

A. G. Daniels

THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD

HE THAT REAPETH GATHERETH FRUIT UNTO LIFE ETERNAL

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THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD.

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President's Address.

To the delegates assembled in the fourth annual session of the West Michigan Conference of Seventh day Adventists at Otsego, Mich., January 18-21, 1906.
Greeting:

"I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

The West Michigan Conference has for its territory nineteen counties in southwestern Michigan. This territory is sub-divided into six districts, named respectively from No. 1 to No. 6. No. 1 includes the counties of Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph, Branch. In this district there are eight churches. District 2, Allegan, Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties, with eleven churches; District 3, Calhoun, Barry and Eaton counties, with 19 churches; District 4, Ottawa, Kent and Ionia counties, with 13 churches; District 5, Muskegon, Oceana and Newago counties, with seven churches; District 6, Montcalm, Mecosta and Isabella counties, with 17 churches.

EMPLOYEES.

The total number of employees of the West Michigan Conference

for the year 1905 was 98. Ordained ministers, 15; licensed ministers, 7; missionary workers, 19; without license, 20; teachers, 27; colporteurs, 10.

EVANGELICAL DEPARTMENT.

Two general meetings have been held within the year—a spring council of the ministers at Kalamazoo June 5 and 6, and conference camp-meeting at Allegan August 17-28. Thirteen series of tent meetings were conducted during the tent season as follows: one at Kalamazoo with Elder Hansen and J. Drury Reavis in charge; one at Woodbury with Elder Brink and B. F. Kneeland in charge; one at Berlamont with Edward Collier and B. F. Kneeland in charge; one at Bloomingdale with Edward Collier and J. Drury Reavis in charge; one at Lake Odessa with Elder Brink and H. C. Pitton in charge; two near Olive Center with Jacob Hofstra in charge; two near Sturgis with Elder Hebner and James Irving in charge; two in Benton Harbor with Elders Burnham and Horton, and J. C. Brower in charge; two under the supervision of the Battle Creek Church Board at Gogouac Lake and Battle Creek respectively. A reasonable degree of success attended these meetings. A church has been organized at Sturgis as a result of the meetings in that vicinity, also one at Bloomingdale as a result of the meetings in that locality. A Holland company and Sabbath-school was organized at Olive Center as a result of the work done in that neighborhood. A number of members were added to the church at Benton Harbor, also in Kalamazoo.

The Allegan camp-meeting was the second meeting of the kind held by the West Michigan Conference, and the first one at which all our evangelical workers were in attendance. It was at this meeting that a large number of our younger workers received their initiative experience as camp-meeting evangelists. There were about seven hundred of our people encamped upon the grounds. The public services were well attended by the friends of the city. The result of the meeting was gratifying indeed. Forty-one persons followed the example of their Lord by baptism, and many renewed their covenants with God and received rich-spiritual blessings.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

SABBATH-SCHOOLS.

The Sabbath-schools of the conference seem to be in a prosperous condition, yet they are in need of much thorough work. A number of schools were greatly helped within the year by holding conventions. There are at the present time 83 Sabbath-schools.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES.

There are ten Young People's Societies in the conference. Most of them hold weekly meetings and manifest a deep interest in the study of the Bible and the mission fields. Several of the societies are studying Revelation, using "The Story of the Seer of Patmos" in connection with the Bible.

CHURCH SCHOOLS.

The location of the church schools with their respective teachers is as follows:

Battle Creek, B. E. Nicola, Harriet Heffley, Frances Case, Mrs. C.

N. Sanders, Flora Williams, Minnie Hart.

Bauer, Janet Campbell.
Bedford, Mrs. Curtis.
Berrien Springs, Florence Kelsey.
Bloomington, Charles Iverson.
Carlton Center, Grace Evans.
Cedar Lake, Vo Wyla Aiken.
Charlotte, Mrs. E. A. S. Clark.
Covert, Amy Woodruff.
Fennville, Josephine Hunt.
Glenwood, Ruth Saxby.
Grand Ledge, Mildred Wilson.
Grand Rapids, Ada Sommerset.
Haskell Home, Lottie Bell and Eva Town.

Maple Grove, Myrtie Lawrence.
Michigan Home for Girls, Maud Henry.

Lake Odessa, Tina Jorgensen.
Paw Paw, Grace Davis.
South Monterey, Eugene Waller.
Wright, Winifred Trunk.

The number of schools reported in 1904 was 19; in 1905, 20. The membership in 1904 aside from Battle Creek was 187; in 1905 including Battle Creek, 348. The Battle Creek school has an enrollment of 137. We have no report of the enrollment of the Haskell Home school. It has not been the plan of the conference to see how many church schools we could organize, but to see how well we could conduct the schools that were organized. We feel that we have a good class of teachers, most of them doing excellent work.

CEDAR LAKE INDUSTRIAL ACADEMY.

This school began its work in an humble way and has increased in influence and efficiency. It is now in its eighth year's work. The present enrollment is sixty. The result of the work thus far this year is very gratifying. We doubt if any year has excelled the present. The faculty of this school consists of the following named persons: S. M. Butler, Mrs. S. M. Butler, J. C. Brower, and J. Drury Reavis.

EMMANUEL MISSIONARY COLLEGE.

We have about thirty students enrolled in the Berrien Springs College.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The work of the conference medical department has greatly increased during the year. At the beginning of the year we had in our employ one doctor and two nurses. We now have two doctors and four nurses, with a liberal patronage of patients. We have increased our facilities. While at the beginning of the year we had small treatment rooms and received lady patients only, now we have a sanitarium known as the West Michigan Sanitarium, where we receive both gentleman and lady patients.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

We are supporting two missionaries in India, Elder C. A. Hansen and wife, and one in South Carolina, Miss Elizabeth McHugh. We have relieved the Foreign Mission Board from supporting two of their aged workers. We have sent several hundred dollars from our tithe fund to aid the North Michigan Conference in the payment of the salaries of their laborers. In addition we have sent thousands of dollars to the various mission fields of the world.

COLPORTEUR WORK.

This conference has never had a large corps of colporteurs, but the book sales for 1905 show an increase of 60% over 1904.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE WEST MICHIGAN CONFERENCE, INCORPORATED AND UNINCORPORATED.

Present worth of the Conference Association	\$ 1,000
Present worth of the Evangelical Department	5,000
Present worth of the Missionary Department	1,400
Present worth of the Medical Department	2,000
Present worth of the various church buildings	60,350
Present worth of the Educational Department	16,500

Total Present Worth \$86,250

The total liabilities of all departments of the conference aggregate \$7,550.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

We have 75 organized churches, 10 companies, 5,000 Sabbath-keepers, 98 employees, 22 schools with a total enrollment of 438, 14 school buildings, 48 church buildings, an increase of 60% in book sales, a present worth of \$86,250. Our evangelical workers have held 6,822 public meetings and visited 13,704 families. Our medical workers report 239 examinations, 2,046 prescriptions, 4,124 treatments. There has been an increase in the tithe in 1905 over 1904 of \$4,500.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

I would suggest:

1. That we make the Foreign Mission Board of the General Conference a cash donation from our 1905 tithe fund of \$2,500.
2. That we continue the support of Sister McHugh in South Carolina until January 1, 1907.
3. That we appropriate \$1,000 of our 1906 tithe fund to the General Conference and ask that they supply the Battle Creek church with pastoral help.
4. That we add \$500 from our tithe fund to our appropriation for India.
5. That we appropriate \$100 to the General Conference Mission Board to support two native workers in Central Africa.
6. That our aged ministers locate on small tracts of land near the center of the conference districts and take supervision of the church work in the several districts.
7. That we continue to favor the training of young men and women as missionary workers.
8. That we carefully study the educational question of the conference, and especially the advisability of either giving greater financial aid to the Cedar Lake Industrial Academy, or the sale of the same and the uniting of our academic work with the school at Berrien Springs.
9. That we settle by vote at this conference where the conference headquarters shall be, and

authorize the officers to raise a fund for securing suitable buildings.

10. That we form a Religious Liberty Department of the conference, and provide for a secretary.

Report of Sabbath-School Department of the West Michigan Conference for the year Oct. 1, 1904 to Oct. 1, 1905.

We have been told by the Spirit of God that "there is a most precious missionary field in the Sabbath-school." We are thankful that the kind hand of Providence has been over us another year and we have been permitted to labor in this missionary field. We realize that we have made many mistakes, but we are glad that we have a merciful Heavenly Father "who knoweth our frame and remembereth that we are dust. The spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak."

PRESENT STANDING.

We have 83 Sabbath schools with a membership of 2,564. Our membership ought to be much larger than this, as we have at least 4,500 resident church members in the West Michigan Conference, and our Sabbath-school membership ought to be larger than our church membership, for we have about 1,000 children in the intermediate, primary, and kindergarten departments who are not church members. Thus we see that if every resident church member was a member of some department of the Sabbath-school our membership would be about 5,500, which is 2,936 more than it is at present.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

This division of the Sabbath-school has been organized for the isolated, the feeble, the aged, those who are confined at home in attendance upon the sick or by the care of young children, or those who for any reason are unable to attend the Sabbath-school. Membership of the Home Department of the local schools 25. Membership

of the State Home Department 1. We believe that the membership of this department can be increased by the district directors, and Sabbath-school officers co-operating with the conference Sabbath-school department, and in this way we can obtain the name of all church members and get them interested in the Sabbath-school.

DONATIONS.

Total contributions	\$2,617 59
To Missions	1,196 60
To Haskell Home	409 11
Expenses of local schools	877 77
Expenses of State Dept.	134 11

The money paid out by the State Department was for stamps, stationery, and one-fourth of the expense of the "West Michigan Herald."

CONVENTIONS.

During the year 1905 fifteen Sabbath-school conventions were held. We had the privilege of attending eleven of these conventions. We believe they were a blessing to the schools.

SABBATH SCHOOL WORKER.

According to the reports of our secretaries about half of our schools take the "Worker." We would be very glad if every Sabbath-school in the conference took a club of this important Sabbath-school journal.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK.

We have been told that "we must make more liberal efforts for the training of our young people, that they may be better fitted for the various branches of the great work committed to our hands." The work committed to our hands is to carry the Advent message to all the world, and in order for our young people to aid in this work, they need a personal acquaintance with the Lord Jesus Christ and a thorough knowledge of that message, so it was suggested that our young people make a special study of the message and as a result, six out of ten societies are studying the message as it is found in the book of Revelation, using "The

Story of the Seer of Patmos" in connection with the Bible. The secretaries report that a good interest is manifested.

Most of the societies are doing some home missionary work and all are interested in the work in foreign fields. According to the reports of the secretaries the donations last year amounted to over four hundred dollars. A portion of this was used in the home work, and part of it was given to the work in other fields. The Grand Rapids Society gave \$45.00 toward the support of Sister Elilabeth McHugh, a Bible worker, in South Carolina. The Battle Creek Society gave \$25.26 to the South African field and \$303.64 to Doctor Keichline in Cairo, Egypt.

At our last General Conference it was recommended, "That superintendents and secretaries of local conference Sabbath-school and young people's departments seek to encourage the young people's societies under their supervision to unite in the support of one or more laborers in some mission field." We would suggest that some active steps be taken toward carrying out this resolution in the West Michigan Conference and that the funds go through the proper channel. We believe more can be accomplished by a united effort.

REPORT OF WORK DONE.

Missionary letters written	149
Missionary letters received	29
Missionary visits	202
Bible Readings	176
Subscriptions to periodicals	34
Papers sold	185
Papers given away	2012
Books sold	32
Pages of tracts sold	15140
Pages of tracts given away	18665
Hours of Christian help work	395

CONCLUSION.

We are in a great warfare, and we need to have our eyes anointed with the heavenly eye salve, in order to discern the needs of the battle field. Soldiers are to be trained and as "the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty

through God, to the pulling down of strongholds" we need to know how to handle the "sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." Our Sabbath-schools and Young People's Societies are recruiting stations and there is a call for new recruits, so let us put forth every effort to get both old and young to enlist in the service, and fight bravely on until the victory is won.

MARGARET HAUGHEY,
Secretary.

Monterey Church School.

As one term of our school work has already been completed, I thought possibly a report might be of interest to the readers of the "Herald." The morning of the opening day of the school, Sept. 11th, found fifteen pupils present, ready to begin their work. Several entered a few days later, so the membership has been twenty most of the time. Work has been done in the first, second, third, fifth and eighth grades.

We have not aimed to introduce many new features into our work, but rather, to do thorough work in the lines already successfully carried on. Good, solid work has been done and all seem anxious to advance as fast as possible.

A Junior Young People's Society has been organized in the school. The pupils have elected their own officers and carry on the work themselves. It is certainly encouraging to see the interest that is taken in the weekly meetings. They ordered and disposed of forty-four copies of the "Life Boat" last month. As we are five miles from a town of any size (which in itself is fortunate) it is hard to dispose of a large number of papers, yet I think they have done well considering the circumstances.

We had a precious season during the week of prayer. The Spirit of

the Lord was present and worked upon hearts. Some who had seemed so careless and indifferent in the past were led to give their hearts to the Lord. For this we give Him all the praise.

EUGENE C. WALLER.

News and Notes.

We hope to print the conference proceedings in the "Herald" as soon as we can.

Dr. L. J. Otis has charge of the West Michigan Sanitarium which is located in Grand Rapids.

Conference closed Monday a. m. and the remainder of the day was spent laying plans for the work. We hope to be able to report the results very soon.

Elder W. D. Parkhurst has accepted a call to the Southern Illinois Conference to be the president. May the spirit and blessing of God go with him. While the West Michigan Conference will feel the loss, the Southern Illinois Conference will feel the gain.

M. N. Campbell, W. H. Heckman, and B. F. Kneeland were ordained to the gospel ministry Sunday evening, January 21st. The ordination service was held in the Methodist church of Otsego. A large audience was present, and the Spirit of God came near and blessed.

Doctor Milton Chase of Otsego gave the delegates an address of welcome at the Congregational church Thursday evening, January 18. Elder G. C. Tenny responded to it. Sunday evening, January 21, H. D. Skinner, pastor of the Methodist church, gave an address of welcome in the Methodist church and Elder M. N. Campbell responded to it.

We received the following item of interest from the pastor of the Kalamazoo church: "Fifteen members were added to the church Sabbath, January 6. Five by profession of faith, and ten by letter, making a membership of eighty-three. S. S. Gray and Bert Freeman have gone to Berrien Springs to take a special training for work in the cause. The church is represented at Cedar Lake Academy by Eva Gaines and Frances McCoy."

The citizens and churches of Otsego gave the conference delegates a hearty welcome, and they came to the assistance of the Seventh-day Adventist brethren and sisters and aided in the entertainment of the conference delegates by providing places for them to sleep. The Adventist church was not large enough to hold the people, so we had the use of the Congregational church. Friday evening, January 19th, we had the use of the Baptist church and Sunday evening we had the use of the Methodist church. We feel thankful to the people for their courtesy.

The following named persons were elected as officers of the West Michigan Conference:

President, A. G. Haughey
Vice President, M. N. Campbell.
Secretary and Treasurer, E. A. Merriam.
Assistant Secretary and Treasurer, Jennie Nelson.
Educational Secretary, Clifford Russell.
Sabbath school Secretary, Margaret Haughey.
Missionary Secretary, E. A. Merriam
Field Secretary, George Matteson.
Religious Liberty Secretary, S. D. Hartwell.
Auditor, W. H. Edwards.
Medical Superintendent, L. J. Otis, M. D.
Executive Committee, A. G. Haughey, M. N. Campbell, S. M. Butler, W. H. Heckman, B. F. Kneeland.
Auditing Committee, the Executive Committee and James Root, W. W. Shepard, Joseph Smith, J. B. Buck, W. H. McKee.