

The West Michigan Herald.

"Watchman, What of the Night."

VOL. III.

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No. 50

THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD.

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Arrangements for the West Michigan Conference.

The Otsego church has selected the following named persons as a committee on entertainment: Mrs. E. A. Merriam, W. W. Shepard, Mrs. W. W. Shepard, Mrs. Martha Carpenter, Mrs. J. P. Miner. The conference has named the following as a committee to receive the delegates and assist the church's committee in their work: S. D. Hartwell, Jacob Hofstra, James Irving, M. N. Campbell and E. A. Merriam were appointed as a committee on seating of the delegates. The first preaching service will be held Thursday evening at 7:30. We hope to hold the first meeting of the conference session at 6:00 p. m. Thursday, January 18.

The Lake Shore and Michigan Southern railway connects Otsego with Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo. There is a morning and evening train each way.

A. G. HAUGHEY.

Educational.

Open Doors for Young People.

"Enter ye in at the strait gate, for wide is the gate, and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in there at; because strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." We have seen there are just two gates which we may enter. We young people are in great danger of not finding the strait gate, because of narrowness of the way which leads to it.

There are just two lines of work to engage in, either in the work for our Master or for Satan. Should we engage in some line of work to gain riches and worldly popularity, we would soon lose sight of heaven and its riches, and would strive more and more for the things of this world. But would such a course pay? "For what shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" Although thousands are choosing the calling that gives them worldly gain and honor, it will last but for a short time and they will be left with no hope. For an illustration of this let us look at the soap bubble. It is beautiful for a short time then vanishes away.

There is a great missionary work to be done both in our own and in foreign countries, especially in foreign countries where there are millions of heathen who never heard of Jesus and his love. Cannot someone go with the message burning in his heart and give it to them? The giving of the third angel's message is the loftiest aim anyone can have.

The way to learn how to do missionary work is by doing it. There are many kinds of work car-

ried on in the foreign fields for which one may receive a partial preparation in their own country.

Cannot we find some work right at our own doors which may profitably take our time and attention? Let us as young people find the door leading to our work and then give our lives to it.

LEEFA RUMERY.

Necessity of Introducing Definite Lines of Work.

The Life of Christ is summed up in these words: "My father worketh hitherto, and I work." He did not remain in idleness until the time came for him to begin his public work, but he spent his early years at the carpenter's bench. Neither did he spend his time in roaming about in search of something to do; he took up the work which was right about him.

Christ must have been a diligent student, for when he was but twelve years old he was able to astonish the doctors of the law by his knowledge and wisdom. Thus we see that he had something definite to do even while a youth. As a result of his faithful labors while young, he was prepared to do more successfully the work of his after life. This could not have been possible without a definite purpose in his early years. It is well for us as young people to study the early life of Christ in order that we may not err in making decisions which will affect our after life.

Young people must have something to do. If their time is not employed in some profitable work, Satan will find something for them. They need to have held out before them some definite lines of work. It is necessary for them to have a definite object in life, for the Christian who attempts to do several kinds of work at one time is

liable to become discouraged because the result of his labor is not satisfactory to him.

The secret of success in any line of work to a great degree depends upon the concentration of effort. In order to drive a nail into a hard board, it is necessary to strike several successive blows upon the head. So, if we would gain success in any line of Christian work, we must bend every energy toward the accomplishment of that work.

It is true that we may need a preparation for our life's work; but there are many kinds of work to which we may devote some time while gaining that preparation, such as caring for the sick and assisting the poor, while others may canvass, sell papers, or distribute our tracts. And the church officers may do much in directing young people in right lines.

LEETA RUMERY.

Young People's Relation to Sabbath School Work.

Our love for our Master creates in us a desire to work for Him. We as young people have a great work to do, and part of this work is in the Sabbath-school.

Our relation to the Sabbath-school should be to help one another. Only by united effort can the Lord's ideal of this branch of the work be reached.

Not everyone has the same gifts, but we each may do something in making the Sabbath-school a success. Not only does it help us to better perform the duties of every day life, but the training we get from week to week helps us in the Sabbath-school itself. It lends its influence from childhood through youth and on to manhood and womanhood.

One of the important things in Sabbath-school is being on time. Time waits for no one, and if we are behind in one duty, we not only embarrass ourselves, but disturb others by our entrance and the confusion that we naturally bring with us.

We should also be regular in attendance, as we lose our interest in the work and are not well posted in the lesson of the previous Sabbath. Come regularly with lessons well learned. We should encourage our painstaking teacher by paying strict attention and taking a lively interest in the subjects considered.

If we are given the responsibility of class work, let us do our best, as it gives us experience and confidence, besides doing in our small way all we can to help those connected with the Sabbath-school work.

Let us by our example manifest the tenderest love and influence over those in the Sabbath-school who have not yet given their hearts to the Saviour, by urging them to take a part in the exercises of the school. In all our duties may we be conscientious helpers, and have before us Christ as our example, that we may be called his children and at last receive a crown of glory.

VERA PIERCE.

A Promise of Good Things.

With the New Year two valuable series of articles are begun in the SABBATH SCHOOL WORKER. Teachers of children every where will greatly appreciate "In the Kindergarten" which is the first of a series of six papers by Mrs. Alice M. Bourdeau, a Kindergarten teacher of experience. She promises two articles on opening exercises, verses, marching, etc., and three on illustrations. No teacher of children can afford to miss these.

The other series is in the Home and School department. "Criticism in the Home," by Elder G. B. Thompson, strikes at the very root of the evil which has done more to weaken the power of the church and Sabbath-school than any other one thing. This subject will be continued through several numbers of the WORKER. It should be not only read but studied in every home.

Superintendents, will you not make a special effort to add the names of parents as well as teachers to your WORKER club list? The WORKER in the home may be the means of bringing about such a spirit of co-operation between officers, teachers, and parents that many of the youth who are now out of the ark of safety may be gathered in.

It only costs 35 cents for a single copy; 2 or more copies to one address, 25 cents each per year.

Order of the West Michigan Tract Society.

Obituary.

Died of heart failure at Union City, Mich., Sister Bell, wife of Brother Charles Bell. Sister Bell was born in Milton, N. Y. in the year 1853. In 1869 she moved with her parents to Union City, Mich., where she has since resided. She was married to Brother Charles Bell September 2, 1874. To this union five children were born, four of whom survive her.

Sister Bell accepted present truth about twenty-one years ago when Brother T. S. Parmelee and Brother George Wellman were holding tent meetings in Colan.

The funeral service was held at the old homestead, conducted by the writer. The house was filled to overflowing with sympathizing friends. Her remains were laid to rest in the old Union City cemetery, there to await the call of the great Life Giver.

W. H. HECKMAN.

No Night There.

Satan is abroad in the universe, and evidently for this reason the gates of the New Jerusalem are kept closed lest he should gain an entrance into heaven. For the same reason also God veils His glory from the universe in impenetrable clouds. See Psalms 97:2; Job 22:12-14.

When sin and sinners are no more; the earth will be the center of sidereal dominion (Job 38:33)

and its whole surface will be radiant with the glory of God. "The brightness of His presence fills the city of God, and flows out beyond the gates, flooding the whole earth with its radiance.....The light of the sun will be superseded by a radiance which is not painfully dazzling, yet which immeasurably surpasses the brightness of our noontide." Great Controversy Vol. 4, pp. 479, 491. See also Zech. 14:6, 7, margin. The revolutions of the New Earth will cause a succession of day and night through eternal ages. Then, when the sun daily adds his beams to the glory of God, will be fulfilled the prediction of Isaiah 30:26, when even the moon will be self radiant with the glory of God.

It is a reasonable conjecture that the earth at that time cannot revolve around any other planet or sun and be the center of sidereal dominion without making the place of God's throne subordinate thereto. Our sun and moon, though both revolving around the earth, will be honored by measuring the days and months of eternity.

A. SMITH.

From the Field.

CERESCO AND HOMER.

Sabbath, December 9, I met with the church at Ceresco. This company is small and it seemed impossible for them to hold meetings every day during the week of prayer. However, they seemed to be of good courage and expressed a determination to press forward in the battle until the victory is won.

December 13-16 I spent with the Homer church. Although the brethren and sisters are scattered, they held one meeting each day during the week of prayer. A good spirit was manifested in every meeting. On Sabbath, December 16, Elder G. C. Tenney and wife met with us. Elder Tenney gave some of his early experiences in this message. The Spirit of the Lord was present and the brethren

and sisters said they had received new strength and courage to go forward in the service of God.

MARGARET HAUGHEY.

KENDALVILLE AND TRUFANT.

The Gowen church is something of the past. Those who once were one united church are now scattered far apart, and others have moved away and settled elsewhere. Their house of worship is not used and its location is very inconvenient for all except one family. It is doubtful if we shall ever have a church at that place again.

I am located in Kendalville, five miles from Lakeview and twelve miles from Gowen. Five of our people live here, and their influence, as far as I have been able to observe, has been good. Their kindness toward us is much appreciated. I have held seven meetings in the Kendalville school house. The attendance at the Sunday evening meetings was fairly good, and hereafter I will have meetings there Sunday evenings only. The time during the week will be filled with house-to-house work and small meetings in the homes where two or more families come together.

The first Sabbath of the week of prayer our meeting was appointed to be held at Brother Lars Jorgensen's home, which is about four miles from Gowen. The brethren were notified, but none came. At his place a family Sabbath-school is maintained, and we are glad to see this. We enjoyed ourselves with them, and in the afternoon we had the appointed reading.

Sunday and Monday I went out with papers and tracts and invited the people to meeting and at 7:30 p. m. many were gathered. At the close another meeting was appointed for Monday evening at a neighbor's house and all came again. The people were glad for the words spoken and invited us to come again.

Tuesday I went to Trufant and remained there until Monday, December 18. We met at the

homes of our brethren every evening and on the Sabbath we all met at their beautiful little house of worship. It was a pleasure to see the effort our dear people here made to be at the meetings, and many expressed their gratitude to God for his blessings.

Every day I spend in visiting the people and selling and giving away our literature. On Thursday afternoon and Sunday evening I held meetings in the Danish language for the neighbors at Brother J. P. Hansen's, where I also made my home during my visit to the Trufant church.

CARL HANSEN.

News and Notes.

This is the last issue of the Herald for 1905.

We hope that many from the Bloomingdale, Bangor, Covert and Hartford churches will plan to attend the Sabbath-school and missionary convention at Paw Paw Sabbath and Sunday, December 30-31.

If there is a blue pencil mark around this it means that your subscription expires with this number. We hope you will renew at once, for the next issues of the "Herald" will contain information in regard to the fourth annual session of the West Michigan Seventh-day Adventist Conference that will be held in Otsego, Mich., January 18-21, 1906.

Report blanks have been sent out to the church clerks, treasurers, librarians, Sabbath-school secretaries, and secretaries of the Young People's Societies. We hope that these will be filled out immediately after December 31 and returned to the office, as we desire to have them as soon as possible. It will keep us busy in order to have everything in readiness for the conference, and you can aid us greatly by being prompt. PLEASE be prompt this time.

The Sabbath-school at Grand Ledge will hold a convention Sabbath, January 6, 1906.

The students of Emmanuel Missionary College are having a ten-days' vacation.

Miss Myrtle Hartwell from the West Michigan Sanitarium spent Christmas with her parents in Otsego.

S. D. Hartwell spent Sabbath with the West Leroy church; E. A. Merriam with the Byron Center church.

Miss Almeda Haughey from Emmanuel Missionary College enjoyed a few days' rest in Otsego this week with the editor.

It is planned to improve "Life and Health" during the year 1906. Send in your subscription to the West Michigan Tract Society. Fifty cents a year.

The West Michigan Tract Society can supply the churches with a few more sets of the Special Number of the "Signs of the Times." Send in your order at once and scatter these papers "like the leaves of the autumn." The papers can be used right along in the missionary work, as they do not have any date on them, and the matter they contain is the Bible truth.

Cedar Lake Academy Notes.

Two of the students, Edward Finch and Ralph Lewis, are cutting wood during the vacation for Mr. Henry Meade, a neighbor.

Although quite a good many of the students have gone away for the vacation, the Academy family still numbers eighteen who will remain during the vacation.

The interest at the Dopp school house, where meetings are being

held Sunday evenings by M. C. Whitmarsh and other students, is on the increase. Sunday evening, December 17, about seventy persons were present, who listened intently to the words spoken.

The church school held their closing exercises Wednesday, December 20. The children acquitted themselves with credit. Remarks made by the parents and patrons at the close of the exercises indicate that there is much appreciation of the work that is being done by the teacher, Miss Aiken.

Last week there arrived at the railroad station in Cedar Lake a barrel of canned fruit, the gift of Allegan friends. This is very acceptable, as our family is large, and we do not have the supply of apples that we had last year. We hope the example of Allegan will provoke other churches to similar good works.

Selections from the Testimonies.

"The time has come when things are to be called by their right name. Sin is sin. The Lord Jesus Christ calls upon the human agencies for whom he has given his life to come to him in humility and contrition. His blood will cleanse them from all sin and every glossed-over iniquity. Some eyes will be opened. But I no longer appeal privately as heretofore to the individuals who have been cautioned and warned, and yet, though disobeying, stand forth in their apparent power and dignity, and claim to be doing the will of heaven, when they are departing from the plain principles of heaven, as given in the Word of God. Could their eyes be opened, they would see that their feet are standing on the very brink of ruin. Let every soul bow himself under the weight of the truth of the law proclaimed from Sinai's mount."

"Those who, when reproved by God, stop to reason in regard to

the possible humiliation to result from confession and repentance, will never, never travel the narrow path or enter the strait gate. These words were spoken by the messenger from God. Every human agency, man, woman, and child, must be in that spiritual condition that will enable him fully and unreservedly to acknowledge the power and authority of the truth of the words of God which all must eat and drink in order to have eternal life. The words of God are the bread of heaven. If we would be saved, we must make them a part of the daily life."

"Those who justify their course of action in going to law, and that with brethren in the church, are acting out the spirit that developed the rebellion in heaven. God calls upon those who have light and are followers of Jesus to represent the perfect model upon which every character should be formed. But men have misrepresented God's character by adopting in their life practice a course of action militating against the truth, while at the same time claiming to be loyal. Some are loyal to the enemy of righteousness, but not to the God of truth."

"Let the world go into spiritualism, into theosophy, into pantheism, if they choose. We are to have nothing to do with this deceptive branch of Satan's work. The pleasing sentiments of pantheism will lead many souls into forbidden paths. God forbids his servants to leave their fields of labor to enter into a discussion of these sentiments."

"The only hope for our people now is to take their stand on the true foundation. Higher and still higher they are to raise the banner of truth. Not for one moment are they to give place to the enemy."