

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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Margaret Haughey, Editor.

### OFFICERS.

President,	A. G. Haughey, Otsego.
Vice President,	M. N. Campbell, 191 James St., Grand Rapids.
Secretary and Treasurer,	E. A. Merriam, Otsego.
Asst Sec'y and Treas.,	Jennie Nelson, Otsego.
Educational Secretary,	Clifford Russell, Allegan.
Religious Liberty Sec'y,	S. D. Hartwell, 191 James St., Grand Rapids.
Field Secretary,	George Matteson, Paw Paw.
Sabbath-school Sec'y,	Margaret Haughey, Otsego.
Medical Supt.	L. J. Otis, M. D., 475 Wealthy Ave. Grand Rapids.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.  
A. G. Haughey, M. N. Campbell, S. M. Butler, W. H. Heckman, B. F. Kneeland.

### Conference Proceedings.

The fourth meeting of the Fourth Annual Session of the West Michigan Conference was held January 20, 1906, at 6:00 p. m. with the President in the chair.

After singing "Let Every Lamp be Burning Bright," prayer was offered by Elder Butler.

Eighteen new delegates were seated.

The Chairman appointed the following committee to write a report of this session of the conference for the "Review and Herald": G. W. Amadon and G. W. Morse.

The committee on Religious Liberty through its chairman gave the following final report:

Your committee in harmony with the action taken in other conferences, and especially in consideration of the evident vital need of the hour, and the rapid develop-

ment of influences manifestly detrimental to the religious liberties of the nations, would RECOMMEND the organization in this conference of a department of religious liberty and the appointment of a field secretary, whose duty it shall be to select local secretaries in each church and take active measures to make known the principles of religious liberty to the general public throughout this conference.

The report was adopted without discussion.

The Committee on Colportage and Canvassing Work rendered the following report:—

WE RECOMMEND:

1. That an institute be held during the month of April at some convenient place for the training of colporteurs and canvassers, the same to continue for a period of ten days.

2. That the co-operation of all our churches be earnestly solicited in encouraging individuals to engage in the work of canvassing for the sale of our standard subscription books, and that we especially urge individuals to engage in this work as permanent resident canvassers.

3. That suitable individuals be encouraged to take up the sale of our pioneer missionary periodicals in such localities as will permit them to secure lists of subscribers sufficient to yield them adequate compensation for their needs, and that they pursue this work continuously from year to year.

4. That in harmony with the recommendations of the general missionary committee of the denomination, we especially urge upon all our people the importance

of engaging in the sale of what are known as 40% books, and that they give as much time as possible to this work.

5. WE RECOMMEND the adoption of the plan whereby students may earn a scholarship for one year in Emmanuel Missionary College by selling \$150.00 worth of subscription books, turning the whole amount into the Tract Society treasury, the Tract Society to issue the order for the scholarship and to pay the railroad fare of the student from his home or field of labor to the college. Whatever amount the student may sell above that sum they will receive the usual canvasser's commission on.

Elder W. C. Hebner moved the adoption of the report by considering each item separately. The motion was carried, and the first four were read and adopted.

As the hour had arrived for the meeting of the West Michigan Conference Association, motion was made to adjourn to the call of the Chair. Carried.

Upon resuming conference business after a few moments, Recommendation No. 5 was read. The President stated that this plan was satisfactory to the college and the Tract Society. Numerous questions were asked and it was readily seen that this is a liberal offer which will result in either filling Berrien Springs, or showing that our young people are not very anxious to go to school, as expressed by Professor B. E. Nicola.

The report of the Nominating Committee was called for and given by Elder Parkhurst, as follows:

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.

Supt. Medical Department, Dr. L. J. Otis.

Executive Committee: A. G. Haughey, M. N. Campbell, S. M. Butler, W. H. Heckman, B. F. Kneeland.

Auditing Committee: the Executive Committee, James Root of Wright, W. W. Shepard of Otsego, Joseph Smith of Battle Creek, J. B. Buck of Monterey, W. H. McKee of Byron Center, Oren Evans of Lowell.

Professor Nicola moved that this report be adopted as a whole. Seconded. Elder Parkhurst made a few remarks regarding the change made in the office of vice-president. Elder Butler has been acting as Vice-President for the past year, but inasmuch as he is engaged in school work and if any contingency should arise, it would be impossible for him to act in this capacity, it was thought best to substitute another name. A rising vote was called for and the report unanimously adopted.

The President then asked if they were ready to take action upon the recommendations of the General Conference relative to the tithe. The first one regarding choosing such executive officers as will be faithful to impress upon the employees of the conference the importance of paying tithe was passed over, as the officers had already been elected. The next one was read pertaining to the church officers being examples to their flocks in the payment of tithe. The question was asked if this meant

that no officers should be elected in the church who do not pay tithe, and was answered in the affirmative.

Brother M. N. Campbell presented the following recommendations:

1. That this conference withhold the credentials from any laborer who does not pay his tithe as recommended by the General Conference.

2. WE RECOMMEND to our ordained ministers that they decline to ordain local church officers unless such officers are faithful in paying their tithe, and that through the regular recognized channels.

These received considerable discussion for and against, and it was finally moved by Brother Campbell that, as the recommendations had accomplished their work and it was seen by the discussion that all agreed with the sentiments of the recommendations, they be laid on the table. Carried.

Motion was made and carried to adjourn to the call of the Chair.

At 8:20 conference again convened. The committee on Sabbath-school work submitted the following resolutions:—

Whereas, We believe that the primary object of making contributions in our Sabbath-schools should be to carry the message to the regions beyond, and save souls in the kingdom of God, therefore,

1. RESOLVED, That the individual members of our Sabbath-schools pay for their own supplies, such as lesson pamphlets, Instructors, Little Friends, and Sabbath-school Workers, as far as possible.

Whereas, The various Sabbath-school conventions which have been held during the past year have proven very helpful, not only in increasing the interest in Sabbath-school work, but in deepening personal piety and in the salvation of souls as well, therefore,

2. RESOLVED, That we continue the plan of holding Sabbath-school conventions during the coming year.

Whereas, There are among us many isolated ones and others who cannot for various reasons attend Sabbath-school, who should receive help and encouragement in the divine life, therefore,

3. RESOLVED, That we make a decided effort to put into operation the Home Department plan, both for local schools and the state department.

Whereas, We all recognize the propriety of prompt and accurate reports, therefore,

4. RESOLVED, That we as delegates to the West Michigan Conference do request the Superintendents and Secretaries of our Sabbath-schools to recognize their obligation in the matter of making prompt quarterly reports.

It was moved by Brother L. A. Phippeny that this report be adopted by considering it item by item. Resolution No. 1 was read and the experiences of schools that had followed this plan were related, showing that it found favor wherever tried in that the impression given that the donations go to the most needy field is correct. This Resolution and also No. 2 were adopted.

Resolution No. 3 was read. As some did not understand the organization of the Home Department, an explanation was called for and given. This was adopted, as was also No. 4.

It seemed proper to the President to close with a short prayer service, and Brother Amadon was asked to offer prayer.

A. G. HAUGHEY, President.

E. A. MERRIAM, Secretary.

#### Religious Liberty Work.

To Church Elders and Leaders:

Doubtless all have felt the importance of a move being made looking to an organization of our churches for active operation in opposition to the movement put forth in many places to secure legislation which not only is subcoercive of personal liberty and freedom to our own people, but will ultimately result in the enforced

"worship of the beast and his image." While we know that this will be done eventually, yet the principles of the gospel, which we adhere to, demand of us that we do all in our power to prevent this being accomplished, if possible, and to enlighten every one as to the results when it is accomplished.

To this end this conference at its late session voted to establish a Religious Liberty Department, and the writer was chosen as secretary. It is not the intention to organize an association such as was formerly in operation, but in each church there should be some one appointed who will take especial interest in this particular matter, and report to the Conference Department any movement inaugurated or contemplated which is intended to encourage in any way a union of church and state, or the church using the power of the civil law to enforce its dogmas.

The writer will be pleased to correspond with any one on the subject, and earnestly requests that church elders and leaders write him suggesting the name of some person in each church who will lead out in this line of work in whatever way may seem best, whom we will appoint as secretary for the church, and with whom we will counsel in reference to the work in that church.

Our forces should be so well organized that at any time an occasion arises making it necessary, every church in the conference can set a force to work on very short notice who will carry any plan suggested into speedy execution. Let a bill be introduced in the national congress or the state legislature which it would be deemed advisable to remonstrate against, if our forces are well organized in every church, effective work can be done. This may be done in various ways: such as circulating petitions or remonstrances, writing personal letters to Senators and Representatives or members of the state legislature, and through the public press.

In every church in the conference there are persons who can do such work, but they are unknown to the writer. Therefore, he requests those in charge of churches and companies to suggest the name of some person in each church who is willing to, and capable of intelligently looking after this work. Not that it is expected that the one appointed as secretary in the church will do all this work himself, but that he will be interested in assisting in every way possible, that the work may be done.

It is more than possible that bills will be introduced in the present congress which we will desire to oppose and therefore petitions or remonstrances will be circulated in every community in the West Michigan Conference, but in many of these communities there are no churches; how are such communities to be worked? If we are organized it will be an easy matter to determine, but without organization and co-operation it will be difficult. Therefore let each church elder or leader take up this matter at once and talk this over with the church perhaps, but especially with the one who is selected, making so far as possible all arrangements with them so that immediate work can be begun with them, saving further correspondence, and then write me at 191 James St., Grand Rapids, Mich.

Please regard this the same as a personal letter and reply at your earliest convenience, as the "King's business demands haste."

S. D. HARTWELL,

Sec'y. Religious Liberty Dep't.

#### A Call for Help.

To the readers of the "West Michigan Herald:"

I wish to submit to you a few thoughts to-day relative to the work in the city of Menominee, Mich., for your candid consideration, but in doing so I shall not attempt to weary you with details relative to the work here in this

city, but to lay before you our financial condition, our needs, and also our plan to raise the desired amount necessary to deliver the cause of Christ from its present embarrassment.

Now, we have erected a nice commodious little church which is, as some express it, an honor to the cause of Christ, which we love. We were only a few in number when it was erected and a part of them are gone on account of not having permanent employment in the city. That being true, it became necessary for the church to borrow enough money to pay up all of its bills so that the church could be dedicated a little over a year ago. Now the amount of our indebtedness to-day, say nothing of interest, is \$1,025.00, and \$625.00 of that amount will be due in just a few months, in fact a part of the \$625.00 is on demand now, and no money on hand to meet it. The church here has done well in meeting our obligations so far, but I regret to say that we have exhausted our resources as a church and therefore it becomes absolutely necessary to call on our dear brethren and sisters of other conferences to come to our rescue, or rather to the rescue of the cause of Christ in this city, for if we fail, it will have its effect upon the Master's cause, but if we succeed, it will undoubtedly maintain our standing with this people, as they are watching every move we make, as they have expressed it themselves.

Now permit me to say that we know of no conferences that would naturally have as much sympathy for the work in the Upper Peninsula and in the city of Menominee as the Western and Eastern divisions of the old state of Michigan, and therefore I am writing to you believing that when you read this article explaining in brief our need of help, you will for the sake of the cause of Christ rescue the work in this city from its present embarrassment.

Now, my brethren and sisters,

permit me to suggest a plan which, I think, is modest and will not embarrass any one. It is simply this. Let all of the churches in the conference take up the 10¢ plan. That is let each one pay 10¢ per capita every two weeks until the necessary amount is paid, to liquidate the debt. Now if that meets your approval it will not be long until every cent will be paid and no one hurt. Of course this plan is not to deprive those who are able to give more. Let all feel free to expand their liberality. Elder Loughborough sent me a good liberal donation from California. We praise the Lord for such a gift to this weak church in its extremity.

I do not deem it necessary to say more, as you will readily grasp the situation. But if you will take the pains to read Vol. 6, page 101 of the Testimonies, you will find what the Lord says about helping weak churches.

Believing that you will lend a helping hand in this our extremity, and thanking you in advance of your liberal donation, I am,

Sincerely yours in this closing message,

M. W. LEWIS.

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### Educational.

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#### The Relation of the Sabbath-School to the Church School.

The relation that should exist between the parochial school and the Sabbath-school is a very close one, for in many ways the object is the same. If the Sabbath-school is for the inculcation of the principles of Christianity, the parochial school, if it is fulfilling its object, should aim at the same thing. Someone has well said that the Sabbath-school is the nursery to the church and I was forcibly impressed with this thought while visiting a large nursery in peach budding season.

There were long rows of young peach trees, straight and healthy, giving every promise of growing

into beautiful trees. But the object of raising peach trees is not only to secure fine trees, but above all to produce trees that will bear good fruit. The nursery man knew that the young trees which looked so fine to the eye were worthless for bearing fruit, for they were wild peach trees; so the workmen with deft fingers were inserting buds into the stock of the wild trees which would afterward develop into the fruit bearing part of the tree in the place of the wild branches. It made a difference as to what kind of buds were grafted in, for all peaches are not good fruit. Just so in the training of a child. They all start out in life as wild seedlings, as it were, and the education corresponds closely with the budding process in the nursery.

If a child at an early age is thoroughly indoctrinated with principles of righteousness, and wisdom which comes from above, it can be depended upon to bear fruit accordingly, for "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it" is the promise. On the contrary if the child grows up and bears natural fruit, it has been indoctrinated with wrong principles and practices. Just so will the harvest be, for "whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." One will bear fruit to life eternal, the other the fruit of disappointment and eternal loss.

If the Sabbath-school is the nursery to the church, is it fulfilling its mission? Will one hour's instruction each week in the Sabbath-school so fix the principles of God's truth in the minds of the young that they can be depended upon to bear good fruit? We know that it is not, for the corrupting influence and education of the world will, in most cases, overcome them; so the parochial school system has been given to this people to stop a great leak in the work of this cause by having the nursery work of the church so thoroughly done that it can be depended upon to produce the de-

sired fruit, for it is a sad fact that more young people leave the ranks of commandment-keeping people than we gain by the accession of unbelievers.

Can the Sabbath-school alone stop this leak? Will the parochial school so supplement the Sabbath-school that the work of both will not ravel out? Will the two together save the young people to the close of this message? If so, the relation of one to the other is established.

DANA SMITH.

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### News and Notes.

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The editor spent last Sabbath at the Wright church.

Elder S. M. Butler gave the office a short call one day last week.

The Executive Committee held a meeting in Grand Rapids last Tuesday.

Elder W. D. Curtis, educational superintendent of the Lake Union Conference, made us a short visit last week.

We hope the brethren and sisters will remember that Sabbath, February 24, is the time for the annual collection for the Religious Liberty work.

The West Michigan Tract Society did not receive their supply of Series B No. 7 of the Testimonies until Monday morning, hence the delay in filling orders. No doubt all who ordered have received them by this time.

"God requires obedience, not for the purpose of showing His authority, but that we may become one with Him in character. We shall find in God the attributes of character needed to form characters after His likeness. We are to form characters that are in harmony with the Deity. Thus our natures become spiritualized in every faculty."