

THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD

HE THAT REAPETH GATHERETH FRUIT UNTO LIFE ETERNAL

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Margaret Haughey, Editor.

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The Spotless Church.

Sermon Delivered in the Tabernacle

April 20, 1907, By Elder M. N.

Campbell.

NUMBER FOUR.

The Bible lays down the principle quite clearly that we as Christians should be discreet in the matter of our adornment. The principle is laid down that we should wear proper clothing, and that health, comfort, and neatness should be the main considerations and that fashion should not have primary consideration. I do not believe in that form of humility that leads a person to be dowdy and careless in his appearance. The Lord is not pleased with that extreme either. We should not yield to fashions that demand an

unnecessary outlay of means, and that take our attention away from the all absorbing theme of the saving grace of God. There are certain things that are worn by the world such as ornaments of gold and finger rings—by the way, some people have asked me why we take a position against finger rings. I think before answering this question, I will read you a couple of scriptures that lay down a principal.

"And God said unto Jacob, arise, go up to Bethel and dwell there; and make there an altar unto God, that appeared unto thee when thou fleddest from the face of Esau thy brother. Then Jacob said unto his household, and to all that were with him, Put away strange gods that are among you and be clean, and change your garments: And let us arise, and go up to Bethel; and I will make there an altar unto God, who answered me in the day of my distress and was with me in the way which I went. And they gave unto Jacob all the strange gods, which were in their hand, and all their earrings which were in their ears." Gen. 35:1-4.

Jacob did not ask them for their earrings; why did they give them up? When they handed over their strange gods, they gave up their earrings, because earrings were a part of the paraphernalia of idol worship. In Judges 8:24 we read:

"And Gideon said unto them, I would desire a request of you, that ye would give me every man the earrings of his prey (for they had golden earrings because they were Ishmaelites.)"

Notice the Lord states that they

wore earrings BECAUSE they were Ishmaelites.

Now, a word with reference to finger rings and earrings. This custom was closely connected with the worship of Baal, which was one of the most cruel and vile forms of heathen worship. Baal worship is sun worship. The wearing of earrings and finger rings was one of the signs of Baal worship. Decency forbids that I tell you the full significance of the wearing of finger rings, but of all the abominable and vile systems of pagan worship, Baal worship was the most degraded, and the wearing of finger rings stood for the most degrading and repulsive feature of Baal worship. This is why it is God says "Take these things hence." This is why a Seventh Day Adventist minister will not baptize a person who declines to discard the wearing of finger rings, and it would be a strange thing indeed to take off a ring to be baptized, and then put it on again after coming up out of the watery grave. You need to leave that sign of unregenerate human nature in the watery grave. The grave is the place for all such adornment. And by wearing the finger ring you unconsciously fling before the world the sign of Baal worship. I know there are a good many who have not understood these things, and that is the reason I take the pains to explain them to you. And so brothers and sisters, I hope you will take these things off if you have them on. Another thing, whenever there has been a revival of primitive religion, these adornments have always gone overboard. The spirit of God leads

the people to cast them off. In early days among the primitive Methodists, when they held their meetings, they had guards stationed at the door and those who came to the door with rings on their fingers, or feathers or flowers in their hats, were denied admittance. Says, one, Do we find anything in the Bible that forbids the wearing of flowers and feathers and finger rings? There is laid down in holy writ a very clear principle referring to these things,—that they should be sloughed off as a part of the old man of sin. Some have said to me especially in the matter of wearing flowers and plumes and feathers in their hats, "Where is the harm of it? In many cases it is a good deal cheaper than wearing ribbons and one can purchase a much more respectable looking hat adorned with a spray of flowers or a feather, than with ribbon on it." It is not a question of expense; that is not the question at all. It is the question of principle. The Lord has laid down that principle and He has left it with His chosen church, to determine where the line shall be drawn, and the church has seen fit to draw the line there just as it has seen fit to draw it at dancing and theater going. Now, every Adventist minister who does his duty, instructs persons on all these points,—instructs them to take the flowers off their hats and the feathers, because he can not baptize them if they continue to wear them. I can not do it.

(To be continued)

Religious Liberty Work.

The legislatures of the states in the Lake Union have practically completed their work and it becomes advisable for us to lay plans in this time of quiet for the contests yet before us. When everything appears to be peaceful, we may know that there is a working to bring such religious legislation to pass that the people of God will be pointed out, His message proclaimed, and the end hastened.

While we should not endeavor

to fight religious movements which are joined to statecraft, we should certainly warn all so that they may intelligently take their position on the right side. If they fail to do this, the penalty rests upon them. THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE has recently an article making some statement about a case being appealed from Washington to the United States Supreme Court. We will endeavor to have something more definite about this case next week.

We wish especially to ask that all of our readers of the different conference papers be prompt and faithful in notifying the conference Religious Liberty Secretary of any move that in any wise points toward the fulfillment of the prophecy which we have believed in so long.

J. G. LAMSON,
L. U. C. R. L. Sec'y.

A "Young People's Number" of Liberty.

The next number of LIBERTY will be a Young People's number. It will be full of live, bright, fresh, and interesting matter, especially adapted for our young people to read and circulate among their friends and other young people's societies.

This number will contain articles on The Flag, Christian Citizenship, Christian Endeavor, The Spirit of the Gospel, Kingdoms Compared, Walking as He Walked, Lessons from History, Religious Liberty Through the Christian Era, The Struggle for Religious Liberty in Virginia, Patrick Henry's Great Speech before the Signing of the Declaration of Independence, A Thrilling Story, A History of Liberty Bell, Our Position, Why We Oppose Sunday Laws, The First Sunday Law, Civil or Divine, Sunday Enforcement Ruinous, Legislative Superstition, and on other subjects, by such well known writers as W. M. Healey, W. A. Spicer, G. B. Thompson, C. M. Snow, Allen Moon, S. B. Horton,

F. M. Wilcox and others. It will also contain some excellent matter on Christian Temperance and the importance of following our Guide Book, the Bible, and will be well illustrated.

We expect to publish a large edition of this number, and trust it will be given a wide circulation, especially among the young people throughout the land. It will be good reading for all, but especially interesting and instructive to the young. It will be issued about the first of July. We hope that our young people and our young people's societies everywhere will give this matter earnest consideration, and send in as large orders as they can for it. Now is a most excellent time to scatter reading matter of this kind.

Prices: Single copy, 5 cents; 10 or more copies to one address, 3 cents a copy; 25 or more copies to one address, 2½ cents a copy. Order of your tract society, or send direct to the Review and Herald Pub. Assn., Takoma Park, Washington, D. C.
W. A. COLCORD,

Sec'y. Religious Liberty Bureau.

A Cheerful Giver.

The Lord loves him who gives gladly, cheerfully. He asks nothing from the grumbling, complaining giver. It is not that God is poor that he asks us to give. It is for our sakes, that we may lay up treasures in heaven where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through or steal.

Under the heading, "The Lord loveth a cheerful giver," dated March 8, 1907, we find the following given to us by the Spirit of God:

"I address the members of all our churches. We are living in a special period of this earth's history. A great work must be done in a very short time, and every Christian is to act a part in sustaining this work. God is calling for men who will consecrate themselves to the work of soul-saving. Those who desire to be

regarded by God as liberal should devote mind and heart—the entire being—to his service. When we begin to comprehend what a sacrifice Christ made in order to save a perishing world, there will be seen a mighty wrestling to save souls. O that all our churches might see and realize the infinite sacrifice of Christ!"

J. S. WASHBURN.

From the Field.

MENDON.

We quote the following from a letter received from J. Frank Babcock, elder in the Mendon church:

"I have been thinking I would write, but have waited to report on the number of squares taken on the \$150,000 Fund.

"I laid 30 squares out, and the first Sabbath, May 11, 20 of them were taken, since 5 more, so I think we are doing quite well so far.

"We are all of good courage. We have taken about 328 Signs to distribute around here, and I think that is pretty good for us."

Quincy.

The Sabbath school convention held at Quincy, June 15, was an excellent meeting. It was profitable and enjoyable. The Lord gave us a very beautiful day. The churches of Branch county were well represented, good sized delegations being in attendance from Coldwater and Kinderhook. Quite a number also came from Hillsdale in the East Michigan Conference. Every one contributed to make it a success, and by general consent, it was so.

The singing, from solo to class song, and from class song to congregational, was good. The papers were interesting and instructive; the discussions, harmonious.

The "question box" brought out some very practical ideas, for instance, the birthday box. Have a suitable box in the assembly room of the Sabbath school, and let each place in it for his birthday, as it comes, a thank offering to be used in the Lord's work.

If any of our readers of the HERALD desire a day of blessing and good fellowship, for themselves and their children, let them plan with Sister Margaret Haughey, Conference Sabbath school Secretary, for a convention, invite the neighboring Sabbath schools, and do cheerfully all they are asked, and they will not be disappointed of hoped for success.

May God bless the Sabbath school workers, and work.

J. H. THOMPSON.

Summer School at Berrien Springs.

Contrary to all expectation, the enrollment has already passed the fifty mark, and with those who have sent word that they are coming, the enrollment will go beyond sixty. This does not include any of the instructors. The family at the College now numbers practically one hundred, and an excellent spirit prevails.

Professor Bralliar, of Iowa, with seven of his teachers, arrived last week.

We are especially pleased with the number of teachers who are taking advanced subjects with the idea of writing for teacher's credentials. General History is recited twice a day; Algebra twice a day, and there is a large class in Botany. Professor Haughey has charge of the Botany class; Professor Bralliar, of the General History and Algebra. Miss Hallock is teaching the Drawing, which is also an advanced subject, and linking it with Geography Drawing, thus making it an especially interesting topic to all the teachers. Miss Hicks teaches Grammar and Physiology; Miss Howell, Primary Methods and Music; Brother Fred Green, Bookkeeping; Brother Clifford Russell, Arithmetic, Civil Government, and United States History; and the other subjects are scattered around so as to give each of the instructors all they wish to do. Elder Curtis is giving one study a day in History of Christian Education.

The school closes in time for examinations to be completed so that all the teachers who desire, will have opportunity to attend the General Conference Convention at Mt. Vernon.

Berrien Springs is very beautiful just now and all seem to be enjoying themselves.

J. G. LAMSON.

Distribution of Tents and Laborers for the Summer.

Seven series of tent meetings will be conducted by the West Michigan Conference during the forepart of the season as follows:

Elders Heckman and Kneeland assisted by S. S. Gray and Ruth Peele, Wayland; Elders Hansen and Nicola assisted by Myron Butterfield, Quincy; Elders Bourdeau and Burnham assisted by E. F. Collier, Buchanan; Elders Campbell and Videto assisted by Miss Frances Case and Miss Edith Shepard, Battle Creek; Elder Hofstra assisted by Melvin, Edith and Edna Wilbur, Grand Haven; Elder Hebner assisted by John E. Hanson and H. C. Pitton, Sullivan; Elder Hartwell assisted by James Irving and wife, Grand Ledge.

A. G. HAUGHEY.

Special Announcement.

The Youth's Instructor bearing date July 9 will be a special educational number, its mission being to stimulate our young people to prepare themselves for service in the Lord's work. This number of the Instructor should be placed in the hands of all of our young people. It is intended especially for them, and if our churches are not taking enough of the Instructor to give a copy to all, an extra supply should be ordered at once. The price will be only two cents a copy. For small orders, postage stamps may be sent. Among the many good things the Educational Number of the Youth's Instructor will contain, the following subjects will be forcibly presented to our young people:

"Importance of Immediate Preparation for Service."—Mrs. E. G. White.

The First Thing—an education.
 "Get an Education"—the advice of an experienced worker.

It is worth while—is an education essential?

Expanding Our World—how it is being done by education.

Is a Training Necessary?—convincing.

Two pictures—the cultured and the uncultured mind.

The School of Preparation—its importance.

What Students Say—good testimonials.

"Get Into Line"—out of line, out of the race.

"Turning Points in Life"—turning the right way at the right time.

Religious Education—its importance.

"Our Schools"—reasons why our young people should attend them.

"I Think I Can"—"as a man thinketh in his heart, so is he."

Can One Earn One's Own Way?—affirmed.

Read Law in a Smithy—lesson, study while you work.

Precious Years—the years of youth valuable.

You Are Wanted—assurance of the need of the young.

Ambition—the right kind.

Don't Sacrifice the Greater Good for an Immediate Gratification—needed advice.

The Cliff was Scaled—God helps.

Why the Arrow Sped True—point, trust, fidelity.

What a Blind Man Accomplished—Dr. James Gale's work.

The Success of Charles D. Walcott—an object-lesson.

How William Cobbett Got an Education—a suggestive lesson for the youth.

Whosoever Will, Let Him Come.

REVIEW & HERALD PUB. ASSN.,
 Takoma Park Station,
 Washington, D. C.

Liberty for Third Quarter.

(July Issue)

The third number of Liberty for 1907 will be a special Christian Endeavor Number, and will be

ready the first of July. It will be prepared with a view of giving the young people of the Christian Endeavor Societies a clear understanding of the true principles of Christian liberty, and the obligation of the rising generation to maintain them against the growing tendency to National Reformism. The nature of the matter composing this number will not be antagonistic, but positive, aggressive, and conclusive. It will be the best number ever issued. We hope every Christian Endeavor Society in this country will be supplied with a copy. They will buy it and pay five cents per copy. Our price to workers is two and one-half cents per copy for 25 or more copies to one address.

REVIEW & HERALD PUB. ASSN.,
 Takoma Park Station,
 Washington, D. C.

Wanted.

Emmanuel Missionary College needs five strong, industrious young men at once to assist on farm. Wage to apply on next year's schooling. None but willing, industrious workers need apply. Send recommendation. Write before coming. Address

N. W. KAUBLE, President.

News and Notes.

The Three "B" Duster Co. which contemplated locating either at Plainwell or Otsego, will remain in Buchanan.

Mr. Leslie Avery, who taught at Cedar Lake the past year, is spending his summer vacation at his home near Flowerfield, Michigan.

Miss Eliza Warner, a former church school teacher of Michigan, but who has been teaching in the South for the past two years, is spending her summer vacation at her home near Quincy.

The address of E. W. Palmer, Secretary of the General Conference Publishing Department, is now Takoma Park Station, Wash-

ington, D. C., instead of Mountain View, Cal. as heretofore.

The annual camp-meeting for the West Michigan Conference will be held August 22 to September 1. The dining-hall will be run on the European plan with Mrs. Minnie Haraden as matron. Elder Hofstra assisted by E. F. Collier and James Irving will have charge of pitching the tents. Further camp-meeting arrangements will appear later.

A pretty wedding took place Wednesday, June 19, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Cole, Sand Lake, Mich., at 5 p. m., the occasion being the marriage of their daughter, Myrtle Louise to H. C. Pitton. Elder A. G. Haughey officiated. There were about seventy-five relatives and friends present. After the ceremony refreshments were served.

We notice from a statement received from the Pacific Press Publishing Co., that the circulation of SIGNS is on the increase. The increase in five months, Jan. 1, 1907, to June 1, 1907, has been 25,682. With but one exception every conference in the United States shows a gain. This is certainly encouraging, and we should still continue to enlarge the circulation of this most valuable paper.

Obituary.

Died in Sand Lake, Michigan, June 8th., Mrs. George W. Curtis, aged 62 years, 8 months, 18 days. Sister Curtis was born in Geauga county, Ohio, where she lived until eighteen years of age. She came to Allegan county, Michigan in 1867 where she was married to Mr. Curtis. Since then she has lived at Sand Lake for many years. She united with the Seventh Day Adventist church several years ago and was a firm believer to the end. She died in the blessed hope, leaving five children and numerous relatives to mourn their loss. Words of cheer were spoken by the writer from Rev. 14:13.

H. C. PITTON.