Department.

WHEREAS, A limited amount of medical and surgical nursing is a necessity to the training of nurses;

16. *We recommend,* That institutions having a daily average of less than twenty-five patients, do not undertake to conduct a regular nurses' training school, except in needy fields and countries inaccessible to other training schools as a base of supplies.

DISCUSSION OF THE REPORT

Resolution 1 — Of Thanks

CHAIRMAN: You have heard this resolution. It isn't one, I am sure, that you care to discuss, though no doubt many would be glad to express words of approval concerning it.

Would you like, all of you, to express your approval by a standing vote? — It was so taken.

Resolution 2 — In Memoriam

CHAIRMAN: I believe that all who are gathered here would be glad to join in adopting this resolution also. All who desire to do so, please stand.

F. D. STARR: I wish to inquire if it would be proper to insert the name of Elder G. A. Irwin — if he could not be mentioned by name.

CHAIRMAN: I think, Brother Starr, we have on record action by the General Conference at the last session. His death, you know, occurred during the Conference, and the Conference put itself on record fully then. I wished to mention him as I did in my address to this Conference, however, because so many here were present on that occasion.

The resolution was adopted by standing, the entire congregation joining.

Resolution 3 — North Latin American Union

E. W. FARNSWORTH: I should like to inquire what geographical connection and what railroad connection there is between this territory and the territory lying south of it.

CHAIRMAN: You have asked a hard question. The relationship of the fields was pointed out on the map, with the acknowledgment that connections now are difficult. It is hoped that when the war closes, shipping connections will be resumed as in former times, when it will not be such an impractical proposition to get about.

VOICE: Could we have some explanation as to what would be left of the West Indian Union?

SECRETARY: The West Indian Union would then consist of Jamaica, with two thousand Seventh-day Adventist members; and the South Caribbean, with pretty nearly two thousand — about four thousand Seventh-day Adventists. The territory is scattered, and it is a very large administrative problem, looking after the interests of four thousand believers.

CHAIRMAN: Does that answer your question, Brother Farnsworth?

E. W. FARNSWORTH: Yes, but it does not solve the difficulty. I know by one visit to the field what tremendous difficulties there are in the way of getting the members together there, but perhaps it is the best that can be done.

G. G. ROTH: I should like to ask if Haiti will be included in that territory.

CHAIRMAN: Yes, sir.

The recommendation was voted.

Resolution 4 — Southern Junior College

ELDER DANIELLS: The next recommendation.

W. T. KNOX: This proposition is one that has been twice acted upon by the council of the North American Division Conference, — first, at the spring council held at Huntsville,

Ala., and later at the autumn council held at Minneapolis, Minn. The only suggestions in this resolution that change the former actions are these: First, that the amount that was to be raised by certain union conferences should be changed, on account of the marked increase in cost of material and labor, to \$30,000 instead of \$20,000; and, second, that the time of raising this money by the unions be advanced from 1919 to an early date, as early as possible in the present year, on account of the great need for this added building. Then a suggestion is made, definitely assigning to each union conference the amounts to be secured by it, these amounts being determined by the membership of the union concerned, at the end of the third quarter of 1917, leaving each union conference free to secure the money according to such method as may seem best.

A. R. OGDEN: If this recommendation is passed, will the management comply with the policy of this denomination, that is, proceed only as they are able to do with the cash, and without creating indebtedness?

W. H. BRANSON: (president South-eastern Union): The policy of this Conference is in harmony with the suggestion of the president of the Iowa Conference, and we are sticking to our policy. We have part of the lumber, we have the boys to put the lumber together, but we are not having the work done. When we can get the money to pay the bills, we will proceed with the construction.

The resolution was adopted.

Resolution 5 — Oakwood School

W. T. KNOX: Just a word in explanation. The case is very much the same as in the former resolution. This measure originated at the spring council at Huntsville, and was reconsidered again without material modification at the fall council. It was designed originally that one fourth of this amount (\$5,000) should be raised in each of the four years. We are in the second year, and have raised practically nothing. The collection for the colored work last year was very small, and the result is that we stand now at the beginning of the enterprise. The committee to whom this was referred believe that if a proper effort is made in promoting this between now and next October, through the REVIEW AND HERALD, the various union conference papers, and by ministers, we can obtain a liberal offering next October. We suggest that there be set before our people in a very definite way the needs of this training school for our colored workers, and that the goal of the October offering be placed at one dollar per member.

J. M. CAMPBELL: I should like to offer the suggestion, since the whole thing is to be turned over to the General Conference, that one Thirteenth Sabbath Offering be given to the colored work.

W. T. KNOX: If you will pardon me for speaking again — the Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings are one of the large factors that go to make up the funds for our foreign mission work. We have endeavored in all our recent legislation to conserve these for the object for which they are given, that is, the foreign mission enterprises. Now it does seem to me that in planning for our institutional work in North America, this great strong base of supplies, we ought not to plan in such a manner as would in any way encroach upon the work in our foreign fields that are so needy. I should be very sorry to see us begin to lay plans now at this Conference that in the future would call for the gifts of our people in the Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings for work in North America.

C. B. STEPHENSON: Mr. Chairman, I think because this offering for the colored work has not been a part of the per capita, it has weakened our offering. I believe that the offering would be more liberal if it were permitted to be counted in the twenty-cent-a-week arrangement.

The recommendation was adopted.

Resolution 6 — Mission Funds

This resolution was made the first order of business the next day.

Resolution 7 — The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering

MRS. L. F. PLUMMER (in reply to question): I very much hope this recommendation will pass. We are not disturbing in any way the plan of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering in this country, but we are entering a protest against the use of the *Missions Quarterly* in the fields beyond, to stir up general interest in missions, and then not devoting the gifts to the specific field designated for that thirteenth Sabbath. We think if the people's eyes are turned toward a specific field by having the *Missions Quarterly* used, or any means of that sort, that field ought to get the money that is given; so we have thought that it would be an inspiration if all fields were to give on one Sabbath of the quarter to the same specific object. The offerings might be very materially increased, and the solidarity of our work might be strengthened in all fields and in all lands.

The resolution was adopted.

Resolution 8 — Individual Support

C. A. RUSSELL: I should like to inquire if the passing of this resolution would change in any way the plans we are carrying forward in Missionary Volunteer work, in giving to definite enterprises.

W. T. KNOX: It need not, if the Missionary Volunteer Department will be careful in making their selection of objects, and also careful in regard to their requirements concerning information. I am sure if the Chairman would give to our brethren from foreign fields the opportunity this morning to speak to you concerning this, they could make it very plain to you that by this plan that has

been developing so rapidly the past two or three years, there has been a grievous burden laid upon them, considering the lack of help which they have, to carry on a voluminous correspondence; also difficulties have arisen in foreign fields among the native workers. I do not think, however, that the plan that the Missionary Volunteer Department is now carrying on need be seriously modified by this recommendation.

A. J. CLARK: I want to ask a question in regard to this. I think we all favor this resolution, but there are instances that come up, when individuals expressly want to give money in some certain way.

W. T. KNOX: It is not designed by this that we presume to suggest where one can give and where one cannot give. It asks that we shall set before the believers the disadvantages that would arise from the large extension of this plan of giving for the support of individual native workers, and when that has been done, then if any desire to give to the support of native workers or any specific object, it is their privilege, as stewards of God, to give as they desire, and it is our duty to receive it and pass it on. But there has been a degree of promotion carried on during the past two or three years in favor of this plan. Now we desire to reverse that, and instead of having our brethren encouraged to give this way, to set before them some of the disadvantages that go with this manner of giving. This has to do especially, as you will notice in the resolution, with the support of native workers.

A. G. DANIELLS: Not with the assistance of special enterprises or fields.

The resolution was adopted.

Resolution 9 — A Ministerial Department

E. K. SLADE: I should like to inquire if this anticipates the appointment of a secretary for the head of this department?

CHAIRMAN: I think it does.

CHAS. THOMPSON: I should like to ask if it means to have union and local conference department secretaries, the same as other departments.

A. G. DANIELLS: I do not think it contemplates that.

E. W. FARNSWORTH: How would this department stand related to the Fireside Correspondence School, and the earnest efforts in our colleges to develop ministers, and the Reading Course? What would become of them?

A. G. DANIELLS: I suppose it would stand related to the correspondence school the same as other departments do — foster and develop it all it could. With reference to the Ministerial Reading Course, I heard the secretary of the Educational Department say he thought that the Ministerial Reading Course ought to be transferred to this department if it is created. With reference to the colleges and the develop-

ment of ministers in the colleges, I should judge the department would do all it could to help the colleges to develop young men for gospel work.

J. H. SCHILLING: I should like to know in what way the department would assist the conferences in training young men for the ministry.

A. G. DANIELLS: In an advisory way, just the same as the Publishing Department and the Young People's Missionary Volunteer Department assist the colleges, by going to the colleges, counseling with the faculties, addressing the students, and setting before them the advantages of those departments, and working with the students under the counsel of the faculty.

In every college there is a band of students looking to the circulation of literature; they are there with a view to going out and selling our literature. The secretaries of the Publishing Department visit those colleges, and help those young men and women to qualify for the work they contemplate doing. In every college there is a ministerial band,— a band of young men registered there as ministerial students. This department would aim to encourage these young men, make suggestions to them with reference to reading and study during the college term, and work with them and with the college men just the same as the publishing secretaries and the Missionary Volunteer secretaries work along those lines:

M. N. CAMPBELL: Personally, I should be very glad if quite a full explanation of this plan could be made before the delegates. I think perhaps I do not understand what is comprehended in the plan. I am wondering if it is designed to throw the great body of our ministry under the direction of a department; or whether it is designed to be an adjunct, possibly to the Educational Department, to aid in the building up and strengthening of the work. It would seem that if the great body of our ministry were to be placed under the direction of this department, there would be danger of confusion in our local and union conference administration; but I presume this is not intended in the arrangement. I should be very glad to learn what would be the scope of this department.

C. B. HAYNES: I move that the discussion of this resolution be made the special order tomorrow morning, after the disposal of resolution 6. This motion was carried.

At this point the Conference adjourned.

A. G. DANIELLS, *Chairman*.
W. A. SPICER, *Secretary*.

THIRTEENTH MEETING

April 8, 8 P. M.

THE thirteenth meeting of the Conference was called at 8 P. M., April 8, with A. G. Daniells in the chair. Prayer was offered by Elder E. T. Russell.

The Chairman stated that the meeting would be devoted to reports from various foreign fields.

Reports were rendered from Russia by J. T. Boettcher, from Japan by B. P. Hoffman, and from the French Latin field by H. H. Dexter. (These reports will be given later, as space permits.) O. Montgomery read a report of the work in Brazil, prepared by F. W. Spies, giving an account of the manner in which the truth found entrance into that country. (This story has already been told recently in the REVIEW.)

The meeting was closed with a solo by W. C. Foreman, "Whom Having Not Seen, I Love," and benediction by Elder B. P. Hoffman.

A. G. DANIELLS, *Chairman*.
W. A. SPICER, *Secretary*.

FOURTEENTH MEETING

April 9, 10:30 A. M.

A. G. DANIELLS occupied the chair.

After the song, "Take the Name of Jesus with You," W. W. Eastman offered prayer.

The Chairman stated that there were two recommendations made the special order of business for this morning. Resolution 6 was read, as follows:

Special Increase of Mission Funds

WHEREAS, The General Conference has undertaken a volume of work for 1918 greatly in excess of its prospective income; and,

WHEREAS, Many requests for additional appropriations continue to be received from the fields,

6. We recommend, a. That the General Conference Committee, in harmony with the original provisions of the sustentation plan, be authorized to transfer from the Sustentation Fund to its foreign mission work such an amount as can be spared from its surplus without injury to the fund.

b. That all conferences in North America and Europe that are carrying surpluses larger than their immediate needs require, be requested to make liberal appropriations to the general treasury, in order that the pressing needs of our mission fields may be supplied.

W. T. KNOX: A word of explanation might be in order concerning the first part of this resolution. It asks that the General Conference Committee be authorized to make such appropriations or assignments from the Sustentation Fund as can be done without injury to that fund, in harmony with its original provisions. The original plan provided that whenever the fund exceeded \$5,000, the General Conference Committee might then, at its fall council, appropriate anything in excess of that. However, the work of the sustentation plan has greatly increased since its origin. We now have somewhere between three and four hundred cases receiving benefits from this fund, and must keep in reserve more than the \$5,000, but we need not hold all the balance shown in the financial report submitted.

As to the second part of the recommendation, it is known by us all — and it has brought great rejoicing to

us as we have listened to the reports—that the Lord is greatly blessing his people, not only in North America, but also in Europe, even during this storm of war. The treasuries of the conferences have received a great increase in tithe, the increase between 1913 and 1917 being somewhere in the neighborhood of eighty per cent. I do not doubt that every conference could find a place to put its surplus. There are many opportunities for the expansion of our work, but we must not lose sight of the injunction of our Saviour to lift up our eyes and look upon the fields, all white ready for the harvest; and many portions of the field are languishing for lack of laborers and for lack of money.

I would that time permitted us to run through some of the items of the mission field budget of appropriations for 1918, which we cannot possibly hope to meet unless there is an unlooked-for increase in our funds. In making up our budget at the Minneapolis council, we did it in this manner: We provided first for those items that we recognized as regular operating items that *must* be cared for—the salaries of the laborers, both foreign and native; and then special items calling for the purchase of land, the building of homes, the adding of facilities in the way of dispensaries, and items of that nature. Now these later items were all unprovided for, amounting to something like \$130,000, and we do not have in sight even sufficient funds to meet those items that we recognize as regular operating items.

In addition to all this, from the day that we left Minneapolis there began to come in to us a continual stream of appeals for additional consideration. Development of the work made it necessary, as it seemed to our brethren and sisters in the field, that they should supplement their requests; and some of these requests are most urgent, and it has seemed to us most pitiful to pass them by unheeded. For instance, the North American Division Conference at Minneapolis listened to a recital of the needs for a printing plant in the Malaysian field. There was pictured to them the millions of that great territory speaking the Malay tongue, and no facilities whatever for producing literature for them. And the North American Division Conference, in response to the setting forth of the need, there voted an appropriation from its funds of \$8,000 for the purchasing of the necessary facilities for the plant. But this immediately made necessary other expenditures—a place to put the printing plant; and in Singapore it is practically impossible now to rent property that would be suitable.

So there came to us, soon after the Minneapolis council, an appeal by cable that we should authorize Malaysia to purchase a piece of land for mission headquarters. I think the

price was \$7,000. Now we had practically an empty treasury, so far as the appropriations were concerned. We had more than swept it clean for all of 1918; but knowing the situation we did not dare to refuse. We were wonderfully pleased that they had been able to find a piece of land that could be purchased under conditions that now exist in that territory, and so we cabled them to purchase the land.

That is only the second step. We cannot set the printing plant out in the open field. A building must be erected. Yes, there must be buildings erected, not only to house the plant, but to give safe, sanitary homes to our workers in Singapore. So they sent us another appeal, that we should provide them with a still added amount of money, with which to begin the erection of a printing house and some homes for their workers.

I might multiply instances of that kind all over the Eastern field, and down in South and Central America. Just yesterday I received a letter from Dr. John N. Andrews, away in western China, in the province of Szechuan, and he goes on to picture to me all the conditions which confront them, and their plans and hopes to get among the Tibetans. Time does not permit me to read that letter to you, but it certainly is most touching. Truly the conditions are most appealing in that province, with its 63,000,000 population, and only three foreign workers. The hearts of the workers are filled with a longing desire to press forward to the western border of that territory, where it touches Tibet. As our treasury stands, we cannot encourage them to go forward. But this resolution invites special help from the conferences and people.

Word from the Asiatic Division

J. E. FULTON: I want to express a word of appreciation for the thought that has prompted these recommendations, and for what has already been done. We are not unmindful of the effort that has been made on the part of the American friends for our work in the foreign field. You have done a grand work for us. If you could only feel the thrill of appreciation that went over all our Far East when the word came of what had been done in Minneapolis in voting that large appropriation, you would be repaid for what you have done, I am sure.

But so many calls come. These brethren speak of letters that have been received. Since coming here, I have received, I suppose, a score of letters from missionaries, calling attention to specials not in the regular budget. They are pressing needs, and seem immediately necessary, and as the months go by they become more and more special and immediate needs.

Our literature has gone before us, and we have calls from companies of Sabbath keepers who have never been

visited by a foreign worker, and we have no foreign worker to send. It seems to me the time has come to have more than we have had before.

I have here a little god [holding up an image] that was given me by one of our Sabbath keepers who a little while ago was worshipping it. When I was ready to leave, he said, "Here, take it along. It is a god I used to serve, but I don't any more, for I have found the God Jehovah."

South America's Joy

O. MONTGOMERY: This brings joy to our hearts. I know something about the spirit and feeling of the brethren here in the home field. I labored here for years. I know the hearts of the brethren and sisters are in the right place, and that there is a great spirit of liberality for missions; and I know, too, that if our brethren who have charge of the Conference work could really see and feel the situation as it exists out on the front, away out on the skirmish line, they would go down to the very last dollar to help us meet the urgent calls and carry forward the work with a strong hand. I am sure the General Conference brethren of the Foreign Mission Board very much dislike to cut down our budgets. They wrote, "We are sorry, but it had to be done. We have had to cut out this." And, brethren, we say in our hearts and with good courage, With God to help us, we will do the best we can to use to his glory what we get, and make it go as far as it will.

Only yesterday I received word that away up the Amazon, people have found our Brazilian paper, and a company calls for baptism. Yet there is no man to send up into the country where that interest has been awakened, to lead them further into the truth or to baptize them.

Not even a colporteur has ever entered the great state of Matto Grosso, Brazil; not a worker has ever touched it. South America praises God, and we thank you with all our hearts for what has been done. We believe that the work today, the things that are facing us in the future, demand, dear friends, a consecration that will mean our all in men and means, in sons and daughters, to answer God's call.

Africa Waiting

W. H. ANDERSON: This resolution comes very close to the hearts of us who have been out in the field all these years. We know of your sympathy for us; we know of the help that we have had in the past; but, O brethren and sisters, this help is not sufficient to meet the demands that are made upon us now.

I think this morning of the unentered fields. I think of Bechuanaland. When I was at the fall council at Minneapolis, I presented the needs of that field to our brethren, and it was cut out of the budget; and a good many of our other calls were cut out, because there was no means

to answer them. We called for workers to be put into our training schools, to educate young teachers, so that no more would we have to send boys home who had walked hundreds of miles to get to our schools. One new missionary only has gone, and the budget only supplies means to return two of us who are here in this field to our territory at the end of our furlough. It does not mean any addition to our force of workers, except that one single man, who is already on the way out.

Brethren and sisters, how long, how long must these fields wait until we can answer the calls that have been coming to us, in some instances for twenty years?

There is a great Konge Free State. Brother Konigmacher is pretty close to the border of it. He had not been there six months until calls came from over the border. Representatives of fifteen and a half million people there are asking for help. The government asks us to come in. The door is wide open, or, as one missionary expressed it, it is not open doors any more, "the whole side of the house has gone out," and we can go in.

O brethren and sisters, there is no money to send the men! We will find the men, if you will answer the spirit of this resolution, and give us the money.

And, brethren and sisters, when your men go there, you must provide homes for them. I touched that the other morning in my remarks; but I want to mention it again,—that when you send your men out into these malarious districts, they must have some place to live. I have lived in the mud hut, and seen the whole side washed out when the rains came. I buried my wife because we had to live like that.

Brethren and sisters, it must not be done any more. May the Lord lay upon your hearts a burden for these souls. We have been waiting in Africa for the last six years; and every time we made up a budget, we were told that we were not to plan for any advanced work, but try to hold what we had. "You cannot take a step in advance." But how can we ever finish this work without going forward?

Another from South America

J. H. WESTPHAL: I believe in the principle of this resolution. It is a principle that I tried to follow long before it was ever introduced generally among our conferences. I can assure you that all our brethren throughout the South American field are grateful for the kindness of our brethren in using their surplus funds for the support and enlargement of the work in our field.

This year it is not the matter of enlarging our work, but of supporting the work already started. When we received word from the General Conference that some \$3,000 had been cut from our estimate,—not for advanced

work, but for the support of work that we had on hand,—you can imagine how we felt. I know the General Conference Committee feel as deeply over it, probably, as we do in the field. We are now asking for a man for an important post. We have found one. He is ready to go. In speaking with him yesterday, I was able to give him no definite word as to when we could receive him; and why?—There is nothing in the budget to meet the expense.

From India

W. W. FLETCHER: The mission fields appreciate what is being done in America to extend the message to other lands. In Australia we shall never forget what you have done in sending us your most experienced laborers in past years, in the early days of the message there. We look back on the days that those brethren labored among us,—Brethren Haskell, Daniells, and Corliss,—and we remember the impressions that were made on our minds when the message first came among us.

It does my heart good, brethren, to hear this proposal brought forward. It originates with the brethren in America, and it gives us hope that we shall be able to enter lands as yet unentered.

One of the greatest burdens on our hearts in India is to enter certain new nations with the message. We have hardly known how to ask for the workers and money; but as we have considered the calls, we have felt that we were bound in the near future to enter at least five new nations. The Lord is opening the way for us, and we feel that we cannot longer delay. There is Ceylon, a country to which the message has spread, and in which we should at once place a worker to learn the language and follow up the interest. There are 4,000,000 people in that island. And then farther north there is a native state, Mysore, absolutely unentered.

The Scripture says this message is to be preached to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people, and I believe it is worth any sacrifice that we can make to carry the message to one additional nation, but if the brethren can fulfil the request that we are sending in from India, we shall be able this year and next to make a beginning in five new fields.

From the Inca Union Mission

E. L. MAXWELL: My soul doth magnify the Lord this morning. I look into the faces of the delegates, and believe you are going to pass this resolution. I believe, brethren, I can sympathize with those in the home field who are bearing the responsibility of helping to raise this money. I have served in this country as a conference officer, and know something of the strain under which you are all placed. I want to tell one incident.

Some time ago the dean of the medical faculty of the oldest university

in the New World, the university of San Marcos, of Lima, made a visit to the Puno section of Peru, to see there the effects of our work among the Indian people where Brother Stahl has been working. Shortly after returning, I talked with him, and he said, "I am glad I made the trip up there. I do not hold any religion myself; I just believe in humanity; but I want to tell you that I believe you people have a religion that would be a good thing for all this country. I believe you ought to have twenty men in Peru just like the man up at Lake Titicaca."

From the Australasian Union

C. H. WATSON: The needs of a thousand million Christless heathen compel me to speak; the needs of a million cannibal people within my own union call me to say something. It is said of the Christ, that he looked upon the multitudes, and had compassion upon them. I have seen these multitudes, dear friends.

As I speak to you this morning, I see the picture of a cannibal chief throwing his arms around our courageous missionary out in the New Hebrides, the tears streaming down his face, his cheek upon the shoulder of our missionary, his hands stretched out in agonized appeal for the gospel of Christ to be sent to his people. "Oh, do not leave us," he pleaded; "the only hope that we have is to keep you with us to teach us of Christ!"

And there is another picture, dear friends, in that cannibal nation of Solomon Islanders,—a picture of a church. They call it the house of God, and yet they know not God! A head-hunting people dancing in cannibal festivities around that house that they have built, and appealing to us to send them some one to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ in that house.

The Australasian Union Conference, which I represent, is entirely in harmony with the spirit of this recommendation. Three years ago we had a surplus of \$50,000. The call of those millions of heathen from China, Korea, Japan, and elsewhere came to us. We answered the call by giving \$48,000 to the work among those people. And we believe that God will help us more than ever before.

The Home Conferences Anxious to Respond

C. F. McVAGH: I think we ought to hear just a little expression from this end of the line. I know this, that our hearts in western Canada are in sympathy with this resolution, and I believe that all our people are with us. I simply rise to ask that all the people be given an opportunity to vote when we come to vote on this.

A. G. DANIELLS: I do not know how long we should consider this, but I want to say that I know these brethren have not spoken because they feared the resolution would not pass;

they have not spoken to persuade the delegates to vote it. They are just "full up," as they say in Australia.

These brethren have come long distances. I thought of our dear Brother Westphal—seventeen years down there in South America, tramping over the field. I was down in the Kansas Conference when Brother Westphal took progressive steps to share his conference tithe, and the next thing was a call to him to go himself. I thought of Barnabas in Cyprus, who sold his farm and gave the money, and then the Lord said, "Barnabas, that is not enough. I want you, too." And so Brother Westphal was sent down to South America. He went there with not a gray hair in his head, as I remember. I haven't come in contact with him much, but I'll tell you, brethren, his life and his work have appealed to my heart all these years; and when he came forward to speak to you, I could hardly restrain the tears. He has turned white, but he loves his field, and I did want him to have the privilege of speaking from the fulness of his heart,—not to persuade, but to get some of this choking burden off his heart.

We want the appeals of these brethren to go out beyond the Conference to our brethren with large farms and large incomes, and we want these appeals to draw from the banks and from the farms the resources that these people have. Why, brethren, it is utter nonsense for us to talk about finishing a world-wide work without sending out a mighty appeal to the people who have the resources to do it. What is the use of talking about this generation's finishing the race of man, and then calmly allowing our people to hoard up their resources and their means? O, we have a stern proposition, and we cannot get anywhere without money. And God is giving it to us,—bless his name!—and I am glad of this spirit. But there, I did not intend to talk on this resolution at all. Here is Elder George Enoch, who has been helping us at this end for a while.

G. F. ENOCH: I am glad to speak to this resolution this morning. About twenty years ago I went out as a young man to the mission field, and now for three years and a half I have visited among the churches here in America. I am glad to tell you that I believe, from my experience, that the Seventh-day Adventists throughout this country are behind this resolution.

Sometimes we have thought that we were giving or sacrificing too much. I believe that in this great land of America, which is more free than any other country upon the face of the earth, where the people are more given to luxury than anywhere else, there is danger that even we shall breathe in this spirit, unless there is something impelling us to live simply and to deny ourselves, in order to accomplish

the great purpose of God. I believe the cross of Jesus Christ is not simply to be wept over. It is not simply to be smothered with flowers, or to be sung about; but the cross of Jesus Christ is to be set up in the midst of our daily expenditures, wherever we are. And I believe that when that is done, whatever we do will bear the mark of the cross of Jesus Christ; and I believe that then we shall have the treasury overflowing, and men, like Brother Anderson from Africa, will not be standing up here telling us that he must go back to Africa without a worker, just because there is not money enough in the treasury with which to send workers.

The Conferences Speak

E. K. SLADE: Just a word from the standpoint of a local conference. I want to say that I am heartily in favor of the recommendation, and feel that it is one of the most important considerations that can possibly come before the Conference. It has the heartiest support from the Ohio Conference.

CHAS. THOMPSON: I am in favor of the resolution. I do not know what we might do, but I have passed a note around, and I am willing to favor the resolution with the support of \$6,000 from the Northern Union. We may do more, but we will start with \$6,000.

C. F. McVAGH: The Western Canadian Union has already voted in that way. We had the privilege of voting \$5,000 just before we came here.

CHAS. THOMPSON: I do not want to be misunderstood. We sent \$5,000 before we came away, too; but this is in addition to that \$5,000.

J. J. NETHERY: We feel that our conference is responsible for carrying the message to about twenty-five million four hundred thousand persons. We have 400,000 population in our territory, and we feel responsible for about 25,000,000 in the Asiatic field. We had the church elders together a few weeks ago, and considered the matter of spending some of our tithe for foreign missions. I should like to say that the Upper Columbia Conference is ready to give \$15,000 in support of this recommendation.

A. J. CLARK: I think the East Michigan Conference has already voted on this resolution. The first of the year, East Michigan voted to turn over \$2,500 to missions, which has already been sent in.

G. F. WATSON: Less than two years ago, Montana started her summer's work with less than \$200 in the treasury. I am glad to say today that we can give you \$1,000. I expect that in the early spring we can send you another thousand. We will give a thousand dollars today, and hope that we can duplicate this in a few months.

J. J. NETHERY: I had not finished my speech. We are giving \$15,000

now, and I think we shall be able to do a little more later on.

C. W. FLAIZ: We had expected to have a union conference committee meeting this afternoon, at which this question would come up; we have not been able to counsel together since being here. I think the local conferences in the North Pacific Union will be responsible for making up our total to the neighborhood of \$20,000 or \$22,000.

W. T. KNOX: Now this is a good start. What would you think if we should follow the suggestion made by Elder Flaiz, that we give union conference presidents an opportunity to get their delegates together and report to us tomorrow?

The resolution was voted, first by the delegates, then by the entire vast congregation standing to express approval.

A. G. DANIELLS: As those here take this good word back to their brethren, I know it will cheer and thrill the hearts of our people everywhere.

SECRETARY: May I report one gift? A good mother who has given three strong children to Asia, came down the other night and said she would like to give another son to the work among the Indians of Lake Titicaca.

Resolution 9—A Ministerial Department

Resolution 9, providing for the creation of a Ministerial Department, was taken up.

R. A. UNDERWOOD: Brother Chairman, would it not be in harmony with the real purpose of the resolution, if, instead of a department such as our other departments, it should read, A ministerial association, with one man perhaps chosen to head it? Our departments are getting pretty large, and they run clear down through into unions and local conferences; but a ministerial association is very common. I should like that better than a department.

E. T. RUSSELL: If it is to be modified, I would suggest the term "bureau" rather than "association."

F. M. WILCOX: There seems to be much questioning regarding this. I should like to move, in view of the lack of information and the lack of unanimity of opinion on this question, that this resolution be referred to the General Conference Committee for further study and development.

Several seconded the motion.

J. O. CORLISS: Does that mean that the General Conference Committee will take final action on it, or will it be brought before the body?

F. M. WILCOX: It seemed to me that the Committee could take counsel with a good many of the brethren in the field, and make some satisfactory arrangement.

A. G. DANIELLS: I do not suppose a motion to refer is debatable, but just a word to explain the situation. I think the aim is to make some provision for regular, systematic, efficient instruction and help to be given to

ministers and Bible workers. It does not make any difference to me about the name or the particular form. But when I think of the increasing number of our preachers and city Bible workers, it does seem that we are not doing the systematic work for their improvement and help that ought to be done. If we did not do more systematic work for our canvassers, and our Sabbath school workers, and our teachers, and our young peoples' workers, the departments would fall to pieces from their own weakness.

I believe the time will come when some sort of provision—I care not what it is called—will be made for steady, continuous, uplifting assistance to be given to this great band of workers among us,—assistance that will reach the spiritual side and the intellectual, and help our workers, from the man who stands on the platform in our great city buildings to the man who goes among the churches, the humble teacher, trying to help those brethren and sisters there. If I have any vision, brethren, of the possibility of good, intelligent, continuous, systematic, sensible instruction, it would increase the efficiency and the strength of this body of workers manifold.

Now, I am not debating the question, but making an explanation. You have heard the motion.

B. G. WILKINSON: May I ask a question with reference to the motion to refer? Is the action to be taken later, or at the present session?

A. G. DANIELLS: I judge the mover means it to be taken after this session.

F. M. WILCOX: Yes.

A. G. DANIELLS: When more time, I think, can be given to it.

C. B. HAYNES: I believe that the General Conference Committee could get no better counsel from the field than that which is represented in this Conference, no matter what form the organization may take, whether a bureau or an association or a department. It seems to me that this body of delegates here ought to put themselves on record as favoring something of this kind, or of being opposed to it; for, in the way of counsel to the General Conference Committee, it seems to me it would be preferable to vote this in some form, and leave the organization of it in the hands of the General Conference Committee. For that purpose I move to lay the motion to refer on the table.

The motion was carried.

B. L. MAXWELL: I believe in principle in the motion of Brother Wilcox, but I believe it would be better to refer this matter to the Committee on Plans again for further action. I should like to see the question settled by this body.

W. A. WESTWORTH: The proposition to refer this to the Committee on Plans seems to me would avail nothing. The committee has threshed over the resolution forward and back-

ward, and has done the best that could be done, I think. I believe that those who do not understand the resolution are those who did not hear Elder Daniells's talk in the evangelistic meeting that was gathered a few days ago. Every detail was made plain. Questions asked were so fairly answered that it seems to me that any one who was there must understand every phase of the question. I believe that if time could be given to Elder Daniells to explain to this body what was explained to the men gathered at that meeting, all would be satisfied with the resolution, with the movement that is back of the resolution, and be satisfied that this department would produce magnificent results in our work.

R. A. UNDERWOOD: This will require a good deal of discussion, if Brother Westworth's request or desire is carried out. I move that consideration of this be deferred until tomorrow, because I think the Committee on Nominations has a report which ought to be acted on today, because men are waiting for decisions.

The motion carried.

Further Report on Nominations

C. W. IRWIN: Your Committee on Nominations would respectfully submit a partial report. (This report was printed in the REVIEW of April 18.)

The report was adopted.

Meeting adjourned with benediction by Elder W. T. Knox.

A. G. DANIELLS, *Chairman*.

W. A. SPIGER, *Secretary*.

FIFTEENTH MEETING

April 9, 3 P. M.

THE fifteenth meeting opened with prayer by Elder J. O. Corliss.

A. G. Daniells in the chair. He called attention to the action of yesterday concerning Resolution 6—to receive further reports today from conferences as to gifts for missions. He asked the Treasurer, W. T. Knox, to call for reports.

Further Responses

The Treasurer called for further responses.

E. W. Farnsworth: I am president neither of a conference nor of a union. It would be much better for Brother Andross or Brother John Christian to speak, if they were here; but I can tell you what was done in their meeting. They studied over their situation, and felt that they would be able to turn over to the Mission Board from twenty to thirty-five thousand dollars. But there were quite a number who felt that it would be a very desirable thing to wait until the camp-meeting season, which is coming very soon, and then present the matter to the delegates and let them vote on the question.

W. T. KNOX: Very well, we shall be glad to wait.

E. W. FARNSWORTH: We told them that if this recommendation was made

known to the people, they might go beyond the twenty-five thousand.

W. T. KNOX: Then it might be an expensive postponement!

E. W. FARNSWORTH: Yes, it might. But they wished to assure you that at least twenty or twenty-five thousand could be counted on.

CHAS. THOMPSON: We studied the matter over after the meeting yesterday. We said then \$6,000. I think now we shall be able to make that \$7,000—not right away, but some time during the summer.

W. T. KNOX: The Northern Union sent us \$5,000 just a few weeks before we came to this meeting, so we feel they are giving very liberally. These reports that have come in so far bring the amount up into the neighborhood of \$75,000. I wish we might make it an even \$100,000 before we stop. Are there any others?

J. S. ROUSE: As Elder Underwood is not present, I will say that we had a meeting of the Central Union presidents and others, but very few of our committee men were present. So we decided that the Central Union would do all it could, when the delegates return home and have time to study it over. We shall be glad to spare all we can.

W. T. KNOX: I wish we had the congregation—the audience—present today that we had yesterday morning. One brother came to me yesterday and said the delegates were inquiring why they did not get an opportunity to enter into this.

Consideration of the report of the Committee on Plans was resumed.

Resolution 9—Ministerial Department

Resolution 9, action on which was deferred yesterday, was taken under consideration.

H. M. J. RICHARDS: Is it understood that this Ministerial Department is not executive in nature? I understood it from the remarks yesterday. I think that if this were stated plainly, it might remove misunderstanding, and we could all feel perfectly clear in voting.

CHAIRMAN: I will state briefly my understanding of this recommendation, for the brethren have waited upon me with the proposal a number of times, and I have met with them in the ministers' meeting, and talked with them, and heard the discussion. I understand the recommendation aims simply to create a medium through which, or by which, we may give our ministers and our Bible workers more systematic, continuous, helpful assistance in their lines of work. In our educational work we are aiming all the time to give the teachers instruction. This applies to all teachers, from the one who is instructing children five, six, and seven years old, up to the college professor.

We help them through the educational journal, by correspondence, through normal work in our schools, by conventions; in every way possible we are trying to build up an efficient

teaching body in the Educational Department. So it is with the publishing work.

Now I believe that the same kind of practical, continuous, systematic instruction for our ministry, including preachers and Bible workers, would be just as helpful to them as it is to the teacher or the publishing worker.

Then there is the spiritual side of the ministry. A good many students coming out of the school have been pressed with the study of textbooks while in school. It is easier, we all know, to give thought and energy to the material side,—the study of books and the activities,—easier than to get into the spiritual current. Those young men need help to get right into the spiritual phase of the ministry, and grow stronger.

These are considerations that cannot be overlooked by any denomination that wants to build up a strong ministry for evangelism. We are not overlooking them altogether; but I have wished that we had some means by which there would be a systematic, continuous effort made to help all the ministers in our ranks.

As to the arrangement, I think something very simple would do. I do not think we need a great system of executive organization—nothing of the kind. It would be a serious mistake to create anything that would be executive, or that would come between the conference president or the conference committee and the workers. Nothing of that kind could be contemplated for a moment. It would disorganize everything in the work of the ministry in a conference.

I do not think it would be necessary to have a list of secretaries and all that. A simple committee of good, wise counselors, one man as secretary, who would give his thought and time to it, and keep on trying to help our ministers. I would have a wise committee of counsel, and a good man chosen as secretary of that committee. Then when he goes to the camp-meetings, he could get all the preachers together, and have something well thought out, something solid and substantial, to give to those preachers and Bible workers. And he should pass material on to his associates scattered over the field. My thought is that he should keep the president of the conference always informed of what he is doing, and furnish him a copy of matter that he sends out. That is as far as it would go in any kind of executive work and control of the ministry. In that way I should hope to strengthen our ministry, all the way from the young man who starts from the school to the man who is holding the largest congregations in our largest buildings in the large cities.

I am not sure that all our committee would acquiesce in this, and I certainly do not want to press the matter.

F. M. WILCOX: I move that we express our approval of the general

proposition, and refer it to the General Conference Committee for further study and development.

The motion was carried.

Following this, O. Montgomery was called to the chair.

Resolution 10—Training Helpers for Literary Work

Resolution 10 was next read.

CHAS. THOMPSON: What is the design of the part of this resolution that refers to a union conference? It evidently intends that we do something different in the development of colporteurs.

N. Z. TOWN: It is recommended that each union conference take upon itself the definite responsibility of developing, and holding at the disposition of the Mission Board, at least one or more field leaders for the colporteur work in mission fields. This has been done in some unions, but it is brought in here with the hope that it may result in the mission fields' being able to get leaders more readily than in the past.

Resolution 10 was then adopted.

Resolution 11—Home Missionary Department

Resolution 11 was read and adopted.

Resolution 12—Reporting

Resolution 12 was read and adopted.

Resolution 13—Harvest Ingathering

Resolution 13 was read.

F. W. PAAP moved to insert the word "general," making it read, "That the month of October, 1918, be the time to open the general campaign." The resolution so amended, was adopted.

Resolutions 14, 15, 16—Training of Nurses

Resolution 14 was read and adopted.

Resolution 15 was read, and adopted, with an amendment, making it read, "That the Medical Department secure the services of a lady physician or nurse of large experience in training-school work, to devote at least three months' time annually," etc.

The remaining resolution, number 16, was then read and adopted.

The secretary of the Committee on Distribution of Labor, presented a partial report. (Published in the REVIEW of April 18.)

The Chairman next called for a further report from the Committee on Plans and Resolutions, which was read, as follows, by its secretary, W. A. Westworth:

SABBATH SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

17. *We recommend*, That as far as possible the Sabbath school lessons furnished by the General Conference Sabbath School Department be used in all fields, with such changes and adaptations as may be necessary in order to fit them to the needs of the various countries.

WHEREAS, The Sabbath School Workers' Training Course has proved a great blessing to many workers in the North American field; therefore,

18. *We recommend*, That the workers in other English-speaking coun-

tries endeavor to inaugurate a similar plan, by using the books studied here if they can be secured, and if not, by making a careful selection of the best books of a similar kind that are obtainable in each field.

19. *We recommend*, That the conference Sabbath school secretaries in all the unions have the privilege of meeting together at least once in two years, for convention work, counsel, and exchange of experiences.

Missionary Volunteer Work

WHEREAS, The Young People's Missionary Volunteer Department is an effective agency in the salvation and training of our children and youth wherever it has been well organized under good leadership; and,

WHEREAS, It is of the highest importance that all the young people of the church, and especially those who have recently come to the faith, as well as those reared in Christian homes, should be brought under the stimulating influence of this department; therefore,

20. *Resolved*, That the Missionary Volunteer Department and our conferences and mission fields throughout the world co-operate in an effort to quickly secure leaders for this work, and to organize the children and youth for service.

21. *Resolved*, That as soon as possible, suitable Missionary Volunteer literature be prepared in the various languages.

22. *Resolved*, That our conference and church officers co-operate with our Missionary Volunteer leaders everywhere to quickly secure a complete census of all children and young people connected with our churches or homes; that the information secured be kept up to date, and made the basis of a vigorous effort to uplift every boy and girl among us, and to get all our young people into our Christian schools.

23. *Resolved*, That a uniform plan for the Standard of Attainment be adopted for the whole world.

Christian Education

WHEREAS, Approximately only one half of our boys and girls are in our schools, and as the Macedonian calls for workers are constantly pressing upon us; therefore,

24. *Resolved*, That every conference institute a vigorous summer campaign each year for the cause of Christian education, and that in this campaign, the conference and educational workers be enlisted to the extent that every Seventh-day Adventist home be visited; and further,

25. *Resolved*, That the General Conference Department of Education work out in detail, plans for the campaign.

Training Schools

WHEREAS, There are many men and women in our churches who, with a brief course of instruction adapted to their educational needs, would be able to do gospel work in their neighborhoods and conferences; therefore,

26. *Resolved*, That our training schools consider the advisability of conducting annually, in addition to their regular work, a short course adapted to the educational needs of students of a mature type, such as church and conference workers, and others who have not the time to take one of the regular courses.

Resolutions 17 to 19 — Sabbath School Work

Resolutions 17, 18, and 19 were read and adopted.

Resolutions 20 to 23 — Missionary Volunteer Work

On resolution 20:

M. C. STRACHAN: I should like to ask whether there is any separate record kept by the General Conference of the Missionary Volunteer work done in this country among the colored people?

M. E. KERN: In the General Conference office we do not have a separate record; but there is work being done in the Southern and Southeastern Union Conferences under the leadership of Miss Knight,—a very good work, too, I understand.

M. C. STRACHAN: Can you tell how long this work has been operated?

M. E. KERN: For two or three years, I think.

The resolution was then adopted.

Resolution 21 was adopted.

Resolution 22 was read.

M. E. KERN: I wish we could put it upon the hearts of all our conference laborers and Missionary Volunteer secretaries, to finish this task. Both the Educational and the Missionary Volunteer Departments are very anxious that we shall complete this census of our young people, which we have been trying to make for two years. There is no reason why it should not be completed, and there is every reason why it should be, and should be kept up to date, as a basis for earnest work for these young people, both to get them into active service where they are, and to get them into our schools. We feel that this ought to be passed by this Conference as one of our most important plans; and we ask that our workers everywhere co-operate with the department by completing the enrolment of this great class of our people.

O. MONTGOMERY: I am glad to inform our secretary that the South American Division is already working strongly on this line, to secure this information, and has it all listed.

The resolution was adopted.

Resolution 23 was adopted.

Resolutions 24 to 26 — Christian Education

Resolution 24 was read.

E. W. FARNSWORTH: The statement is made that one half of our young people are not in our schools. I should like to inquire how the census is taken. I should also like to know whether, for instance, when the father is out of the truth and the mother is in the truth, the children in such a case are recorded as in the truth, or not.

W. E. HOWELL: So far as I know, there has not been an accurate census taken. This estimate is based upon a careful estimate made by the Missionary Volunteer Department, about a year and a half ago. The census taking mentioned in the previous resolution is an effort to take such an accurate census, that we may know exactly where we stand. In the Lake Union they report that on this basis of the attendance of our young people of school age, they had passed the fifty per cent mark more than a year ago. A careful estimate made in the Pacific Union Conference, the next largest, informs us that they have reached not very far from seventy-five per cent of their young people of school age. But taking it the country over, it is perhaps as nearly correct as we can make it to say that only about half are in our own schools.

On the second point I am not able to give any information. I will say that I have an estimate on the proportion of young people in our schools, as based on the ordinary school age, of from six up to about twenty.

The campaign proposed here means that we all need arousalment on the subject of Christian education. If it is true—and it is, as nearly as we have information—that we have not yet half of our boys and girls in our own schools, it is something for us to think about very seriously. I have heard this repeated so often that I can find no peace of soul until I see some definite movement set on foot to remedy the condition.

We have heard here at this Conference, over and over, the pleas for laborers in foreign fields. Those pleas are pressing constantly upon us. And when we put these two needs side by side, it seemed to our educational leaders, Brother Chairman, that the time was fully ripe to make an effort to create different conditions, and bring these young people into our schools, where they can be trained, so that we can recruit laborers to answer these multiplying calls.

J. O. CORLISS: It is an unfortunate thing, to my mind, that there isn't some uniform method in our normal schools, of teaching the teachers. An education in books does not qualify a person to be a teacher, altogether. I think that in our normal schools we should have the matter of discipline attended to; for when we see a teacher, no matter what education he or she may have, without discipline, or the knowledge of how to discipline the pupils, we may count it settled that that person's school will be a failure. I believe in church schools, and I believe we ought to have the best church schools possible.

The resolution was adopted.

Resolutions 25 and 26 were adopted.

The meeting adjourned, with benediction by Elder S. N. Haskell.

A. G. DANIELLS } *Chairmen.*
O. MONTGOMERY }
W. A. SPICER, *Secretary.*

North American Division Conference Proceedings

FOURTH MEETING

April 4, 3 P. M.

THE fourth meeting of the North American Division Conference was called at 3 P. M., April 4, with I. H. Evans in the chair.

The delegation was led in prayer by Elder S. E. Wight.

The chairman called upon M. E. Kern, secretary of the Young People's Missionary Volunteer Department, to render his report, which will be printed later.

Report of Press Bureau

W. L. Borgan, secretary of the Press Bureau, followed with a report, which for lack of space must also be held for a later issue.

Report of Publishing Department

W. W. Eastman, secretary of the Publishing Department, was next called upon to present his report. (This most stirring report will appear later.)

On motion, the Conference adjourned.

I. H. EVANS, *Chairman.*

G. B. THOMPSON, *Secretary.*

FIFTH MEETING

April 5, 3 P. M.

THE fifth meeting of the North American Division Conference was called at 3 P. M., April 5, with W. T. Knox in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Elder C. McReynolds.

The Chairman called upon the secretary of the Religious Liberty Department, C. S. Longacre, to present his report. (To be printed later.)

Following this report, the song, "Awake, Fair Liberty," was sung by a male chorus.

The Chairman next called upon the secretary of the Sabbath School Department, Mrs. L. Flora Plummer, to render the report of the Sabbath school work in the division. (This report will appear later.)

At this point, the Chairman called upon the statistical secretary, H. E. Rogers, who presented a statistical report, a summary of which is as follows:

STATISTICAL REPORT

The returns pertaining to the work in the North American Division Conference during 1917 indicate excellent progress in every line.

The membership of churches is reported as 87,222, a gain of 7,276 for the year, or a gain of 23,357 during the past five years. The net gain in the membership of churches during the past five years has been greater than the entire membership in the territory of the North American Division Conference after this cause had been in existence forty-two years, or down to the year 1887. Placed in

four approximately equal groups chronologically, the gains in the United States and Canada have run as follows:

First forty-two years, 1845 to 1887.....	22,087
Next nine years, 1888 to 1896	23,447
Next sixteen years, 1897 to 1913.....	18,331
Next five years, 1913 to 1917.....	23,357
Present membership	87,222

The membership of Sabbath schools Dec. 31, 1917, stood at 91,251, a gain of 23,650 during the preceding five years.

The total number of evangelistic laborers is 2,488. During 1917, 8,939 persons were baptized and added to the churches. The total number of persons baptized since 1912 has been 38,372, or an average of twenty-one persons baptized every day since the beginning of 1913.

During 1917, funds have been contributed as follows: Tithe, \$2,167,082.47; foreign mission offerings, \$1,013,329.42; other offerings, \$723,217.07; total, \$3,903,628.96. From Jan. 1, 1913, to Dec. 31, 1917, the total contributions in the North American Division Conference have amounted to \$13,880,556.04. This is an increase of more than five and one half million dollars over the amount received during the preceding five years, or a gain of 67.47 per cent.

The average amount contributed for each person during the past five years has run as follows:

1913	\$30.91
1914	32.33
1915	32.71
1916	37.85
1917	44.75

During the year 1917 the value of denominational literature sold in the North American Division increased 44.44 per cent over the amount of sales during 1916, amounting, during 1917, to \$2,041,275.75.

The complete tabulation as to investment in this division indicated the following classification:

Conferences	\$1,071,846.26
Conference associations	1,541,494.28
Tract societies	299,958.66
Educational institutions	1,912,589.49
Publishing houses	1,015,683.07
Sanitariums	2,038,927.09
Food companies	6,938.48
Church buildings	2,126,874.44
Church school buildings	204,848.32
Total	\$10,219,205.09

The returns indicate that for the past five years there has been an increase of \$1,149,815.56 in resources, and a decrease of \$499,386.66 in liabilities, with a consequent gain of \$1,649,202.22 in present worth. If the liabilities were now \$1,161,717.23 greater than they were in 1912, the same percentage relation of liabilities to resources would be sustained now as was in effect in 1912.

H. E. ROGERS.

Meeting adjourned, with benediction by Elder Geo. I. Butler.

W. T. KNOX, *Chairman*.

G. B. THOMPSON, *Secretary*.

SIXTH MEETING

April 8, 3 P. M.

THE sixth meeting of the North American Division Conference was called at 3 P. M., April 8, with C. W. Flaiz in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Elder B. G. Wilkinson.

C. W. FLAIZ: Thus far through the Conference we have been privileged to listen to reports from various fields. Our hearts have been made to burn with gratitude to God for the reports of progress that have come to us in both the General and the Division Conference. This afternoon we are to receive reports from those who are in close touch with the base of supplies—the union conference presidents. Elder Quinn will report first for the Atlantic Union Conference. (His report will appear later.)

Following this, R. A. Underwood, president of the Central Union Conference, presented his report. (To appear later.)

A. V. Olson next presented the report of the Eastern Canadian Union Conference. (Will appear in a later issue.)

Following this, L. H. Christian submitted a report of the Lake Union Conference. (It will be printed later.)

Charles Thompson then submitted an interesting report of the work in the Northern Union Conference, which will appear later.

Meeting adjourned, with benediction by Elder G. F. Watson.

C. W. FLAIZ, *Chairman*.

G. B. THOMPSON, *Secretary*.

SEVENTH MEETING

April 9, 3 P. M.

THE seventh meeting of the North American Division Conference was called at 3 P. M., April 9, with R. A. Underwood in the chair.

Prayer was offered by W. H. Branson.

The Chairman stated that the reports from the union conference presidents would be continued, as the first order of business.

The report for the North Pacific Union was presented by C. W. Flaiz. (Report to appear later.)

The Conference next listened to an interesting report of the Southern Union, by S. E. Wight. (To appear later.)

Following the report of the Southern Union, E. E. Andross rendered a report for the Pacific Union. (Report to appear later.)

Following this, W. H. Branson, of the Southeastern Union, was called upon to report. (Report to appear later.)

Following this report, J. W. Christian, president of the Southwestern Union Conference, rendered a report. (His report will be printed later.)

The Chairman introduced the next report by stating that the union called upon was the largest of all in area, the youngest, and in some respects had

the record report to make. C. F. McVagh presented the report for the Western Canadian Union Conference. (Report to appear later.)

I. H. EVANS: Before we close, I should like to introduce and move the adoption of the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, The General Conference has recommended the discontinuance of division conferences; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we hereby transfer to the General Conference, unincorporated, all the assets of every nature whatsoever, both real and personal, of which the North American Division Conference is possessed.

2. That the General Conference, by taking over all assets of the North American Division Conference, also assumes responsibility for all its liabilities, appropriations, and obligations of every nature whatsoever.

3. That we declare the North American Division Conference hereby dissolved and all its interests transferred to the General Conference.

The motion was seconded.

E. E. ANDROSS: I think the delegates would be interested to know what the assets and liabilities are.

W. T. KNOX: I desire to make a statement before you take action on this. It has so often happened in the history of the denomination in the past, that when a work has been started which later on it has been found advisable to discontinue, the discontinuance of it meant the placing upon the denomination, or some parts of it, heavy financial and other obligations. I am glad, as we consider the recommendations before us at this hour, that this is not the case. Last November, at Minneapolis, the division conference by its action turned into the General Conference treasury \$108,000 for its foreign work.

The report submitted by the treasurer at one of the opening meetings of this Conference, showed that it had completed its work for 1917 and reported assets a trifle in excess of \$100,000—\$106,000 I believe was the amount; that after making provision for all its obligations, accounts, etc., there would be in the neighborhood of \$96,000 or \$97,000. It is true that it has obligations resting upon it for this year in what it has undertaken to do for certain union conferences in the East and South, in the care of the colored work, and other items of obligation of that character. These, however, we expect to meet readily by the percentage of tithe that will come to the General Conference by discontinuance of the division. So I am glad to report that there is a goodly sum in the treasury.

The Chairman called for a vote, and announced that it was carried.

Meeting adjourned.

R. A. UNDERWOOD, *Chairman*.

G. B. THOMPSON, *Secretary*.



AFTER all, the chief proof that the Bible is good food is the eating of it. —General Gordon.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

ASIDE from the regular departmental meetings, the Missionary Volunteer workers have been conducting daily meetings for the young people who are attending the General Conference. Elder Meade MacGuire is in charge of these meetings. The two series are naturally very different, but the keynote of both is ever the same. The keynote of every Missionary Volunteer meeting held so far has been a call to unreserved consecration for successful soul-winning. There has not been a meeting in which that note has not been heard clearly and distinctly above all others.

The first young people's meeting was held Sabbath afternoon, March 30. About five hundred young men and women were present. Among them were a number of young men who have been called into the service of our country. Aside from the young people who came, about a hundred workers dropped into the meeting. Elder MacGuire gave a short talk on soul-winning, and then invited all to participate in a consecration service. The response was most encouraging. I wish we could pass on to every young person the spirit of that meeting, and let it speak courage to his heart and fill him with a determination to "do right though the heavens fall."

Here are some fragments from a few of the testimonies given:

"The approval of God in soul-winning is the greatest ambition of my life."

"Consecration of the past is not sufficient for the opportunities of the present. I renew my consecration with you."

"I know there is power in the third angel's message to save young people. I want to be a soul-winner."

"With such a host of young people, there ought to be plenty of workers for missions."

"Every day I ask the Master to teach me the value of a soul."

"As I look back to the time when the Missionary Volunteer work was organized, I think, 'What hath God wrought!'"

"I want power from on high to win souls."

"Sitting here, I see India, with all of its millions. I wish you could see it. Oh, I wish you all burned with such desire that no power could hold you back from needy fields!"

"You can keep only what you give away, so I want to give God's love to those around me."

"I want to do my part in this closing work, so that when He comes he will not be disappointed in me."

"I want to say to the young people that after thirty-nine years in this truth I am of better courage than ever. I want to triumph with God's church."

"There is a pleasure in the world better than any pleasure of the world,—the pleasure of winning souls."

"It is my purpose to be a Missionary Volunteer who will receive the eternal reward that is awaiting the soul-winner."

Sunday afternoon the first departmental meeting was held. The theme of the meeting was "Our Work and Our Need."

Prof. C. L. Benson appealed for stronger efforts in behalf of our young people. Only about fifty per cent of them are in our schools, and many, both in school and out, do not know God. It is estimated that ten thousand young people brought up in Seventh-day Adventist homes are out in the world without Christ. Since we have begun gathering statistics, some conferences are finding from twenty-five to fifty per cent more young people than they thought they had. Their numbers call loudly for earnest effort; but the fact that many of our young people have no living connection with

heaven, pleads even more earnestly for effective service in their behalf.

Elder MacGuire said that the best way of spiritualizing our young people is to be filled with power from above. "If," said he, "the power of God flows out of our lives in an uninterrupted stream, it will flow into the lives of the young people whom we meet." We must earnestly strive to be what we ask the young people to become. We must lay hold on the almighty arm before we can put others in touch with it. Then, when we have paid the price of power, we must lay good plans for work,—plans that have for their very center the salvation of souls."

Many good, helpful thoughts were expressed by others. Professor Kern said: "It seems to me that God cannot be satisfied until every Missionary Volunteer is a soul-winner." Elder E. W. Farnsworth reminded us that "we need to plead with God for Spirit-filled men for this work." Elder A. O. Burrill, Mrs. Mina Mann, Prof. M. E. Cady, and others spoke, emphasizing the need of moving forward in this great work as one man, and in the closing prayer Brother S. A. Oberg asked the Master to guide us in doing this in his own way.

"Every Missionary Volunteer a Soul-Winner," was the theme of the second meeting. When it was time to open the meeting, the room was crowded beyond its seating capacity. Several took part in the discussion, and many excellent thoughts were given.

Elder MacGuire said: "We should go away from this Conference with a burning desire to win souls. . . . Some will not get in touch with the great dynamo of heaven. We must touch their lives, and then make the connecting link."

He emphasized strongly the importance of personal effort in the Conference. Sometimes a conference secretary, with from 500 to 1,200 young people, feels the one-by-one method too slow. But nevertheless this is the method that brings the largest and the most permanent results. Much of our effort is wasted because it is too general. Personal effort works like leaven. After it gets hold of a few, it spreads rapidly. But all must remember that back of all our efforts, stand our daily lives, to strengthen or to destroy our work.

Prof. L. H. Wood also emphasized the importance of the life of the worker. "Our inner lives will be the measure of the results of our work," he said, after drawing a practical lesson from the experience of Gehazi. Gehazi was sent to the Shunammite's home. He had received definite instructions; he carried them out, but no results were seen. We, too, have received definite instructions for work; but unless we receive power from on high, we shall fail, just as Gehazi did. Professor Wood also urged general helpfulness on the part of the personal worker, that by being all things to those for whom he works he may win them for Christ.

Brother W. W. Eastman spoke of the importance of distributing literature in the spirit in which it was written. The printed page is one of the greatest agencies God has given us to use in soul-winning work. It makes an entering wedge.

Elder F. W. Paap gave a brief but very helpful talk. He urged that Missionary Volunteers read all the literature they pass out, and that they remember that "their lives often are to the literature they handle, what the front cover is to a magazine."

Miss Grace Ford, when telling us of winning some young friends, said, "I know there is a God who answers prayer in behalf of others."

In closing, Professor Kern urged all to remember that it is our business to teach our young people how to work as young people. We fall short until every one is doing something. Let us determine to enlist every Missionary Volunteer as a soul-winner.

MATILDA ERICKSON.

Appointments and Notices

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

The eighth session (first biennial) of the District of Columbia Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held May 12, 1918, at Memorial Church, 1210 Twelfth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. The election of the conference officers and various other matters of interest to every loyal Seventh-day Adventist will come before the meeting. Each church is entitled to one delegate, without regard to numbers, and to one additional delegate for every ten members. The first meeting will be held May 12, at 9:30 A. M.

R. E. Harter, President.
R. C. Taylor, Secretary.

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CONFERENCE CORPORATION

The eighth session (first biennial) of the District of Columbia Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists will convene in Memorial Church, 1210 Twelfth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., at 10 A. M., Monday, May 13, 1918, to elect officers for the ensuing year, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the association.

R. E. Harter, President.
R. C. Taylor, Secretary.

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EAST MICHIGAN CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the East Michigan Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in connection with the camp-meeting and conference at Holly, Mich., June 6-16, 1918. The first meeting will be held Tuesday, June 11, at 9 A. M. Officers will be elected for the year, and such other business transacted as should properly come before the constituency.

A. J. Clark, President.
W. E. Perrin, Secretary.

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ADELPHIAN ACADEMY ASSOCIATION

Notice is hereby given that the Adelpian Academy Association will hold its annual meeting at Holly, Mich., June 6-16, 1918. The first meeting will convene Wednesday, June 12, at 9 A. M. Officers will be elected, and such other business transacted as should properly come before the constituency.

A. J. Clark, President.
T. W. Steen, Secretary.

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WESTERN WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

The first biennial session of the Western Washington Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene on the Manitou camp-ground, Tacoma, Wash., for the election of officers and the transaction of such other business as may come before the conference. The first session will be held Friday, June 14, 1918, at 9:30 A. M.

Each church is entitled to one delegate, irrespective of membership, and to one delegate for each fifteen of its members.

J. F. Piper, President.
T. L. Copeland, Secretary.

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WESTERN WASHINGTON CORPORATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

A meeting of the Western Washington Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists is called to meet on the camp-ground at Manitou Park, Tacoma, Wash., June 17, 1918, at 10 A. M., for the election of sixteen members of the constituency whose term expires at this session, and for the transaction of any other business that may properly come before the corporation.

J. F. Piper, President.
T. L. Copeland, Secretary.



WASHINGTON, D. C., MAY 2, 1918

EDITOR FRANCIS McLELLAN WILCOX
 ASSOCIATE EDITORS
 W. A. SPICER G. B. THOMPSON L. L. CAVINESS
 SPECIAL CONTRIBUTORS: A. G. DANIELLS L. R. CONRAD
 I. H. EVANS W. W. PRESCOTT

All communications relating to the EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT, and all manuscripts submitted for publication, should be addressed to EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT, Review and Herald, Takoma Park Station, Washington, D. C.

THE SPIRIT OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

WE have spoken before of the devotional feature of this session of the General Conference. More than at any other General Conference which we have ever attended this was the real spirit of the occasion. This was exemplified in the two devotional meetings held daily, to which we have already referred—at six o'clock and nine o'clock each forenoon. In the midst of a great gathering of this kind, when so many committees were busy preparing reports, and men had come from the ends of the earth to obtain what they considered necessary Conference action concerning important measures,—to see every committee cease its work and the entire Conference assemble in the West Hall, so called, and spend an hour in the consideration of themes relating to Christian growth and religious experience, was truly encouraging.

The spirit of devotion by no means ended there. It was carried as far as possible into the Conference session; it was seen in the quiet, earnest intercessions on the part of the delegates singly and in small groups, as they sought for the blessing of God from day to day.

The business part of the Conference passed very quietly. A general unanimity of action characterized the adoption of practically every measure. Men came to the Conference with widely different views on some questions, such as organization, and it was a matter of surprise to many that some of these great questions, so vitally affecting the very integrity of our work throughout the world, should be decided with absolute unanimity of action. This was true also in the matter of the election of officers. Those who were chosen to act as the leading standard bearers in this great movement for the next four years, received not alone the unanimous vote of the delegation, but of the entire congregation, when it was submitted to them for ratification.

Many questions have been decided so differently from what was anticipated, so differently from what those who heartily supported them had previously desired, that all feel that God worked mightily in bringing about united sentiment and harmonious action. These guiding providences on the part of God, in connection with those seen through all the years of the past, form a basis for hope in his leading in the future.

The work in which we are engaged is of God, and not of man. Fallible men are connected with it, but as they commit themselves to God, he is pleased to work through them,

in spite of their frailties and mistakes. The glory belongs to him. He is leading a people through to the heavenly Canaan. This movement is bound to triumph in the end. It does not rest in the field of experiment. It will triumph, and triumph gloriously, if we who are connected with it are willing to be molded and fashioned by the divine Architect. If we are willing to follow where our great Guide shall lead, we may go through trial and darkness, but the end will be peace and victory in the kingdom of God. The triumph of the great message to which we have devoted our lives, will be our triumph, because we have received that message into our hearts, and it has transformed us after the divine similitude.

F. M. W.

THE ELLEN G. WHITE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

By telegram word comes to us of the dedication of the Ellen G. White Memorial Hospital, April 21. The invocation prayer was offered by J. W. Christian, who has recently been asked to accept the presidency of the Pacific Union Conference. An address of welcome was then made by Hon. F. T. Woodman, mayor of Los Angeles. The address of the day was by Dr. E. R. Maloney, after which Elder A. G. Daniells gave the address of dedication, and Elder E. E. Andross offered the dedicatory prayer. There was a large representative audience. Twenty members of the General Conference Committee were present. The excellent equipment of the school has now enabled it to attain rating as a medical school of the "B" class. (Only a few heavily endowed or State schools have the A-class rating.) We hope later to present a full report.

The Loma Linda constituency meeting occurred April 22. An encouraging report was offered, showing good gains in operation during the past year. The board for next year was elected. The editor in chief of the REVIEW, who was present, expects to send later a full report of this meeting.

CONFERENCE SABBATH SERVICES FOR APRIL 6

THE first week of the Conference was a week of earnestly seeking God for his special blessing. This devotional spirit found expression Friday evening in the consecration of the entire audience which followed an earnest sermon by Elder R. D. Quinn. Brother Quinn drew many valuable lessons on intercession from the life of Samuel the prophet. He urged the believers to greater earnestness in seeking God, and in taking hold of the power God is waiting to bestow.

Sabbath forenoon Elder W. A. Spicer preached from the text, "Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward." Heb. 10:35. The importance of faith in these trying times in the world's history was emphasized. As God has led his people through the perils of the past, and given them strength for every time of need, so he will lead us today and in all future days. At the close of the service the audience arose in consecration to God, and were led in earnest prayer by Elder Allen Moon.

Sunday evening there was present in the Auditorium a splendid audience of probably some four thousand, many being from San Francisco. Dr. Morgan presided at the large pipe organ, and gave an inspiring organ recital for one-half hour preceding the service. Elder C. B. Haynes then preached on a subject dear to the heart of every believer, "The Return of Jesus." His earnest words thrilled the hearts of the believers present, and led all to desire most earnestly the return of their dearest Friend.

THE PRIMARY READING COURSE

As we read the good words that come to the Missionary Volunteer Department for the Primary Reading Course, we begin to ask ourselves, Are parents everywhere making the most of this splendid opportunity?

"Uncle Ben's Cloverfield," which is the first book in our Primary Course, has received a hearty welcome. One little girl to whom this book was read, said she would like to hear another story like that, because Uncle Ben thanked our good God for everything, and made everything talk.

A friend who read this book to another little girl writes: "She is able to tell almost any of the stories, and applies the lessons to her everyday life."

The Primary Reading Course made its first appearance last October. And for the sake of the little ones, we hope all parents will help their children who are not old enough to read for themselves, to take this course. The course is a special effort to help parents to get suitable reading matter for their little folks, and we believe that it will prove a great blessing to all who use it. If you are not fully acquainted with the course, and do not know how to conduct it, or have not learned of the little reward of merit it brings to the child who takes it, write to your conference Missionary Volunteer secretary.

MATILDA ERIKSON.

THE circulation of the *Present Truth* is still increasing. Since January 1, its average circulation has been more than 100,000 copies a week. The average during the past seven weeks was 122,063 copies a week.

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