



"The Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." Joshua 1:9

VOL. VI

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, FEBRUARY 22, 1912

NO. 8

THE SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE

MINUTES OF SIXTH BIENNIAL SESSION HELD AT NASHVILLE,
TENN., JAN. 15-24, 1912.

EIGHTH MEETING, 10 A. M., JAN. 22, 1912

THE meeting was held at the church school building in North Nashville.

Eld. C. F. McVagh in the chair. Minutes of the two previous meetings were read, corrected, and approved. Prof. M. B. VanKirk, educational secretary of the conference, gave a verbal report of the school work in the union which showed three church schools in the Tennessee River Conference, three individual schools being conducted along denominational lines in Mississippi, and two church schools maintained in Kentucky this year. Louisiana has one church school this year. Professor VanKirk stated that he felt a mistake had been made in placing at the head of this department, one who was tied down to a training school, and advised that the person who was called to the supervision of this department should be one who would be at liberty to visit the schools and give them his personal superintendence.

Chair called for the reading of resolutions on school work. Resolution No. 14 was read.

The resolution was quite fully discussed and the idea developed that the carrying out of this resolution would mean greater efficiency in our school work. Question called.

Resolutions No. 15 and 16 were read, and spoken to by Elder McVagh and others. Question was called, and upon being put to vote all the resolutions which had been discussed were adopted.

The Committee on Plans submitted the following partial report:—

18. *We recommend*, That the Southern Union Conference surrender to the Louisiana Conference Association the item of five hundred dollars (\$500), its equity in the New Orleans Mission property.

19. *We recommend*, That hereafter all donations received by this union conference and the institutions operating therein, be placed in the Loss and Gain account, specifying the same as donations.

20. *We recommend*, That the item of \$1,614.22, City Saving Bank Account, appearing as a resource in the financial statement of the Southern Union Conference, be charged to doubtful accounts, and the same to be inventoried at the end of the year on a percentage basis.

Moved and seconded to adopt by considering each item separately. At this juncture a motion to adjourn prevailed and the meeting was adjourned to 2:30 P. M.

NINTH MEETING, 2:30 P. M., JAN. 22, 1912

ELD. C. P. BOLLMAN, presiding. Prayer by Eld. W. R. Burrow. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. By common consent the Chair called for the re-

port of the Young People's Missionary Volunteer Society secretary. This report will be published later.

It was moved to adopt the report. In the discussion which followed Elder Maxwell stated that this was a very important report, and that it signifies that the ministers evidently have a work to do in educating our people to report the work which is done in the churches, because nothing encourages and inspires our zeal like a good missionary report. Question was called and the report unanimously adopted. Unfinished business was taken up and recommendations 18, 19, and 20 were read and question called, action on 21 was deferred until January 23. Question was called on 22, and action on 23 was also deferred until the following day.

The question was called and the report adopted with the above exception.

The Committee on Plans presented a further partial report as follows:—

24. *We recommend*, That a committee of three persons, with power to act in conjunction with the Southern Missionary Society, be elected to formulate plans for securing assistance in establishing and maintaining schools for the colored children and youth of the Southern States.

Voted to defer action on this report until January 23.

At this juncture Elder McVagh called attention to a fine display of shirts and gloves in the room and asked that some one explain the meaning of it.

Professor Boyd, principal of the Oakwood School, came forward and explained that in the past they had been badly handicapped by not being able to furnish sufficient work for the girls who wished to attend the Oakwood School. There was plenty of farm and improvement work for the boys, but they had been obliged to turn away many applications from girls because they had no employment for them. They therefore had started a sewing department to furnish work for the girls, and thus enable them to earn their way through the school.

Elder Haysmer stated that by this means they hoped to be able to raise the attendance of the school to the number Sister White had said should be in it, and urged the brethren to purchase some of these goods and advertise them, and thus help this worthy enterprise.

Elder McVagh stated that Mr. Foster, secretary of the Nashville Industrial League, an influential and wealthy business man in Nashville, had heard about the coming General Conference and had requested information concerning it. In response to this request he had asked Eld. C. B. Haynes to call upon this gentleman and give him the information desired. He had done so, and was ready to report.

Elder Haynes said he had seen Mr. Foster, and that Mr. Foster said he had been out to see the business men of the city about the possibility of securing the General Conference for Nashville, and that they had expressed a desire that it should be held here. Some had expressed the idea that they

must secure it. Elder Haynes introduced the following resolution:—

Whereas, The Nashville Industrial Bureau has submitted attractive inducements to the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists to hold their next quadrennial session in the spring of 1913 in the city of Nashville, and

Whereas, The holding of this coming session of the General Conference in Nashville would be a great blessing to the work the denomination is doing in the South, therefore,

25. Resolved, That we hereby earnestly request the General Conference Committee to arrange for the holding of the next session of the General Conference in the city of Nashville.

The resolution was spoken to by Elders Haynes, Bollman, Rees, and Maxwell, and carried.

Resolution No. 26 was introduced from the floor, as follows:—

26. Resolved, That we heartily endorse the action of the General Conference Committee in establishing the Press Bureau, and express to them our appreciation of the excellent instruction that has been given on the subject of press writing, at this conference, and be it further

Resolved, That we urge the ministers and other workers of this union to engage in this important work wherever they have opportunity to do so.

The resolutions were adopted by a rising vote of all who were present.

Eld. C. B. Haynes introduced resolution No. 27 as follows:—

Whereas, The Nashville daily papers have given excellent reports of the proceedings of this conference, which have been unusual in their fullness of detail, therefore

27. Resolved, That we hereby express our hearty appreciation of the publicity given the proceedings of this conference.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Elder Haynes suggested that as he would leave to-morrow, it might be well, now that the columns of the papers are open to us, to appoint persons to report future meetings. In accordance with this suggestion Elds. J. S. Washburn, E. L. Maxwell, and Bro. H. E. Simkin were appointed to this work. The meeting adjourned until 10 A. M. Jan. 23, 1912.

TENTH MEETING, HELD IN THE COLORED CHURCH, ON WINTER STREET, JAN. 23, 1912. 10 A. M.

Eld. C. F. McVagh in the chair. Meeting was opened with song and prayer. Chair called for the reports. Prof. C. J. Boyd presented the following report of the Oakwood Manual Training school:—

"During the past year our work at the Oakwood Manual Training School has shown many evidences that the prospering hand of our heavenly Father has rested upon it, for which we are grateful. All connected with the school, with but few exceptions, have enjoyed good health. We have had little sickness, no deaths, and few accidents. In general we have an earnest and enthusiastic class of young people. They are anxious to do something. The character of the students that we have at present has enabled us to classify the school and employ a system of gradation, the efficiency of which we are pleased with. Examinations are held each month, and reports rendered. Our students receive our teaching readily. We find that God's convincing truth and his converting power influences them. In April, twenty were baptized in one day, and three others in August. Still others are awaiting baptism as a result of special meetings that were held during the week of prayer just passed.

The school year is divided into three terms of twelve weeks each, and one term of eight weeks, allowing two periods of four weeks each for vacation; one in June, and the other in September.

In our daily program, class work is carried on from 6:45

until 9 in the morning, and from 6:30 until 8:40 in the evening, thus allowing seven hours per day for manual work, and enabling a student to pay his entire expenses in labor.

A new dining-hall, planned and erected by our physician, Dr. M. M. Martinson, and students, now adds greatly to the convenience of our equipment. In connection with this, an oven and bake room has just been completed. The room is well lighted, and all are constructed of concrete and present a clean, sanitary appearance.

A number of new fixtures and furnishings have also added much to the comfort of our sanitarium. This little institution has done some good work the past year. However, we are anxious to increase our patronage.

One of the strong features of our school work this year is our ministerial course. This department is in special charge of Eld. T. H. Jeys. The classes are well filled, and a deep interest in each subject is manifested on the part of the students. Several who are taking this course have been out with tent companies during the summer, and report many interesting experiences.

The *Gospel Herald*, the organ of the North American Negro Department of our General Conference, has been published at Oakwood since last January. The work on this paper is very beneficial to the institution, furnishing to the students as it does, profitable employment of an educational nature.

Professor Halladay and his boys are finishing the orphanage. It is practically ready to receive its furniture.

Our music work this year is in charge of Miss Mae Hollingsworth, and the students are making splendid progress in both instrumental and vocal work. Eighteen are taking instrumental lessons, and about forty are taking the vocal classes. The band is doing creditable work. Several new instruments have been added recently.

Fourteen girls are taking the sewing and dressmaking class. Several others are working their entire way through school in the sewing department. They have made uniforms for the girls, and are busy at present making shirts and canvas gloves. Others are engaged in sewing carpet rags for rugs. We are just now equipping our sewing department for a greater work. We have the entire up-stairs over our new dining-hall to use for this purpose. We are installing some new machines and other fixtures.

The farm is superintended by Bro. C. J. Harris. The usual variety of crops, corn, cow-peas, sorghum, sweet potatoes, cotton, vegetables, bulbs, and berries have been produced. About 800 bushells of sweet potatoes were harvested and are keeping nicely. The cattle have looked well the past year. We have eighteen head of milk cows on the place at the present time. Also twelve head of mules, two brood mares, and about 250 hens.

We are growing at the present time about twenty-five acres of winter grain, of which fifteen acres are wheat, and ten acres oats.

Among recent improvements I will mention the plastering and finishing of our new sewing room; the ceiling of the printing office; the installing of a new retort in our cannery; and the setting up of a new saw and shingle mill. Several of our boys are now kept busy cutting and hauling logs and working up our cedar into fence posts. We have a large amount of fencing to do this year.

A part of the lumber that we are sawing out will be used in the construction of the large tool house that we are planning to build soon. Several of our neighbors are also hauling logs to have cut into lumber or shingles at our mill.

Recent additions to the equipment of our chapel building are a new gasoline lighting system; a new soft coal heater in each recitation room, and the chapel; and a new case of maps.

We are preparing to reshingle the old home building, and have purchased new windows for the main part. We have also recently placed a new Acme fire extinguisher in each building on the place.

We have dug 400 bbl. cisterns at the sanitarium, the chapel, and the boy's dormitory. They will be finished in concrete. The one proposed for the dining-hall is not yet begun.

While the institution has been blessed by the special efforts put forth by Elder Haysmer the past summer, which enabled us to provide these conveniences, and also by the aid of the General Conference in supporting our teachers, still the school is not beyond need. In accordance with the will of the Lord it has been planted for the purpose of uplifting the colored people. We have here a school and a sanitarium well equipped for the work they are designed to do. We think there are few schools that are able to offer the inducements to young people who are desirous of obtaining an education that this institution is offering.

Our present attendance is sixty-five; but according to the word of the Lord's servant it should be twice as large. There are many strong young men and women in this Southland who are interested in the work of Seventh-day Adventists, but have not yet embraced the truth because they have had no one to encourage or teach them.

I know of a young man in the State of Florida, a Methodist, who is over thirty years of age and has a wife and child. He is a minister of the gospel, honest, industrious, sincere, and devoted. He became acquainted with some of our white brethren a few years ago and believes our teachings. But having no company or church with which to meet, still preaches to his neighbors in the little log church, doing the best he knows how. He has needed encouragement. We have corresponded with him, and he is trying to arrange his affairs so as to come to Oakwood.

We want sanitarium patients at Oakwood, and we want students. Students of mature age who come with a definite aim and are willing to endure and to be faithful in their work. These will find a welcome at our school and will find their teachers eager to assist them in qualifying themselves for places of responsibility that will reflect honor upon the Lord's cause.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE OAKWOOD MANUAL TRAINING SCHOOL FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 9, 1911

RESOURCES

Inventories:—

Real Estate	\$25,660.00
Insurance	347.02
Store	391.02
Shop	115.50
Printing Department	1,444.63
Medical Department	146.79
Sewing Department	125.74
Fuel	114.59
Sanitarium Furniture	471.12
Home and School Furniture	1,294.77
Farm	5,032.72
Apiary	50.00
Poultry	140.55
Rug Department	7.71
Library	40.32
Band Instruments	52.00
Office Expense	132.25
Boarding Club	198.75
Well	299.47
Orphanage Furniture	25.00

\$36,089.95

Dining-Hall	2,177.14
Personal accounts receivable	2,515.16
Firms accounts receivable	71.53
Conference accounts receivable	322.64
Medical accounts receivable	51.60
Huntsville Bank and Trust Co. ...	2,919.70
Cash	768.15

\$44,915.87

LIABILITIES

Annuity	\$90.00
Equipment	1,490.23
Orphanage Maintenance	64.27
Orphanage Building	302.78
Scholarship Fund	96.66
Educational Fund	39.27
Personal accounts payable	964.02
Donation Trust Funds	442.26
Miscellaneous accounts payable	117.55

\$3,607.04

Net Present Worth, \$41,308.83

LOSS

Salary	\$4,545.29
Insurance	141.63
Store	9.32
Shop	93.50
Home and School Furniture	82.66
Farm	1,478.36
Apiary	26.89
Poultry	83.74
Band Instruments	7.26
Expense	709.97
Loss and Gain	274.37
Repairs	71.75
Road Expense	1.51

\$7,526.25

GAIN

Printing Department	\$114.13
Medical Department	84.21
Sewing Department	4.18
Fuel Account	1,461.79
Office Expense	35.78
Boarding Club	710.25
Salary	4,545.29

\$6,955.63

Oakwood Manual Training School Net Loss \$570.62

Cr. by Present Worth Nov. 30, 1910 \$36,995.32

Cr. by Appropriations Nov. 30, 1910

to Dec. 9, 1911 3,094.71

Cr. by Equipment Fund Nov. 30, 1910

to Dec. 9, 1911 1,247.36

Cr. by Donations Nov. 30, 1910

to Dec. 9, 1911 542.06

\$41,879.45

Dr. by Net Loss Year ending Dec. 9, 1911 570.62

Oakwood Manual Training School Present Worth \$41,308.83

It was voted to accept the financial report subject to audit. Professor Boyd was requested to give some account of the donations which were contributed by manufacturers in the northern cities for the Oakwood School. He stated that

he received a car load of furniture from Grand Rapids, Mich., and a carload of heavy woven wire fencing from Chicago. A certain firm donated a steam pump, another firm donated half the price of a new saw mill purchased for the school, and another gave them 100 rakes, 50 hoes, and 25 pitch-forks.

A. F. Harrison asked about plans for releasing certain students during vacation for the purpose of earning scholarships.

Professor Boyd replied that a student who works his way, requires at least eleven months at Oakwood in which to do the same class work that is done in other schools in nine months, that charge cash tuition.

The Committee on Plans presented the following further report:—

Whereas, The Rock City Sanitarium has been established in harmony with advice from the spirit of prophecy, to do a special work for the student body, and teachers of the many educational institutions of this city and vicinity, and

Whereas, The labor put forth by the institution during the past three years has been signally blessed by the Lord, and is already bringing forth fruit along these and other lines, and

Whereas, The institution is at present very poorly equipped to do the work assigned it in an efficient and representative way, therefore,

28. *Resolved*, That our white and colored brethren in the Southern Union Conference be requested to assist in putting the building in a presentable condition and in properly equipping the same:—

(a) By personal donations.

(b) By using their influence to encourage colored people in their respective fields, who are sick and able to pay for their treatment, to come to the sanitarium.

(c) By securing the co-operation of the members of the churches in its territory in the "Ministry of Healing" campaign.

(d) That a representative of the sanitarium be privileged to visit churches in the Southern Union Mission in the interest of the colored missionary work.

The unfinished business was taken up by reading resolutions 10, 11, and 12, and questions were called as they were read. After reading No. 13, Brother Blake inquired why the division was contemplated in this manner.

Eld. C. P. Bollman suggested that this recommendation be changed in such a way as to make it read as follows:—

(a) Rock City Sanitarium, Tennessee and Kentucky.

(b) Oakwood Sanitarium, Alabama and Louisiana.

(c) That the proceeds from the sales in Mississippi be divided equally between these two sanitariums.

The suggestion was discussed at some length, after which the meeting adjourned until 1:30 P. M.

ELEVENTH MEETING, 1:30 P. M. JAN. 23, 1912

The meeting opened with Eld. C. F. McVagh in the chair. Prayer was offered by Eld. J. E. White.

Resolution No. 24 was made the special order of the hour in order to give Elder White, who could not be with us at a later time, opportunity to speak to it.

The resolution was then read.

Elder White was requested to explain the import of this resolution, and responded by saying that there was in it a proposition that did not appear on the surface, and which it might not be well to incorporate in it; that for fourteen years he had advocated the plan of procuring donations from people of means outside our own ranks for the purposes mentioned. He then gave an extended narration of what had been accomplished along this line in the past, and what it was hoped might be accomplished in the future.

D. E. Blake and Elders McKinney and Jordan also spoke to the question. Eld. C. F. McVagh said: "I do not know just what is intended by this recommendation. I am in perfect harmony with any plan that will do the work to which we are called. I heard a statement a few days since to the effect that the devil would be pleased to have all the members of this denomination engage in selling Bibles, to the neglect of our denominational literature, and thus fail to give the message for this time. Some may say that the message is in the Bible. True; but Methodists, Presbyterians, and all other denominations may sell Bibles, and the Bibles which they sell read just the same as the Bibles we sell, but in selling the Bible these people are not giving the third angel's message, nor would we be.

"Then, too, we need not expect the General Conference to continue indefinitely the large appropriations that are now being made to the colored work in the South. This denomination is appropriating more for the work among the ten millions of colored people in the Southern States than they are for the same purpose among three hundred million people in India.

"Too much money sometimes spoils the work by fostering a spirit of dependence rather than one of sacrifice. I know of one field at least where the work was ruined by too much money. Some of the brethren who owned a diamond mine built up mammoth institutions, and the work seemed for a time to flourish. But after awhile it died, and we are now at work building it up again, not on diamond mines, but upon the spirit of sacrifice.

"I do not wish any one to think that I am opposed to good works, but too much charity is not good. I do not believe it a good thing to say to people, Send your children along, we will educate them and it will not cost you a cent. I would not want my child educated that way, for it would not develop the right principles in her."

Eld. C. P. Bollman: "I would not have any one get the idea that Elder McVagh was opposing the recommendation, for it seems that the idea of such an organization as the Southern Missionary Society was advocated long ago by the Testimonies; but this recommendation is for the purpose of determining whether there shall be a shred of the only association left which can hold property, or whether such action shall be taken at this meeting as will practically destroy the last vestige of it."

The hour for the legal meeting of the Southern Missionary Society having arrived, recess was taken.

Immediately at the close of the recess the discussion of the above mentioned recommendation was resumed, and it was spoken to by E. H. Rees, A. F. Harrison, C. P. Bollman, and Eld. A. J. Haysmer. The last named speaker inquired what was intended by "Southern Missionary Society,"—whether it was the legal body or the operating body, that was meant.

Elder Maxwell explained that it meant the incorporated body, and that it was so stated in the original draft of the resolution which was handed to the Committee on Plans. He stated further, that he thought the recommendation a good one.

Elder Haysmer: "I am heartily in favor of securing all the means we can for this work, but I believe in doing it in the Lord's appointed way. I understand that the Southern Missionary Society was merged into the General Department, and the minutes show that this was the plan and what was contemplated. If the resolution contemplates the General Department, then I am in favor of it. But if it means the Southern Missionary Society Incorporated, let it be so stated, and let it be limited to the Southern Union Conference only."

Adjourned to call of the Chair.

Our Publishing House

HOME OFFICE NEWS

SALES report for two weeks ending Feb. 16, 1912: Total number of bound volumes, 4,445; *Watchman*, 3,864.

CANVASSERS' LETTERS — TENNESSEE RIVER

YOUR kind letter received. I am thankful to the Lord for the love and confidence that exists between publishers and canvassers, and in all departments of our work. Though our work is growing large, there are no strikes among us, as there are in the world. We canvassers do not have to give security in order to get our books. But all praise be to the Lord for what he has done for us. This shows what he would do for the world, if all were led by him.

People tell me that all the publishers care for me, is what money they can make out of me, and that I had better prepare for old age. I tell them that the publishers are poor people like myself, and that we are connected in one great cause,—to warn the world, and save people from sin, and show them by the Scriptures that we expect to live till the year of jubilee; but their eyes are blinded.

I am glad that you did more in 1911 than in 1910. As you said, your success was due to the efforts of the canvassers, but our success is due to the good faithful work done by the publishers, and your prayers for us. In all the books I delivered last fall, I only found one with a slight defect, on which I made a reduction of twenty cents. I appreciate your promptness in shipping my books. You manage to always be ready for us. I received my books promptly, even in time of the strike. I have nothing to send you except my good will, and my intention to make my business and your business so far as it is in my power, better this year than last. I know I missed a treat by not being at the Bookmen's Convention, and might have been there had I not come home to study, and assist my aged parents through this hard winter. I appreciate the stirring reports from the convention.

May the Lord bless you. Remember the canvassers in your prayers.

C. H. CHENAULT.

KENTUCKY

THE Lord has certainly blessed me in my delivery. I delivered all the books I had orders for, and could have sold two more if I had had them. The roads were muddy and bad, but the people had their money ready to take their books; so I praise the Lord for the success I have had, and give him all the glory. The books I have sold in Pulaski are creating quite an interest. They want to hear a preacher, and learn more about the truth. Pray for me that I may be faithful.

JOHN R. STATON.

I FINISHED my country territory about two weeks ago, and week before last worked Salt Town, just across the river from us. Last week I assisted Brother Ray in his territory, and intend to canvass this town with "Great Controversy" the coming week.

Brother Beck was with us Sabbath and we spent the day reading the Bible, and rehearsing our Sabbath-school lessons. My intention is to put in as many hours as possible this year. May God's Word be hastened.

C. R. MILLAR.

I AM enjoying my work, and at different times find people who are much interested in present truth. I have taken one order for "Bible Footlights" from a family of strong Roman Catholics. I met a lady who has "Bible Readings" in her home and is very much interested in the straight Bible teaching contained in our books, and seemed much astonished at the unscriptural teaching of other churches.

Another lady who has already read "Bible Footlights" signed for a copy.

D. C. RAY.

OKLAHOMA

In looking over the yearly report of the colporteurs who canvassed for subscription books in Oklahoma during 1911, we find some interesting facts. The first thing that stands out in the report is that it took 23,095 hours to take the orders and deliver the \$25,179.35 worth of books. This makes \$1.09 worth of books delivered for each hour put in, or a wage of 54 cents an hour. This is \$4.32 for an eight-hour day. Surely the Lord of the harvest paid them well for the seed sowing.

The question will arise in your mind, Why then did any of the colporteurs come up short? There are at least two reasons which we will go deeper into at another time. Suffice it to say now, that there were fifty-eight workers who made this record, and the average time put in was only 398 hours each, or ten forty-hour weeks. Those who put in more time received higher wages for the time put in. We find that twenty of the above colporteurs put in 14,075 hours' time, or an average of eighteen forty-hour weeks. These twenty received \$25,575.58 worth of orders and delivered \$18,529.85 worth of books during the above time. This was an average delivery of over 72 per cent as against a little over 70 per cent for the whole state. We find that these twenty canvassers actually delivered an average of \$1.31 worth of books for every hour put in during the year. This was a wage for them of over 65 cents an hour, or \$5.24 for an eight-hour day.

I hear some one ask, "Well, Brother Collison, was there any one who did better than this?" Oh, yes! There were several students who delivered \$2 worth and more an hour for every hour put in during the vacation; but I will tell you of these another time. I can not forbear to say in this connection that the ones who received the largest wages per hour put in ten or twelve hours a day also.

We find that each of sixteen Oklahoma colporteurs secured over \$1,000 worth of orders during the year 1911. Seven of these secured over \$1,500 worth, five over \$1,800 worth, and two \$2,146.50 and \$2,268.35 respectively.

To the Lord be all the praise. The harvest truly is ripe, but where are the reapers?

CHAS. L. COLLISON.

BRO. A. F. HARRISON LEAVES THE SOUTHERN UNION

THE friends of Bro. A. F. Harrison felt a tugging at the heartstrings when they said good-by to him about two weeks ago when he left Nashville for Keene, Texas, having been elected to the general agency of the Southwestern Union Conference.

Brother Harrison goes to Keene to take the place made vacant by Eld. W. W. Eastman's coming to the Southern Publishing Association as manager of our book department. Brother Harrison is one of the oldest workers in the Southern Union Conference. He came from Kansas in December, 1888, bringing a company of canvassers with him, and locating at Shreveport, La. He remained there one year, and then took up his residence in New Orleans, where he stayed one and one-half years, moving from there to Atlanta, Ga., where he remained for two years, then moving to Graysville, Tenn., where he has resided eighteen and one-half years.

For eighteen years Brother Harrison was general missionary agent for the territory now controlled by the Southern and Southeastern Union Conferences. Four years ago a division was made, and since that time he has been in charge of the book work in the Southern Union Conference. Under Brother Harrison's able leadership, the sales for the Southern Union Conference for the past three years have been as follows: 1909, \$28,976.26; 1910, \$35,187.68; 1911, \$51,312.16. As we look

over the field and see what has been accomplished in the twenty-three years of his service, we feel to say, "What has God wrought!"

Brother Harrison leaves the field with the best wishes and earnest prayers of his former associates. We shall miss his smiling countenance and friendly counsel, but we believe that the Lord has called him to a field of even greater usefulness. "May God bless you, Brother Harrison," is the sentiment in the hearts of every one of his friends in this field.

When Brother Harrison was elected to the Southwestern Union the Southern Union Conference Committee selected Bro. C. D. Wolff, now field agent of the Tennessee River Conference, to take his place. Brother Wolff is a man of long experience, in fact is a veteran in the book work. We believe that, under God, the standard which has been maintained by the retiring general agent will be kept up by his successor. Earnest prayers will be offered for Brother Wolff, and we trust that our brethren everywhere will remember these workers as they take up their new duties. Brother Wolff will be succeeded in the Tennessee River Conference by Bro. C. F. Dart, field missionary agent of Kentucky. Brother Dart has been in the book work for many years and his experience and counsel will be worth much to the work in this conference. Bro. H. E. Beck, one of Kentucky's faithful canvassers, has been selected to take the work laid down by Brother Dart, and we bespeak for him the earnest co-operation of the Kentucky brethren. We trust that the Lord will bless the changes that have been made, to his glory. The work is onward, and we feel of better courage than ever before.

Bro. H. E. Simkin is superintending the construction of our new office building. The foundation is now being laid.

SOUTHERN PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION,

R. Hook, Jr., *Gen'l Mgr.*

Alabama Conference

Our institute at Birmingham was not as well attended as we hoped it would be. Yet we had a profitable meeting, and the outlook for the canvassing work is very encouraging. Our January report was larger in number of orders taken and books delivered than for the corresponding month of last year.

A large number of the church-members attended the class, and studied the canvass for "Ministry of Healing." A number ordered books to sell, and Sister Elford delivered three before the institute closed.

One item of special interest connected with our institute was the publicity our work received through the daily papers. Nearly every day we had a notice of our meetings in the morning and evening papers, and often a synopsis of one of the sermons of the previous day was also published.

The last Sunday of the institute the paper contained an article on the growth of our work. About 29,000 of these were circulated. Our work was thus brought to the attention of the people of Birmingham and the surrounding towns, as it has never been before.

Our colored institute will be held in Montgomery, beginning March 1. Eld. W. R. Elliott, Eld. G. E. Peters, and the writer will be there to help make it profitable and interesting.

Till further notice, all correspondence regarding the canvassing work should be addressed to Eld. W. R. Elliott, General Delivery, Birmingham, Ala., as he has charge of the work while the writer is recuperating.

R. I. KEATE.

Kentucky Conference

MISSIONARY INSTITUTE

Time is fast passing, and the coming of Christ is drawing nearer each week.

To the church there has been committed a special work for these last days: "And 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." The work of warning all nations is to be carried forward by those who themselves have accepted the message. When the prophet of God saw the mighty movement in which they were engaged, he saw Seventh-day Adventists going from state to state, from city to city, and from door to door, telling the people to get ready for the coming of our Lord.

Instruction is necessary to qualify us to do this work; therefore a missionary institute will be held at Grove, Ky., March 15-25, and we desire that as many as possible, will attend, take the instruction, and go out with the printed page. God says to the people, "Buy the truth, and sell it not." Prov. 23:23. So, dear brethren, you see that the Lord is interested in the selling of the truth that is contained in our books and papers. Those who sell the printed page are doing missionary work of the highest order.

Have you heard the call of God to work in his vineyard? If so please heed the pleadings of the Holy Spirit, and begin now to lay plans to attend the institute at Grove, March 15-25. We have heard from several who expect to be there, and we would be glad to add your name to the list. Good help will be present to instruct in the colporteur work, also to teach the message. If you are stirred by this call, write at once.

Brother Dart has been called to take charge of the book and magazine work in the Tennessee River Conference. We are sorry to part with him, and will miss his counsel very much. I feel sure that the brethren throughout the conference will remember him in their prayers.

Bro. H. E. Beck has been chosen field agent of the Kentucky Conference and has been helping Brother Pound deliver books the past week.

Brethren Ray and Millar are still selling the printed page in Bullitt County, with headquarters at Shepherdsville.

Brother and Sister Dow, who are working in Livingston County, report some interesting experiences there. They are now holding meetings in the Methodist church at Ledbetter. Sr. Marie Wirth reports having all the Bible work she can do in Lexington, and that several of her readers are deeply interested.

Brother Lindsay has received a call to hold meetings at Antioch, in Washington County. This call comes from one who is not a member of our church. Pray that God will give Brother Lindsay his Holy Spirit to guide him in his effort to bring souls into the church.

B. W. BROWN.

We extend a standing invitation to any one desiring to enter the work to come to Kentucky, and promise you territory where the people are waiting and longing to have this message explained to them.

Brethren how can any one who knows the truth stand back and wait for some one else to give the message? The Testimonies tell us that the days in which we live are solemn and important. That the Spirit of God is gradually, but surely, being withdrawn from the earth. Plagues and judgments are already falling upon the despisers of the grace of God. The condition of things in the world shows that

troublesome times are right upon us. Therefore let us rally to the work and finish it, so that we may soon be rewarded, and enter the home the Saviour is preparing for us.

Our institute will be held at the Grove church, Casey Co., March 15-25, instead of March 4-14 as stated in the *WORKER* of February 8. We expect that a goodly number will go out from there to work. We have now five colporteurs in the field, and expect others will be there soon.

Personally, I ask the prayers of our people in my behalf, to the end that I may faithfully and efficiently perform my duties as field missionary agent, in the place of Brother Dart, who has been called to Tennessee. Address all correspondence pertaining to the book or periodical work to me at 1470 Beech St., Louisville, Ky.

H. E. BECK.

Louisiana Conference

PRAISE THE LORD

"GREAT is the Lord and greatly to be praised." He has done wonderful things for us, and we surely ought to feel like praising him continually; and we should *do so* whether we *feel* like it or not. We should praise him because he has made us and preserved us and is the author of all our blessings. He has also provided for us, who were lost and doomed to eternal death, a great salvation that fully satisfies our needs. And it is free—free for the asking. He has great plans for us for the future. God is good and God is love; and the excellent things he has provided for us will never cease. We are constantly receiving his blessings, and our capacity to receive and our pleasure in receiving will ever be increasing. It is true that, "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." Should we not praise him that the precious present truth, the saving power of God for this time, has been revealed to us? No blessing can equal or compare with this. So let us night and day, in heart, in word, and in deed, praise him who bestows so many blessings upon us.

I am giving Bible readings to quite a number of interested families, also giving away Family Bible Teachers, and selling some of our message-filled books. I find much joy in my work for souls.

Is there any reason why the people of God should not have the best of courage? If not let us seek diligently until we find it.

O. F. FRANK.

Lake Charles.

Mississippi Conference

TO THE SABBATH-SCHOOLS

SEVEN weeks of this quarter are now in the past. What is the record?

Is the interest in the study of God's Word increasing? Are the members of each school regular in their attendance? Are you interesting your neighbors in the Sabbath-school lessons?

Are the contributions as large as at the corresponding time last quarter? Remember that by the help of the Lord we hope to reach the \$100 mark this quarter, and that means that we must lift just a little harder than last quarter.

"Let us consider one another to provoke [stimulate] unto love and good works: not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one

another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

Do you not think it would be right for those who are sick and can not attend Sabbath-school to send their donation?

Brethren and sisters, "We are facing events that closely precede the coming of the Lord. . . . Those who would be prepared for the coming of Christ must make diligent work for eternity." "They have no time to lose; for the end of all things is at hand." Let us be fervent in spirit, serving the Lord. Let us be in our place at the Sabbath-school. Soon the privileges we now enjoy will be denied us. Let us be faithful in every duty for we are homeward bound.

MRS. MOLLIE MILLER.

Tennessee River Conference

REMEMBER

REMEMBER our colporteurs' institute.

Remember the date,—March 4-14.

Remember to pray for its success.

Remember the place,—Springville, Tenn.

Remember that this will be a very important meeting.

Remember that competent help will be present.

Remember that this is to be the best institute ever held in the conference.

Remember to interest others and assist them to attend.

Remember to attend yourself.

Remember that those who work twelve weeks in the field will have the cost of their transportation, and their entertainment at the institute, refunded.

Remember to inquire of C. F. Dart for further particulars.

Remember that my address is 511 Cole Building, Nashville, Tenn.

C. F. DART.

THE WATCHMAN—THE PRESENT TRUTH EVANGELIZER

THE February *Watchman* certainly took well, for we had no difficulty in disposing of the entire edition, and the prospects are bright for the March issue. This is as it should be, as the highly artistic and significant picture on our cover page will indicate. We consider it the best we have yet had. Will you not bear the message of truth to your neighbors by ordering a supply of this number of the *Watchman* for distribution?

The following are some of the leading features:—

"The Church with a Definite Message." In this the editor will show how Seventh-day Adventists are sounding a true note in this world of discord.

"July the Twenty-third, The Awakening of Turkey," is the latest contribution of our well-known writer, Prof. Percy T. Magan. Surely the events in the East warrant a close study of this interesting article.

J. S. Washburn will show, in his striking manner, how the popular "gentlemen of the cloth" are seeking to revise the Decalogue. Surely this is treason in the sight of Heaven. But the Word has said that men will do this, and other things in the last days. This is one of the striking signs of the times.

R. A. Underwood will show in "The Power of Godliness," how the Holy Spirit, when earnestly sought, will humble the human heart instead of "puffing it up."

A question which is one of great interest will be thoroughly dwelt upon in "Our Earth in the Future," by Wm. Covert. This article will show from the Bible what the future has in store for our earth.

The *Watchman* is steadily gaining ground, and our slogan for 1912 reads thus: "Average monthly circulation of the

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Watchman for 1912, 50,000 copies." Surely this is a minimum figure for a magazine of this high standard. Will you not help us to attain it by ordering through your tract society to-day?

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SOUTHERN PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION.

2123 24th Ave. N., Nashville, Tenn.

CANVASSING REPORT FOR THE SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE

For Week Ending Feb. 10, 1912

ALABAMA CONFERENCE

NAME	Book	Hrs.	Ords.	Value	Helps	Total	Delivered
W F Nance 2 wksck	64	28	\$42 00	\$15 85	\$57 85	\$12 00	
S S Guilford.....BF	28	15	22 00	4 60	23 25	1 50	
I W Peavy.....BF	35	20	30 00	13 00	39 00	3 00	
G W Brown.....BF	45	8	10 50	4 00	14 50	7 50	
M L Ivory.....BF	43	21	31 50		31 50		

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE

Curtis Pound ...BF	37	25	30 00		30 00		
C R Millar ...BF	36	9	9 00	1 50	10 50	1 00	
D C Ray.....BF	38	2	2 00	50	2 50	50	

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

M B Wilson....PPF	38	13	21 50	2 50	24 00	25	
T S Sligh.....BF	25	9	9 00	7 25	16 25	4 00	
C W Brown.....BF	38	13	14 50	75	15 25	9 00	

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE

H C BalsbaughGC SC	36	38	29 00		29 00	8 70	
W H Haddon....BF	11	3	5 50	1 10	6 60	1 00	
J S Fry.....BF	26	9	9 00	3 25	12 25	3 25	
L A Fry.....CK	5	2	3 00	3 20	6 20	3 20	
Ella Johnson ...BF	31	2	3 00	2 25	5 25	13 50	
M A Murphy....BF	24	12	14 00	2 50	16 50	1 00	
John Hampton ...BF	33	12	13 00	4 00	17 00	4 00	
E P Campbell....PG	33	4	16 00	10 75	26 75		

TENNESSEE RIVER CONFERENCE

R H Hazelton...BF	70	19	19 00	40 00	59 00	11 45	
Mamie Moore 2WDR	59	31	62 50	2 85	65 35	23 35	
Curt Payne 2 w D&R	44	13	39 00		39 00		
A C Williman 2 WGC	87	21	66 00	7 50	73 50	11 50	
Emma R Jones....BF	10	21	26 00	4 00	30 00	1 00	
Carrie L Sims...BF	20	19	21 00	1 50	22 50		
Eugene Sykes 2w BR	70	12	24 00	1 50	25 50		
C E Morphey 2w BF	52	6	6 50	2 50	9 00	37 25	
J S Moore 2 wks —	30	2	2 50	1 75	4 25	3 75	
Mrs C E MorpheyBF	8					4 50	

Melissa Tillman .BF 13 20 24 00 2 50 26 50 21 35

SUMMARY

Alabama Conf	215	92	136 00	37 45	166 10	24 00	
Kentucky Conf	111	36	41 00	2 00	43 00	1 50	
Louisiana Conf	101	35	45 00	10 50	55 50	13 25	
Mississippi Conf ...	199	82	92 50	27 05	119 55	34 65	
Tenn River Conf... 464	164	290 50	64 10	354 60	114 15		

Totals1090 409 \$605 00 \$141 00 \$738 75 \$188 55

MAGAZINE AGENTS' REPORT

For Week Ending Feb. 10, 1912

ALABAMA CONFERENCE

Agent	No.	Value
W F Nance.....	25	\$ 2 50
Mrs C B Jeffries.....	1657	165 70
Mrs C E Dasent.....	150	15 00

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE

Milton Jones	66	6 60
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TENNESSEE RIVER CONFERENCE

W J Keele.....	135	13 50
J A Fry.....	18	1 80
Lee McAlexander	11	1 10

SUMMARY

Alabama Conference	1832	183 20
Kentucky Conference	66	6 60
Tennessee River Conference.....	164	16 40

Totals 2062 \$206 20

CANVASSING REPORT FOR THE SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE FOR JANUARY, 1912

State	Agts.	Hrs.	Ords.	Value	Delivered	Total Val.
Louisiana Conf ..	6	343	54	\$ 117 95	\$ 238 80	\$ 356 55
Mississippi Conf	12	542	357	508 40	226 30	734 70
Alabama Conf ..	5	305	126	231 65	173 60	305 25
Tenn River Conf.	10	432	214	343 65	71 50	415 15
Kentucky Conf ..	3	383	176	228 50	68 75	297 25

Totals 36 2005 927 \$1429 95 \$778 95 \$2208 90

C. D. WOLFF, General Agent.

AN EXPLANATION

IN the minutes of the Union Conference proceedings published last week, several reports are referred to as being "marked A," or "marked B," etc., with the statement that they would be given hereafter or be found elsewhere. The reports referred to would no doubt be of interest to our readers, but thus far we have not been able to procure them. If discovered, they will probably be published later.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

HEREAFTER all mail intended for the president of the Southern Union Conference should be sent to Eld. S. E. Wight, 511 Cole Building, Nashville, Tenn. Mail for the secretary and treasurer of the Southern Union Conference and the Southern Missionary Society should be sent to Eld. E. H. Rees, at the same address. Mail for the field secretary of the Southern Union Mission, should in future be sent to Eld. C. F. McVagh, Simpkin St., Nashville, Tenn.

WANTED

To correspond with some Seventh-day Adventist brick-layer who would be willing to come to Nashville for temporary work on our new building. Address the Southern Publishing Association, 2119-2123 24th Ave. North, Nashville, Tenn.