

u. G. Fariello

THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD



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The West Michigan Herald.

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Margaret Haughey, - Editor.

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Religious Liberty Sec'y,	S. D. Hartwell,
	335 John St., Charlotte.
Sabbath-school Sec'y,	Margaret Haughey,
	Otsego.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

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

Conference Proceedings.

Sixth Meeting 3:00 p. m.

Elder A. G. Haughey in the chair.

"I Love to Tell the Story" was sung, followed by prayer.

The committee on plans reported as follows:

7. WHEREAS: The Lord charges with robbery those who neglect to render to him his own in tithes and offerings, we recommend,

First, that the committee on licenses and credentials be instructed to withhold papers from workers who are not faithful in paying their tithes.

Second, That the officers of all our churches make themselves examples to their flocks in the payment of tithes and offerings; and we urge our church to be watchful and select only such officers who are faithful in these matters.

Third, we call upon our local believers within our borders to pay their tithes to the church treasurer to be sent by him to the conference treasurer for disbursement according to the directions of the Lord.

8. We recommend the word "fifteen" in section 2, article 17 of the constitution be changed to "twenty-five" so as to read—"This conference shall be composed in its business assemblies of accredited delegates from the various churches composing it at the rate of one delegate for each church organization and one additional delegate from each church for each twenty-five active members belonging to the church," etc.

9. WHEREAS, It hath pleased God to call from this life our beloved brother and fellow-laborer, Elder E. H. Root, therefore,—

Resolved, That we express our appreciation of his long and efficient service in connection with the third angel's message, his loyalty to the cause, and his readiness to aid the work by his means as well as by personal effort. Also

Resolved, That we extend our sympathy to his family in this their deep bereavement, and commend them to the great Comforter in their time of trouble.

That a copy of these resolutions authenticated by the President, Secretary and the Executive Committee of the conference, be transmitted to the family, and that the same be published in the West Michigan Herald.

10. Resolved, That as a conference we express our hearty appreciation for the excellent financial management exercised during the past year, and especially commend

the conference officers for the liberal way in which they have remembered the needy fields outside our borders in sharing with them the tithe.

11. In view of the fact that the opposers of religious liberty are wide awake in every city and town in the West Michigan Conference, and knowing that the movement on foot to unite church and state in this country is assuming momentous proportions, and knowing that the religious liberty department is bound to become one of the most important departments of the work in the near future, and Whereas the discussion of Sunday laws gives us a most excellent opportunity to present the truth of the third angel's message to law-makers and the more influential class of people within our conference; therefore,

We recommend; First, That suitable articles be prepared by our religious liberty secretary and published in the columns of the West Michigan Herald in connection with all items of interest which may develop along this line of work within our conference in order that our people may become enlightened and kept wide awake upon this important work.

Second, That we do all in our power to persuade our church members to become subscribers to our magazine "Liberty"; and furthermore, that all our people, both conference workers and lay-members, do all in their power to place "Liberty" and other appropriate reading matter in the hands of ministers, mayors of cities, law makers, and influential men of all classes who can be profited by it.

Third, That all our conference

workers co-operate with our religious liberty secretary and improve every opportunity to enlighten our people upon the fundamental principles of this most important subject that we all may become minute men to do our part and thus delay the inevitable crisis, in order that we may have sufficient time to finish the work the Lord has given us to do.

Fourth, That the West Michigan Conference Committee be instructed to arrange with the East Michigan Conference for religious liberty work in Lansing during the session of legislature this winter.

12. We recommend, That this conference adhere to its purpose as declared at its last annual session, of raising a fund for conference improvements, and that we urge all of our laborers and church elders to put forth diligent efforts to raise this fund as quickly as possible.

13. Resolved, That we endorse the plan of the General Conference to raise a fund of \$150,000 for the assistance of needy institutions and mission fields, and pledge our hearty support as a conference to the work of raising our share of this fund.

14. Resolved, That we urge upon all our churches the importance of carrying out the young people's program that has been arranged by the General Conference for Sabbath, January 26, 1907.

We hereby pledge ourselves to use our influence in urging upon our young people the importance of reporting promptly and fully to the educational department of the conference.

Resolved that it is the sense of this conference that our young people send all monies raised for missionary purposes through the church treasurer to the conference treasurer.

Resolved, That as a conference we invite the children and young among us to co-operate in the good work of raising the \$150,000 fund.

Elder Haughey spoke to resolution No. 7, and said that some

persons were going through the conference and gathering up means and appropriating them for their own use. This resolution was discussed quite freely from the floor and met with the hearty endorsement of the entire delegation.

Elder Haughey explained with reference to the basis of representation being changed from fifteen to twenty-five. He said that we are the largest conference numerically in the world, and if a full delegation were sent they could not be accommodated but by two or three of our larger churches in the conference. Other conferences have changed the basis of representation, and we ought to change ours also.

Elder Hebner wished the conference to vote on this resolution separately. It was adopted by the unanimous vote of the conference.

No. 9 was spoken of by a number of delegates who expressed their personal loss they felt in the death of our beloved Brother E. H. Root, and dwelt upon his many excellent traits of character, and the staunch and firm adherence to the truth. This resolution was adopted by a rising vote of the entire congregation.

The chair asked that No. 10 be withdrawn for the present, as we did not wish to present it till after the departmental secretaries had reported.

No. 11 was regarded as one of great importance, and many expressed that it was most timely in view of the alarming strides religious legislation was making at the present time. It was most emphatically endorsed by the conference.

Resolution 12 called forth many remarks from the conference, all took great interest in raising this fund for home purposes and work. Several of the delegates got enthusiastic over the matter; Brother Carman said he would give \$25 and Elder Bourdeau and wife pledged \$5 to this fund. It was

suggested that a collection be taken up at this time. Collection amounted to \$22.

The question was asked if it was known where the headquarters would be located.

Elder Haughey stated that it was planned to locate at Plainwell, really such was the former action of the conference.

Recess.

After recess we resumed our work.

Elder Horton offered prayer.

Resolutions 13 and 14 carried without an opposing vote.

The committee on licences and credentials submitted a partial report as follows: For credentials, Dr. C. A. Hansen; for ordination and credentials, S. D. Hartwell and Jacob Hofstra.

Elder Campbell moved that this report be adopted by considering each name separately. They were granted credentials without a dissenting voice.

The ordination services followed. Elder Bourdeau offered the prayer and Elder Butler extended to Brethren Hartwell and Hofstra the hand of fellowship and association to the circle of ordained ministers, after which "Praise God From whom all Blessings Flow" was sung by the congregation.

The committee on city work reported as follows:

WHEREAS: Instruction has been given that the work in our cities would close up before the work in the villages and country places; and that the Lord has told us that "we are far behind in following the light given us to enter the cities and erect memorials for God;"

Resolved, (A) That a special effort be made to search out ALL in our cities who will accept the third angel's message.

(B) That suitable men and women willing to devote themselves to this work, be engaged to do faithful colporter and Bible work with the Family Bible Teacher or some other good system.

(C) That this work be seconded

by public effort, where interest demands, conducted by the best talent procurable: these resolutions involving the idea of a sufficient corps of workers to thoroughly and quickly accomplish the work from city to city.

(D) That our Executive Committee be asked to investigate the work conducted by Elder Granger with a view to adopting it if deemed advisable.

And WHEREAS: The Lord has instructed us (Vol. 7 p 19) that the greatest help that can be given our people is to teach them to work for God.

We therefore, recommend, That our ministers who are stationed over the churches in our cities, take the oversight of this work of training such laborers as shall engage in city colporter and Bible work, LEADING them in aggressive effort to reach unbelievers.

As these resolutions embraced so much the Chair requested that the Secretary read each division carefully and give the body chance to consider each point.

Elder Campbell said he thought it was time that we were enlisting a large corps of workers in our cities; the ministers cannot do the work alone, and God wants every believer to join in the work. He brought in quite a forcible illustration. When a horse begins to kick he stops pulling, but when he begins to pull he stops kicking. He thought that was about the case with individuals. That all should get to work, then they would have no time to enlarge upon the mistakes of others.

Elber Nicola said it was surprising to see how many people there were in and near the city of Battle Creek even who knew but little of Seventh-day Adventists.

Brother Crowthers noted that division (C) if carried out would call for a number of workers. Said he believed this was something of the plan that the East Michigan Conference was working on. And Elder Lamson was asked to tell

something of their work.

Elder Lamson said they had some large cities in their territory and they had been wrestling with that question for years. They had studied into Bro. Granger's plan of work and were very favorable toward it, and had adopted it to some extent in their work. He said the time was passed when ministers could go to a city with a few helpers and reach the people by tent effort. They must get into the homes of the people.

Elder Haughey stated he was not altogether in favor of Elder Granger's plan, while he felt that he was a good man and a good city worker. He did not approve of the idea of getting funds from business people without informing them who we were and what denomination we belong to.

Elder Bourdeau said he remembered the time workers started out into the work they tried to conceal the fact that they were S. D. A.'s, but after a while they had learned to do differently.

The thought of hiding our religion aroused quite an enthusiastic discussion on the part of the conference.

Meeting adjourned till 7:30 p. m.
A. G. HAUGHEY, Pres.,
E. A. MERRIAM, Sec'y.

Obituary.

Died at Ely, Emmet Co. Mich., Dec. 31, 1906, of paralysis, Dr. Aaron Whitney Nichols. Brother Nichols was born March 7, 1816, at Woolcott, Wayne Co., N. Y. After moving to Michigan he practiced medicine at Battle Creek, Bedford and other places in Calhoun Co.

About fifty years ago he attended some meetings held by Eld. James and Mrs. E. G. White at Hastings and at this time he saw Sister White in vision. This had a deep and lasting impression on his mind. He accepted the precious truths taught and was faithful until the last.

The funeral services were conducted by the local U. B. minister

at Ely, where the interment took place.

SAMUEL MIDGLEY.

From the Field.

Trufant and Sand Lake.

Doctor L. J. Otis was with me at the Trufant church Sabbath, January 12. He gave three very valuable and interesting talks on the principles of health. The brethren and sisters of the church and the people of the neighborhood showed their appreciation of the services by their attendance and good attention. The Trufant church is in very good condition spiritually.

After leaving the Trufant church Sunday, January 13, we went to Sand Lake. The Doctors' lectures called out some of the most influential people of the place. A prominent physician of the village made the following remark after hearing the first lecture, "truer words were never spoken." A series of meetings is in progress here and we are looking forward to a bright future for the Sand Lake church.

Mrs. Julia A. Hemingway died at Trufant, Sabbath, January 12. Funeral services were conducted in the Seventh Day Adventist church. Words of cheer were spoken by the writer from Psalms 90:9.

H. C. PITON.

Boldness.

Those who have accomplished anything in this world may have been very modest, but they have not been afraid. They have not been cowards. Elijah faced Ahab and the prophets of Baal, a grand figure standing upon the mountain, and opposed to him all Israel, with those ringing words that come to every soul to-day, "If the Lord be God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him." The secret of his boldness is found in the words, "As the Lord of hosts liveth, before whom I stand."

Hear the mighty words of the great reformer, Luther:

"And though this world, with devils filled,
Should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed,
His truth shall triumph through us."

Only guilt can bring fear. All have sinned, but on the ground of forgiveness we may be bold as an angel of God. He who has wholly confessed is wholly forgiven, and stands clear before God without fear now; and God, who makes him brave and strong for each day's conflict, will give him boldness in the day of judgment, when the captains and the mighty men flee in terror, praying for the rocks and the mountains to fall upon them to hid them from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and wrath of the Lamb. O then may this be your experience and mind:

"Bold shall I stand in that great day,
For who ought to my charge shall lay,
While, through his blood, absolved I am
From sin's tremendous curse and stain."

J. S. WASHBURN.

Religious Liberty Collection.

The annual collection for the Religious Liberty Department of the General Conference is to be taken on Sabbath, February 2. This is the date appointed by the General Conference Committee and is the only collection taken during the year, and therefore the only source of means for the maintenance of the department.

We trust that all the churches in the West Michigan Conference will remember this offering and will contribute liberally, as there is greater need than ever before for this department, and that the department be well equipped for work.

Sunday bills are pending in the national congress, and in several state conferences and the sentiment to enforce these laws is rapidly increasing, and it is evident that "what we do must be done quickly."

Let church officers and people remember the date, February 2.

S. D. HARTWELL,

Sec'y. R. L. Dep't.

News and Notes.

The Year Book for 1907 is out. Price 25 cents.

Remember that Sabbath, February 2 is the day for the Religious Liberty collection.

Mrs. Nina Parkhurst Butterfield spent a few days last week in Otsego, visiting friends.

Elders A. G. Haughey, W. H. Heckman and B. F. Kneeland are attending the Ohio conference this week, which is in session at Clyde, Ohio.

The paper was one day late last week on account of the meeting of the auditing committee. They took possession of the office and there was no place for the ladies to work.

Dr. L. J. Otis, wife and little son spent Sunday evening in Otsego. The Doctor reports that Brother Russell has made quite an improvement since his last visit here.

The auditing committee was composed of the Executive Committee, and Brethren Warner Cole, Martin DeVries, E. L. Richmond, W. W. Shepard, and Arleigh Hilliard.

We received a beautiful calendar, for 1907, from the Michigan Agricultural College. The fiftieth anniversary of the founding of this institution will be celebrated May 29-31, 1907.

The quarterly meeting of the South Monterey, Allegan, Otsego and Kalamazoo churches will be held at Otsego Sabbath, February 2, 1907. We hope there will be a good representation from all the churches.

The program that was arranged for Young People's Day was carried out last Sabbath by the Young People's Society of the Otsego church. There was quite a good attendance at both sessions. We are very much pleased with the advancement that this society has made since its organization.

The following named Sabbath schools have not sent in the quarterly report for Dec. 31, 1906: Benton Harbor, Brookfield, Climax, Coldwater, Carson City, Glenwood, Hartford, Kellogg, Lake Odessa, Michigan Home for Girls, Niles, Palo, Ravenna, Quincy, Shelby, Wayland and Vermontville. Will these schools PLEASE send in their reports at once? We have not received the quarterly reports from all of our Young People's Societies. We hope that each organized society will send in a report for the quarter ending December 31, 1906.

Cedar Lake Academy Notes.

Brother W. H. Edwards, the Lake Union Conference Auditor, was here the 17th auditing the books.

A joint meeting of the Young Men's and Young Ladies' Improvement Societies was held at the usual hour, six o'clock, Friday evening, January 18.

There were four speakers who occupied the time—two ladies and two gentlemen. The meeting was opened by Miss Ruth Saxby, the leader for the evening, of the ladies society. After the secretary's report of each society was read giving a full report of the last meeting and naming the leaders for the next meeting. The leader of the young men, Martin Halvorsen, gave a short stirring talk from Mark 16:15. He said that those in our school especially the Cedar Lake school, should have no other object in view but to receive an education to fit themselves to carry out this commission of Christ's and give the Third Angels Message to all of the world. He was followed by Miss Lydia Clark, who gave a short Bible reading on the Holy Spirit. Edward Finch then gave a synopsis of Rev. 12:13, which was followed by a talk on the sin of selfishness by Miss Isabella Lafferty. Altogether the meeting was a stirring and profitable one.