

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.

Facts Concerning our Work at Battle Creek.

A REFORMATION NEEDED.

Solemn is the responsibility that rests upon the minister of the gospel. To him applies the message given by God to his prophet of old, "So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me. When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand." Ezekiel 33:7,8. It is no easy thing to face your friends and point out the errors that must be corrected. The minister cannot be a faultfinder. He must not assume the position of judge, and yet he is admonished by God to reprove and rebuke.

By burning the Sanitarium and Review and Herald plants at Battle Creek, the Lord has made it plain to all the world that a reformation was needed among Seventh-day Adventists. Reformers should be keen and vigilant, ever on the alert to destroy evil. Their own spirit is to be subdued; self is to be hid in Christ. In all reformers Christ alone is to appear.

"God calls upon His servants to reveal a spirit of unvarying kindness and love. Nothing is gained by harsh denunciations and bitterness of spirit. To be harsh in trying to correct wrong is to commit sin in reproving sin. True reformers are not destroyers. They never seek to ruin those who do not harmonize with their plans. Reformers must advance, not retreat. They must be firm, decided, resolute, unflinching. But firmness must not be allowed to degenerate into an overbearing spirit. God would have those who serve Him as firm as a rock to principle, and yet meek and lowly, like Christ. Abiding in Christ, they can do the work that He would do were He in their places.

"A rude, condemnatory spirit is not essential to heroism in the reformers of this time. Those in positions of authority in our institutions are to be true and upright. And they are to be pleasant and courteous, not only to those who are accounted ladies and gentlemen, but to the patient, toiling workers. Those who are to represent Christ must be like Him in character."

Need we be surprised, if some should attempt to bring about a reformation, that others would oppose them and speak evil of their work? If those who are adept in committing evil refuse to accept the reproof, they will cry out against those who oppose them in their wrong course of action. After the fires in Battle Creek there were those among our leaders who were true to the message that the Lord gave and they sought to walk

in the light. A reformation took place. The General Conference offices and the Review and Herald plant were re-established at Washington. As a result of this right move on the part of our leadership, those who did not accept the reproof by walking in the light have opposed themselves by finding fault with our leaders. O that we might all see light in His light!

Every watchman on the walls of Zion is under solemn obligation to watch for souls as he that must give an account. Through God's grace he can do a work that heaven shall approve in laboring to keep the church in unity and peace. Let him remember that he is to publish peace, "endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace."

Let us refuse to bear evil reports concerning our fellow laborers or our leaders. "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion." Isa. 52:7,8. May we all remember that God "hath appointed a day in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead."

A. G. HAUGHEY.

Another Protest to be Made.

Senate bill No. 2825 and H. R. bill 12610 have been introduced into Congress providing financial aid, direct or indirect, amounting to more than \$2,000,000 besides an expenditure for a naval parade by the ships of many nations for the Jamestown (Virginia) Tercentenary Exposition for 1907.

Section 13 of this bill says:—

"That as a condition precedent to the payment of appropriation herein provided for the Jamestown Exposition Company shall contract to close the exhibits and places of business to visitors on Sundays."

This section should be opposed by every lover of freedom.

There was a national appropriation for the St. Louis Fair, which was made contingent on a contract that the gates should be closed on Sunday, and on Sunday during the Exposition all entrances bore the significant sign, "Admission to the grounds on Sunday is prohibited by act of Congress."

All know that in making such a prohibition Congress is overstepping her sphere, and is in flagrant opposition to the first amendment to the Constitution, which says, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

The promoters of Sunday legislation are urging the passage of this bill with all their power by writing letters and sending telegrams to members of Congress.

I take this opportunity to urge upon all of our people the urgent necessity of writing letters also to the members of Congress, vigorously protesting against the passage of the measure while it contains the Sunday closing condition.

The following are the names of Congressmen who should be written to at Washington without delay, opposing this measure: The Chairman of the Committee of the House of Representatives on Industrial Arts and Expositions, the

Hon. A. P. Gardner, of Massachusetts; the Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, the Hon. James A. Tawney, of Minnesota, and, in the Senate, the Hon. William B. Allison, of Iowa, Chairman of the Appropriations Committee.

You do not need to confine your letter to the Congressmen indicated above. Any others could be written to with profit.

K. C. RUSSELL.

Report of Canvassing Work for Two Weeks, April 29 to May 12.

R. E. Putney, Barry county, Great Controversy, 26 hours, four orders, \$7.70 helps, total value \$17.45.

R. Martin, Allegan county, Great Controversy, 34 hours, four orders, helps \$1.00, total value \$11.25.

H. M. Spear, Grand Rapids, Seer of Patmos, 90 hours, 33 orders, helps \$10.75, total value \$43.75.

As extracts from letters accompanying reports might encourage someone besides myself, I will quote the following:

"I am of good courage in the work and am more and more convinced that this work lies in the path of duty for me. I feel the need of a fresh baptism of the Spirit each day that I may become much more proficient."

"I almost gave up, but the Lord helped me, and I can praise His name for the success I have had."

"I have had a good experience in the work and the Lord has blessed me in it, though I have not sold many books. I have found some people who seem much interested in the truth."

These short testimonials mean much more than appears on the surface. Those who have had experience in the field can read between the lines and know whereof these brethren speak. Surely it is good to be in the canvassing work not only for the sunshine, but for the blessing behind the cloud.

Last week was spent with a class in Kalamazoo for "Great Controversy" and "Heralds of the Morning." One brother gave up steady employment in a shop, and, by

faith in God, takes up the canvassing work with "Great Controversy."

These workers need your prayers, brethren and sisters of West Michigan. Will you remember them daily, and listen to know if you cannot hear the still, small voice calling you to help in this blessed, neglected work?

GEO. MATTESON.

Some Experiences.

During the last week of January, 1906, the way opened for me to engage in the canvassing work. Brother Matteson asked me to write a report for the "Herald" that it might possibly encourage someone else to take hold of the work.

I do not know what to say, or how to express my gratitude to God for all his tender mercies. But God is faithful that promised. I have no great report to make of large profits or wonderful sales. In fact, my sales have been quite small, but God supplies all our need, and what more could we ask? It is true that when we step out by faith to do the work of the Lord, he will uphold us.

I might tell of many precious experiences of how the Lord has led in the work, how every day he blesses; but will give only a few as illustrations. One Monday morning while working in Grand Haven I missed the first car which I intended to take for that place. I was much disappointed, because I thought it an hour lost from my work, and my own financial need made me feel the necessity of diligence in my work. I spent the time of waiting in studying my book and in earnest silent prayer that God would better fit me for the work. The time quickly passed, and on the next car, which was quite well filled, I took the only vacant seat beside a young man, with whom I was soon in conversation. Our talk drifted to the important truth for this time and resulted in an appointment for me to call at his home in Grand Haven in the evening and show him my book, and later an evening spent with him and his family in Bible study, and an order for "Seer of Patmos."

On another occasion I was obliged to change my boarding place, as the family where I had been stopping were to be away from town for several weeks. In the evening I went to another part of the town where an acquaintance lived, with whom I hoped to find lodging. For some reason he could not entertain me for the night. He asked me some questions about present truth, which the Lord blessed me in answering. He then directed me to a friend of his whom he felt certain was so situated as to keep me. On arriving there, however, he also was found to be torn up and painting the inside work of his residence; but he, like the other, wished to learn more about our faith. He sat down and talked for an hour or more before I could get away. He is an earnest Bible student and a Sunday-school teacher. He has already in his possession "Christ's Object Lessons," and "Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation." It was quite late when I left him for the home of his mother, where I found very comfortable quarters for the few remaining days of my stay in Grand Haven. During those days, however, she became much interested, bought "Seer of Patmos," and wishes me to bring other books when I come that way again.

The cases above mentioned were on territory which I had been over a few days previous and had at that time not obtained a hearing. At times those things which seem disappointments to us may be in the very path of divine leading.

Space will not permit me at this writing to give more. One thing is certain, that there are many, even here in the West Michigan Conference territory, at our very doors, who are hungering and thirsting for the Bread of Life and the Living Water; who are suffering and in need of the white raiment that they may be clothed. (See Isa. 58:7 and the remainder of the chapter.) Are we withholding these blessings from those who are

dying? Let us lift up our eyes and look on the fields which are white already for the harvest, and let us earnestly pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers. If he calls you, my brother or sister, to canvass for the books which contain the precious truth, he will abundantly bless as you obey him. Just try it and see.

H. M. SPEAR.

From the Field.

WRIGHT.

May 5th a good number of the West Michigan Conference Adventists met with the church at Wright, about twelve miles northwest of Grand Rapids, in Sabbath-school convention. There were five churches represented, including four church school teachers.

At eleven o'clock, after the Sabbath school, the first session began by singing that beautiful song, "Wake the Song of Joy and Gladness."

The forenoon was devoted to reading of papers and open discussion of subjects relating directly to the Sabbath-school work. The one important question was that of making the Sabbath-school a more effective agency in training the children and youth of this denomination to be workers in the cause of Christ. Much attention was paid to the relation between the young people and the Sabbath-school. We learn to do by doing. We are told that as soon as a young man or woman shows an aptness in any line, he should, under the direction of older ones, be given responsibility. All appreciated the instruction given by some of the older members of the church.

After an intermission of two hours all came together again to consider the young people's work more definitely, and better ways of conducting young people's meetings. The discussions were freely entered into by both young and old, and many points were made

clear from the testimonies.

When we as young people take hold of the opportunities offered, it will not only give a new impetus to our own experience, but will bring energy and life into the Sabbath-school.

FRED GREEN,
Secretary.

A Question of Principle.

The wide-spread and growing agitation in behalf of more strict Sunday laws or the more rigid enforcement of those already on the statute books, is to God's remnant people an evident sign that, urged on by religious (?) enthusiasts, the civil and political elements of our nation are rapidly ripening for the final crisis in religious intolerance.

Many of those directly concerned in the making and enforcement of these laws do not see the real issue, while thousands and thousands of ordinarily intelligent persons throughout the land are unaware that there is anything particularly wrong in laws regulating the observance of Sunday. We should do all we can to correctly inform others in regard to these matters: in so doing we honor God and respect our country and its government.

In order to more fully meet the present needs a special RELIGIOUS LIBERTY number of the WATCHMAN has been prepared. The writers of the articles in this issue have handled their subjects in a very acceptable manner, presenting the true and right way in its attractiveness. They have mainly dealt with the question as one of equity and good-will between man and man, avoiding ecclesiastical discussion and upholding individual responsibility to God.

The following are some of the leading articles:—

Religious Liberty, Mrs. E. G. White.

The Declaration of Independence, Percy T. Magan.

The Limit of Civic Authority, L. A. Smith.

Prayer for Rulers, S. N. Haskell.

The Church and the State, Gen. Wm. Birney.

Church and State Fundamentals, S. B. Horton.

A Sunday-Law Fallacy, C. P. Bollman.

A Retrospective View of Some Sunday Laws, Geo. I. Butler.

Who is Behind the Times? S. Jacobs (a Jewish rabbi.)

The Perfect Law of Liberty, K. C. Russell.

Single copies 5c; 10 or more copies sent to different addresses, each 3c; 10 to 24 copies to one address, each 2c; 25 or more copies to one address, each 1½c.

Order of the West Michigan Tract Society.

Conference Items.

The recommendations passed will probably be published later.

The surroundings of the College are very beautiful at this time of the year.

Two business sessions were held each day, beginning at 9:30 a. m. and 3 p. m.

The president of each local conference had an encouraging report to render.

Professor Lamson reviewed the Eastern Question the evening after the Sabbath.

The spring council of our workers was held between the sessions of the conference.

It was voted to take immediate steps to connect sanitarium work with the College.

The eight o'clock devotional meetings were a source of strength to those who attended.

Following Sabbath-school Elder Luther Warren preached a stirring sermon from the text in Deut. 4:7,8.

The time was given to a meeting of the Review and Herald Publishing Association Wednesday forenoon.

If any matters have failed to receive prompt attention it is because all the office workers attended the conference.

All of the thirty-one West Michigan delegates were present except four; namely, S. M. Butler, I. D. VanHorn, W. D. Lakin, and Geo. Matteson.

The first Lake Union Sabbath-school was held Sabbath morning, W. D. Curtis acting as superintendent, and Miss Myrta Kellogg as secretary.

The last business session was held Wednesday afternoon, and most of the delegates left the next morning, one day earlier than was anticipated.

One hundred and thirty-seven delegates besides a large number of workers were present at the third biennial session of the Lake Union Conference.

Sabbath afternoon Elder I. H. Evans interested a large audience in foreign missions. A social meeting followed, many expressing their willingness to go wherever the Lord should call them.

Wednesday morning we were called together to listen to a communication addressed to Elders Daniells, Irwin, and Butler, concerning the work in Battle Creek and the 1904 Lake Union Conference.

Preaching services were held at 7:30 nearly every evening. Elder J. M. Rees from Indiana spoke on the signs of the times Wednesday evening, the 9th. Professor J. G. Lamson gave a discourse on Religious Liberty the following evening. Elder Kauble chose faith for his subject Friday evening.

Elder A. G. Daniells arrived Monday and occupied the evening hour, telling of the progress of the work in all parts of the world. He

closed his remarks by pointing out on the map our sixty-five mission stations. Only a few countries remain to be entered.

The conference began and ended with a prayer service. All were impressed with the nearness of the end of all things earthly and the need of a baptism of the Spirit for service. A spirit of brotherly love prevailed throughout the meetings.

Tuesday afternoon at three o'clock Elder Daniells read a portion of the pamphlet reviewing Elder Jones' leaflet entitled, "Some History, Some Experiences, and Some Facts." Very earnest petitions were offered by Elders Warren and Daniells in behalf of the cause of truth, and for forgiveness of the sins of Israel. Many testified that their belief in the Testimonies was stronger than ever before.

The West Michigan Conference tendered the services of Brethren F. B. Howard and Myron Butterfield to the Southern Illinois Conference, the former for one year, and the latter during the summer, with wages paid. They also appropriated \$500 to the work in Chicago, and offered to let Brother and Sister J. C. Brower labor in Porto Rico.

The following officers were elected:

Allen Moon, President.

Wm. Covert, Vice-President.

W. H. Edwards, Secretary, Treasurer and Auditor.

W. D. Curtis, Educational Superintendent.

J. G. Lamson, Religious Liberty Secretary.

J. B. Blosser, Canvassing Agent.

Dr. S. P. S. Edwards, Medical Superintendent.

NOTICE.

N. H. Pool of Coldwater, Mich., wishes to correspond with a young man desiring to learn the tinner's trade.