

THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD

HE THAT REAPETH GATHERETH FRUIT UNTO LIFE ETERNAL

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The West Michigan Herald.

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

Report of the West Michigan Seventh-Day Adventist Conference for two Years From Jan. 1, '04 to Jan. 1, '06 to the Third Biennial Session of the Lake Union Conference.

To the delegates assembled in the Third Biennial Session of the Lake Union Conference at Berrien Springs, Mich., May 8-18, 1906. Greeting:

"And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."

"Be ye therefore followers of God as dear children; and walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour."

"And be ye kind one to another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

The Michigan Seventh-day Adventist Conference was organized in 1861. It was sub-divided in August, 1902, at which time the West Michigan Seventh-day Adventist Conference was organized from a part of its territory.

EVANGELICAL DEPARTMENT.

Four general meetings were held within the two-year period, and twenty series of tent meetings; two councils of the ministers, each of which proved to be of great value to this department of our conference work. Two general camp-meetings were followed by the baptism of fifty-two persons and their reception into church fellowship. As a result of the twenty series of tent meeting, each tent company has been made to rejoice with from one to eighteen converts to the faith.

This department to our work has very bright prospects before it. The hearts of our young men are being turned toward the ministry. At the present time we have a number of young men doing hearth-to-hearth Bible work in our cities. We also have a few young ladies doing faithful city work. Since my connection with the work in the West Michigan Conference there never have been so many openings for our evangelical workers as at the present time. Surely the harvest is ripe and the laborers few.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

This department of our conference work is well established. The Sabbath-schools have increased in

number and influence. Young people's societies have been organized in many places with good results. The church or primary schools have come to stay. We now own a number of primary school buildings. With the churches owning these, it is no longer a question whether they will conduct schools. These primary schools have proved to be of much value to our educational work in general.

We have two well-established schools doing intermediate work,—one at Battle Creek, the other at Cedar Lake. The Battle Creek Academy is a school directed by the church. It is therefore a church school doing academic work. It is the best equipped church school of our conference and is doing a quality of work that is unequalled by any other of our church schools.

The Cedar Lake School is an intermediate school supported and controlled by the conference. At the last session of the conference the delegates instructed its board of managers to place this school where it would be entirely self-sustaining. Plans have already been inaugurated which will result in placing this school on an independent, self-supporting basis.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

The workers in this department have not been idle. There has been a steady increase in the distribution of our denominational literature. We have had but very few regular canvassers in the field. We have kept a field agent in active service among the churches during the entire time. Some of the time we have had two men giving themselves to this line of work. Three canvassers' institutes

have been held. As a result a few men and women have entered the field as regular canvassers.

As a conference we are blessed with the presence and counsel of a number of aged laborers that we willingly support. There are seven laborers on our pay roll that have reached the advanced age of from seventy-two to eighty years. At the present there are good prospects of our having two more.

We are giving help to the missionary interests of the denomination in both laborers and means.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Our medical work is growing and gaining influence. We have only one small sanitarium which is under the direct control of the conference. There are at the present time eight persons in our employ devoting all their time to this line of work. There has been a steady growth in the medical work of the conference from the time of its establishment to the present.

LIBERTY DEPARTMENT.

This branch of our conference work as a department is the youngest member of the family, but it is assuming large proportions, as nearly every church in the territory has its Liberty Secretary, and they all stand as minute men ready for service on short notice.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The West Michigan Conference Association has a present worth of \$1500, with \$200 liabilities. The Educational Department has a present worth of \$17,000. This is invested in school property. This department has liabilities amounting to \$500. The Medical Department has a present worth of \$2500, consisting of medical appliances, sanitarium equipments, dormitory furnishings, and accounts. There is no debt upon this department. The Missionary Department has a present worth of \$1400.00. This is vested in books, accounts, and cash. It has no debt. The Evangelical Department has a present worth of \$5,000 vested in tents and equipments, office fixtures, and

cash, with no liabilities. The present worth of the various church buildings throughout the conference is \$60,350, with \$6,850 liabilities. Thus it would seem that the total resources of the West Michigan Conference, incorporated and unincorporated, are \$95,300, the total liabilities \$7,550, making the net present worth \$87,750.

STATISTICS.

There are 5,000 Sabbath-keepers in the West Michigan Conference, 77 organized churches, 12 companies, 88 Sabbath-schools with an average attending membership of 2,500, 11 Young People's Societies with a membership of 500, 22 primary and intermediate schools with an average attendance of about 500. We own 48 church buildings and 14 school houses. There are at the present time 14 ordained ministers, 6 licensed ministers, and 24 missionary licentiates on the conference pay roll, 44 in all.

The total earnings of the Medical Department for the two years were \$4,500. The total donations from the Sabbath-schools were \$5,156.87. Of this amount \$4,036.01 was donated to the Haskell Home and to missions. The total tithe paid by the West Michigan churches for the two years was \$65,883.67, over \$8,000 of which was retained by the Battle Creek Sanitarium. The total income of the conference, including tithes, offerings, and donations for the two years was \$83,914.55. Of this sum \$43,751.69 was used within the territory, leaving \$40,162.86 sent to fields outside.

There has been a gradual increase in all lines and departments of the work connected with the West Michigan Conference, for which we praise God and give Him the glory.

A. G. HAUGHEY.

A Statement.

In view of the fact that a leaflet entitled "Some History, Some Experiences and Some Facts," pre-

pared by Elder A. T. Jones of Battle Creek, Mich., is being widely circulated throughout this Union Conference, and is, in our judgment, calculated to do great spiritual harm, we deem it proper to make the following statements of our position:

1. We very deeply regret the unwise course Elder Jones has taken in thus making most serious charges against our General Conference Administration and in attempting to establish the claim that the instruction professedly given through the Spirit of Prophecy is unreliable.

2. Our own experience with the administration of General Conference affairs leads us to disagree wholly with the charges preferred by Elder Jones. During our entire connection with the message we have not seen manifest the spirit of domination here alleged; but we have always had most friendly co-operation and have experienced the fullest freedom in carrying forward our work.

3. We have the fullest confidence that Elder Jones' conclusions concerning the testimonies rest upon no sufficient basis and we wish, while most kindly, yet most earnestly protesting against the charges preferred, to also assure our brethren and sisters in the local churches throughout the Lake Union Conference, that they need be in no way disturbed or unsettled by the groundless assertions being circulated among them by means of this leaflet.

4. That we take great pleasure in declaring our confidence in the administration of affairs of the General Conference, and to extend to it our most earnest and loyal support in carrying forward and fostering the message in all its phases in the various portions of the wide harvest field.

5. That we regard Elder Jones' assertions concerning the unreliability of the testimonies as having no weight when considered in the light of the history of this denomi-

nation, and we deem it a privilege to again express our thankfulness to our heavenly Father for the gift of the Spirit of Prophecy manifest in our midst, and renewed confidence in its integrity, and to pledge greater faithfulness in the future to the instruction which comes to us through this instrumentality.

ALLEN MOON.
WM. COVERT.
W. J. STONE.
A. G. HAUGHEY.
E. K. SLADE.
H. H. BURKHOLDER.
C. McREYNOLDS.
S. E. WIGHT.
W. D. PARKHURST.

From the Field.

GRAND LEDGE.

On account of sickness we were obliged to postpone our Sabbath-school convention at Grand Ledge two different times, but were finally able to hold it Sabbath, April 21.

Members were present, and took part in the program, from Portland, Charlotte, Potterville, Lansing, and Westphalia Sabbath-schools.

Miss Margaret Haughey was also present to aid us.

The subjects considered were the same as those usually discussed in such a convention. We also had missionary exercises by the children, and some of the young people took part by writing essays on the subject, "The Kind of a Teacher I Like," which were very interesting and from which Sabbath-school teachers might receive some points which would enable them to be more successful in their work of teaching.

Miss Haughey, in summing up the work of the convention, gave a short, interesting talk on singing in our Sabbath-schools, telling us how it might be improved by training and by our possessing the spirit of the songs which we sing.

This is the first convention ever held by the Grand Ledge Sabbath-

school, but it was very much enjoyed by all present, and they expressed the wish that they might hold another sometime in the future. And we trust points were brought out and made plain that will aid in improving the work of all the schools represented. We also hope that seed was sown that will bear fruit for eternity.

MILDRED WILSON.

GLENWOOD.

The Sabbath-school at Glenwood held a convention Sabbath and Sunday, May 19, 20. Elder W. C. Hebner was present and spoke Friday evening, May 18. Sabbath and Sunday were spent in considering the Sabbath-school and Young People's work. Several took part in the discussions. The program was interspersed with songs and recitations by the children and youth, which helped to make the meetings interesting.

The meetings were well attended and a good interest was manifested. On Sunday evening the house was well filled, and almost every one said they had been benefited by the meetings. We hope the Glenwood Sabbath-school will put the good things into practice that they learned at the convention.

MARGARET HAUGHEY.

Summer Term at Emmanuel Missionary College.

The regular summer term for the Emmanuel Missionary College will begin June 19, as announced in the calendar. In addition to the regular summer work, there will be given a special course for those desiring a short preparation for work in the field. This course will embrace a study of Current Events in the Light of the Bible, The Third Angel's Message, Methods of Teaching, Methods of Bible Work, Theory and Art of Canvassing, with some practice in public speaking. Any other subjects necessary for fitting our young people for active work in the cause will be taken up, provided a class of

five can be formed. Plans are being laid for securing some of the best teaching talent that can be found to give instruction in this school. We believe this will be one of the best opportunities for our young people during the coming summer, and we bespeak for this summer school a large patronage, and the hearty co-operation of our laborers in the district.

N. W. KAUBLE.

Missionary Work for the Children.

Last summer at our camp-meeting Sister Georgia Burgess talked to our children about the orphanage at Karmatar, India, and she told them that it cost twenty-five dollars to support one orphan for one year. The children were very much interested and their hearts were touched, and they said they thought the children of the West Michigan Conference could support one orphan for one year.

Some time ago we sent a letter to the Sabbath-schools to be read to the children, calling their attention to the suggestion that they made at the camp-meeting. Now that most of our children are out of school, they will have more time to earn missionary money. They can have missionary gardens, and missionary hens; the berry season will soon be here, and they can pick berries and in this way earn money. We hope the parents and Sabbath-school superintendents will encourage the children in this missionary enterprise. By each child giving a little the amount can be raised, and it will be the means of interesting the children in the work in other lands. Let us do all we can to help the "lambs of the flock."

MARGARET HAUGHEY.

Notice of the Summer Normal.

At a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the West Michigan Conference it was unanimously voted to unite with the North Michigan and Southern Illinois Conferences in holding a normal school at Berrien Springs im-

mediately following the General Educational Convention which is to be held at College View June 29 to July 10. We hope that all the teachers of the West Michigan Conference who are planning to teach next year will avail themselves of the opportunity this school will afford.

We are not prepared at this time to give the announcements as to courses of study, but will state that all subjects in which the teachers are expected to be examined will have classes formed and opportunities granted to all who wish to take them.

The educational secretary, Clifford Russell, will correspond with those who desire to teach the coming year, and arrange with them for their attendance at this normal. Remember his address is C. A. Russell, R. D. No. 1, Allegan, Mich.

A. G. HAUGHEY.

News and Notes.

The Executive Committee held a meeting at Cedar Lake May 24.

Brother E. A. Merriam spent last Sabbath with the Kinderhook church.

Elder George Thompson spoke in the Battle Creek tabernacle last Sabbath.

The editor attended a Sabbath-school convention at Sand Lake Sabbath, May 26.

Our Educational Secretary, Clifford Russell, will begin the duties of his office June 1.

If you want to buy a farm, inquire of John C. Wells, Huber, Newago Co., Michigan.

We hope the Sabbath-school superintendents will remind the children of their missionary enterprise,—the raising of twenty-five dollars for the support of an orphan at the orphanage at Karmatar, India.

Brother F. L. Harrington informs us that eight persons were baptized April 29th and united with the Horr church.

We have a supply of the Sabbath-school lesson quarterlies for the third quarter of 1906. Send in your orders early.

Miss Jennie Nelson spent May 25-27 at Berrien Springs attending to some matters for the West Michigan Tract Society.

Elder M. N. Campbell delivered an interesting sermon in the Grand Rapids church Sunday evening, May 27, on the fall of Babylon.

The Kalamazoo Sabbath-school will hold a convention Sabbath, June 2. The first session will be held Friday evening, June 1. The neighboring Sabbath-schools are invited to attend.

Our readers who do not have LIFE AND HEALTH should secure a copy of the June number, just out. It will prove to be of value to them. In fact, every number of this health journal is valuable to all classes. It is appreciated by the general public, and those who solicit for it meet with good success. Write the publishers for Suggestive Canvass for the June number, and special rates to agents.

The time and place of the annual camp-meetings of the various conferences in the Lake Union as far as are at the present time settled will be as follows:

Northern Illinois, June 21 to July 1, Chicago.

North Michigan, June 25 to July 2, Iron Mountain.

Indiana, July 12-19, Seymour.

Indiana, July 26 to August 2, South Bend.

Southern Illinois, August 2-12.

West Michigan, August 9-19, Hastings.

Ohio, August 16-25.

Wisconsin, August 22 to September 3, Steven's Point.

East Michigan, August 29 to September 10, Holly.

Northern Illinois, September 5-16.

North Michigan, August 30 to September 10, East Jordan.

At the council meeting held at Berrien Springs during the time of the session of the Lake Union Conference it was arranged for seven series of tent meetings to be held in the West Michigan Conference during the coming tent season as follows:

Elder Videto and Brother Pitton at Niles;

Elder Hebner and Brother Hartwell at Crystal Valley;

Elder Horton and Brother Irving at Cassopolis;

Elder Brink and Brother Collier at Muskegon;

Elder Campbell and Brother Leslie Avery at Grand Rapids;

Brethren Carl Hansen and H. P. Hansen among the Danes at Greenville;

Brethren Hofstra and Gray among the Hollanders at Holland;

Sister Anna Kemstra is to accompany the tent at Holland to engage in the Bible work.

Sister Bertha Snyder is to engage in Bible work in Grand Rapids.

Sister Amy Woodruff is to connect with the work at Cassopolis.

"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep, for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand, let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light."