

A. S. Daniels

The West Michigan Herald.

"Watchman, What of the Night."

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Notes from The Allegan Sabbath-school Convention.

One of the most interesting subjects that was discussed at the convention was "What Kind of a Sabbath-school Teacher I Like." Young people were chosen to lead out in this. Lloyd Brackett read a paper and Miss Laura Kellogg and Master Tait Buck gave short talks, after which the question was open for others, and the subject was made interesting for a time. We give our readers the benefit of the paper and some of the talks.

EDITOR.

The Kind of Sabbath-school Teacher I Like.

First of all, I prefer a lady for a teacher because they make it more interesting, at least for the boys.

Next I like a young lady, older ones are often hard of hearing and make one talk too loud. Also old people are apt to not talk as loud as they should considering the size of the class before which they stand.

Some say the best kind of teach-

ers are those who do not themselves know the lesson as they then expect more of the pupil and he therefore takes more interest in his class.

There are others who say a teacher should not ask the questions directly from the quarterly, but should disguise them so as to make the student study on them from all points of view.

I do not agree with either one of these ideas. Teachers, to be the right kind, should know the lesson perfectly and be able to make clear all questions which trouble those whom they are teaching. They also should ask the questions exactly as they appear on the lesson sheet. Harm is sometimes done by teachers when they do not do this. They harm the student, not themselves. It gives the pupil a reputation that he should not have inasmuch as it makes the teacher think he does not have his lesson.

For instance, a teacher I had some time ago had the habit of constructing the questions so they often had a different meaning. The questions were never asked as they appeared in the pamphlet, and as a result the class did not often take much interest and the teacher answered most of the questions. I suppose it was thought that we did not have our lessons although we really did, and had the questions been asked as we had heard them, we would really have been an excellent class.

The teacher should be an earnest Christian, one the class can look up to as an example of the truths she teaches. She should be gentle, standing before her class in a quiet, unassuming manner, not calling attention to herself, but to the lesson.

The most pleasing of all teachers

are those who can teach us lessons from their own lives.

LLOYD BRACKETT.

LAURA KELLOGG.—I think that the teacher need not be particularly young, but she should have at least good hearing and should be able to talk loud enough so we can understand what she is saying. She should also be an example. Of course we should follow Christ as our example, but she should follow Christ in her life near enough so we will at least know who we are following. I think she should be cheerful when she stands before us so we will not be afraid to answer questions. When she asks the questions she should ask them so they will be somewhat the same as those in the book. When she has asked those questions, she could keep on asking them in different ways and thus train our minds so that when worldly people ask us questions we can answer them from the Bible.

I think what else was said is right, that she should dress unassumingly and stand before us as Christ would stand before us, because we look to our teacher in Sabbath-school as we look to our parents at home for an example.

TAIT BUCK.—The kind of teacher I like is one who can make it interesting. I do not know whether I would prefer a lady or a gentleman, but the one that can make it interesting is the one I want,—one that can hear well, face the class, and has her lesson. I want her to be a Christian so we can follow her example. I want a teacher who will bring out new thoughts as well as the ones I already knew.

A. G. HAUGHEY.—I have tried teaching some, and I found that I enjoyed pupils that could teach me something. I believe that is right

on this subject, "The Kind of a Teacher I Like." I believe we ought to have a teacher that is capable of being taught, and that is willing to be taught. The right kind of a teacher can be taught. I believe a teacher ought to be a person who can appreciate the knowledge somebody else has. Many times if we are not careful we will have an idea in our own mind and our mind will be so filled up with that idea, be it right or wrong, that we will not get a better idea.

I am going to give an example outside of church work, but it is in day school work. The principle will apply. I remember when I was teaching in public school and the subject was algebra. I had pupils in higher algebra and a class in the first part of algebra. One day there came a problem, I knew well enough how to work it but some how or other I could not form the equation and I knew I could not do it. I was satisfied I had a pupil who could work it, but I didn't want that pupil to know I could not work it and I wanted to know how to work it. So I asked that pupil (she was a pupil in the second book of algebra) to hear the class in the first book. It was a problem in equation. I knew she was a bright girl and I knew she could get the equation. So she took the class and got along nicely. She formed the equation, but she could not work the problem. Of course I took it from there on. I do not mean to say a teacher should not know her lesson. The teacher should know her lesson, but the teacher should be able to draw lessons from the answers that are given by the pupils. I believe a successful teacher is one who will really gain more or as much in the recitation as any of the pupils. That is my idea of Sabbath-school teaching. That is my idea of day school teaching.

CLIFFORD RUSSELL.—I have just been wondering ever since Brother Haughey got through talking

whether he acknowledged before that girl that he did not know how to do it. (Elder Haughey: No. I did not.) It is sometimes very hard for we teachers when we do find we have some very bright pupils in our class that we find know a little bit more than we do about certain things, it is sometimes most awful hard to come right out and acknowledge we have been mistaken. It is one of the hardest things that comes to the human family to acknowledge that we are wrong. I do not know as it was necessary in that case, but sometimes I have done it. I think it is no more than right that when we have made a mistake we come right out fairly and frankly and own up.

In regard to the influence of the Sabbath-school, I am thankful above all things else for the training I have had in the Sabbath-school ever since I was old enough to go to Sabbath-school. There have been but very, very few Sabbaths in my life since I was four years old that I have not been to Sabbath-school. I can remember most vividly the impressions I received when I was in the Sabbath-school at Otsego. Some of the older ones remember me. Sister Shepherd was my teacher, and I shall always revere her memory for the beautiful things she taught me when I was a little boy. So I say those who have the training of these young minds even from the kindergarten up have a work upon them that only the Spirit of God in their hearts can lead them to mould these minds right. Of course it is true the home life, the home work, the home influence must be right, because we cannot expect a half hour or an hour in Sabbath-school to take the place of the home training; but I tell you it certainly does have an influence.

Some have been talking about the lessons and thought they were not hard enough, but they have been good all the way along. I am thankful for the lessons we have always had. The thing that

appeals to me is this. I have had considerable to do in different classes in public school work and quite often a question relative to the Bible comes up. While it is impossible in my work in the public school to go on and teach the Bible as I would be only too happy to teach, still there are certain things that one can bring in that it is all right to bring in. I find there is a most lamentable lack of knowledge among the young people in things pertaining to the Bible. A little while ago a question came up in regard to Sodom, I said, "Who was Sodom?" Of course they caught from that it must be a person. Nobody knew who Sodom was. Not a single soul knew anything about Sodom or Lot or anything of the kind. They knew nothing regarding the ark or the flood or any of those things. It is perfectly surprising, but I am thankful when we go into a school where there is a Seventh-day Adventist young person, we have someone that can answer some of these questions. I am glad for the Sabbath-school. I tell you the influence of the Sabbath-school will never be fully known until we land over on the other shore.

(Concluded next week.)

From the Field.

WRIGHT.

Sabbath and Sunday, October 28 and 29, were good days for the Wright church. For two or three days previous to the above dates Brother Lakin had been visiting scattered members, and on Sabbath the regular attendance was largely increased.

After Sabbath-school, which was very interesting, Elder A. G. Haughey occupied the hour of service with a very appropriate discourse, after which baptism was administered to six candidates, one walking about seven miles to be present.

On Sunday a goodly number of

the brethren and sisters were present, and the privileges and blessings of home missionary work were presented. A good interest was manifested in the subjects presented, and twenty-five sets of the special "Signs," several pounds of "Signs leaflets," and eighteen copies of the "Story of the Seer of Patmos" were ordered, besides several dollars contributed to the Cedar Lake Academy fund.

If the brethren will put into practice the good resolutions formed as their attention is called to the opportunities before them, great good will be experienced by them, and the work of God will be advanced.

Monday and Tuesday forenoon was spent in visiting among the brethren, some of whom did not attend the meetings.

The laborers were made welcome, and the attention given to the word spoken was encouraging.

W. D. LAKIN,
S. D. HARTWELL.

SAND LAKE.

Members of the Trufant and Howard City churches met with the Sand Lake church in a general meeting Sabbath and Sunday, October 21 and 22. A good interest was manifested in every meeting held. Sabbath forenoon Sabbath-school was held, followed by Bible study based upon John 1:12. Special prominence was given the thought that receiving Him gives the privilege and power to become the children of God.

Sabbath afternoon a very interesting meeting was held with the young people, there being quite a number connected with the Sand Lake church. Psalms 37:4, 5 was taken as the foundation of a line of practical instruction, having education in view as the special desire of the heart.

The Sunday meeting consisted of an informal discussion of local needs. Special emphasis was given to the thought that all can

do something manifesting the spirit of Caleb, sending our prayers like sharp sickles into all the fields, placing a tract wherever we can, consecrating a portion of our time and means for active use, etc. "No idler will have a part in the kingdom of God." Several packages of tracts and twelve copies of "Seer of Patmos" were ordered.

The social meetings were especially good, and taken altogether, we believe this general meeting to have been a source of encouragement to all present.

S. D. HARTWELL,
W. D. LAKIN.

Hancock, Mich., Nov. 1, 1905.

To the West Michigan Herald:

It was with a trembling heart that I left the West Michigan Conference some three months ago to take up medical missionary work in this new and untried field.

A year's connection with the West Michigan Conference, where I had received so much kindness from my fellow-laborers and where I had become so much attached to my work especially among the young people, made it very hard for me to leave; nevertheless instruction from the Spirit of Prophecy is that we should enter new fields that the light of the third angel's message might be held up. In the strength of the "Great Physician" who travelled the country, healing the sick and doing good to all whom He met, I went forth.

It was not without meeting many obstacles that I could start the work. Buildings were very scarce and rent high. I was about on the point of giving up when I finally found a house valued at \$10,000 which I was able to procure at \$40.00 per month. The house is quite modern and furnishes accommodation for treatment rooms and small sanitarium.

We have been opened for business one month, and, considering all things, I feel that the first month has been quite a success. We gave our first treatment on the third of

October, and since that time have given eighty-five treatments. I have one poor girl that I am giving free treatments to three times each week. Have made eight missionary calls, held three Bible readings, given away one book and loaned two, written five missionary letters, received one subscription to the "Watchman" and given away seven hundred pages literature, besides having Bible talks with nearly every patient.

New patients are coming nearly every day and most of them had never heard of our people and the truth. To close our institution, take our Bibles on the Sabbath and go to Sabbath-school, is a great wonder to every one. But we hold the respect of the people and many are learning something of the truth. We have as one of our regular patients a leading physician. Last week he brought us one of his patients who is now staying with us.

We feel that the Lord is blessing us and our prayer is that others may feel encouraged to start out and do this same work. In no other way is the people's attention so drawn toward the truth as in the medical missionary work, if we are only true to principle. I feel like asking the prayers of my many friends in the West Michigan Conference, for I feel that this is a great undertaking, and I know that in my own strength I can do nothing.

Humbly trusting in the dear Saviour, I am,

(MRS.) EDITH E. BRUCE.

The Canvassing Work.

Now is the time when all who are expecting to take up the work of canvassing this fall should begin. Other agents are already in the field with books for the holidays, and why should we delay? Frequently our agents have been told that had they been a little earlier they could have gotten orders. In numerous cases people have said they would greatly prefer our books, had they not placed their order with some other agent.

We know this is true, for comparing our books with those usually sold to the holiday trade, it is easily seen that our books and superior.

In speaking with the superintendent of the manufacturing department of a large publishing house not long ago the writer asked if he was acquainted with our publications, and being assured in the affirmative, he asked how they compare with publications of other houses as to material, make-up and price, and he said "Your books are way ahead of anything on the market for the price."

This being the case, there is no wonder people prefer them. Then why should we not improve the opportunity to sell them?

We have some interesting figures concerning the work which we will give at another time, but let everyone take up the work at once as far as possible.

S. D. HARTWELL.

Cedar Lake Academy Notes.

Mr. Cleon Landon of Carlton Center arrived at the Academy Thursday morning. He comes to attend the school.

The Academy students were entertained at the hospitable home of Brother and Sister E. L. Olmstead the evening after the Sabbath.

Sister Nancy Weed of Battle Creek spent Sabbath and Sunday at the Academy visiting her neice, Miss Pansy Myers, who is attending school here. She expresses herself as being well pleased with the school and home life of the Academy.

Brother Moses Whitmarsh and wife spent Sabbath, November 4th, with the church at Edmore. Brother Whitmarsh occupied the hour for the Sabbath services, basing his remarks on Judges 5:16, 23.

The church school is under the

supervision of the Academy this year. The teacher, Miss VoWyla Aiken, is doing good work, and the school is progressing nicely. She boards and rooms at the Academy.

The Academy boys are busy husking corn. They are hoping the mercury will not fall any lower until the work is done. Work can be done only in the afternoon, and, as the days are short, the hours for working are short.

There are three Bible classes in the school, and all are studying lessons on points of our faith. It is hoped by this study to fit each student in the school to give an answer for the hope that is in him with "meekness and fear." Our young people certainly need this training.

Just before the study hour in the evening the Academy family gather in the parlor for worship. Each student reads consecutively from "Desire of Ages." Many valuable, helpful lessons are learned from the reading. After singing and prayer, all retire to their rooms for study. All seem to prize this evening worship hour.

Sabbath, November 4th, was a day long to be remembered at the Cedar Lake Academy. In the afternoon nearly the entire church membership went to Rock Lake, where the principle of the school baptized eight students. Sabbath, November 11, five more students were baptized, making thirteen in all, six boys and seven girls. There have been no special revival services, but the Spirit of the Lord is working in the school. Hearts are being made tender and susceptible to the influence of the Spirit of God. Nearly all in the school now have given their hearts to the Lord and are seeking a fitting for His work. To the Lord be all the glory.

News and Notes.

Sabbath, November 18, is the day for the second missionary convention.

A Young People's Society of ten members has been organized at Muskegon.

Brother S. D. Hartwell attended the Sabbath-school convention at Maple Grove last Sabbath.

Doctor Julia A. White has gone to California to connect with the medical work at the Loma Linda Sanitarium.

Through an oversight last week the item saying that eight Academy students were baptized at Rock Lake Sabbath, November 4th, was placed under the Battle Creek news. They were Cedar Lake students.

Miss Bessie DeGraw from the "Agricultural and Normal School" near Madison, Tenn., spent Sabbath and Sunday with the church at Otsego. She presented the needs of the Southern field and pictured our duty at this time.

The weekly meetings of the Grand Rapids Young People's Society are growing more interesting. They are studying the book of Daniel. They will finish it soon and then they will take up the study of Revelation, using the "Story of the Seer of Patmos" as a text book.

We are glad to hear that the Spirit of God is working for the young people of Cedar Lake Academy. May God bless the "army of youth" and may they realize that "The greatest work that can be done in our world is to glorify God by living the character of Christ."