

Seventh-day Adventist Con- ferences, Missions, and Institutions

The Fifty-fifth
ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT
Year Ending December 31, 1917

Issued by the
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
Takoma Park, Washington, D. C.

Compiled by H. E. Rogers, Statistical Secretary

The Statistical Report for 1917

A Report Showing Fifty-five Years of Progress

THIS, the fifty-fifth annual statistical report of the denomination, covers the year ending December 31, 1917. The organized work of the denomination comprises 31 Union Conferences, 135 Local Conferences, and 119 Mission Fields.

Membership

In the territory of these organizations, there is a reported membership of 153,857 baptized believers, 87,222 of whom are living in North America, and the remainder, 66,635, are outside this country. The number of persons baptized during the year is reported as 16,083; the net gain in members was 12,369. The difference, 3,714, represents the net loss from deaths, apostacies, etc. The number of deaths would approximate 2,300, leaving about 1,400 as the number of persons who have apostatized from the truth during the year 1917, or the exceedingly small proportion of less than one per cent of the total membership throughout the world.

Churches

The number of organized churches at the close of December 31, 1917, was 4,075, an increase of 88 during the year.

Laborers

At the close of 1917 there was employed the following number of persons in evangelistic and institutional lines of work:—

Ordained Ministers	1,745
Missionaries	1,846
Teachers in Schools *	1,966
Physicians and Nurses	1,912
Literature Workers	2,664
	10,133

* Including an estimate of 428 engaged in Mission Schools.

The total number of laborers constitute one worker engaged in service in some line of work connected with this cause, for every fifteen members in the denomination.

Summary 1

Summary 1 gives figures pertaining to total contributions, showing returns by Unions, as well as funds. A comparison is also given with the preceding year. This summary indicates that the total amount of contributions for all lines of work was \$5,119,683.44; of this amount there was contributed as tithe \$2,946,907.49; as foreign offerings, \$1,353,686.07; home missions funds, \$819,089.88. The per capita of total contributions from members in North America was \$44.75; for all other countries, \$18.25, an average for the entire world of \$33.28. This average includes every member throughout the world connected with the denomination at the close of 1917. It includes the native believers in China, in India, in the missions of Africa, and in the island field, many of whom do not handle that amount of money for a long time. The average per capita has been increased during recent years, so that it stands today at the highest mark it ever stood. Ten years ago, the per capita amount of total contributions for all lines of work within the denomination stood at \$18.13; twenty years ago, it was \$8.02; and twenty years prior to that time was \$4.65. While the amount is not large, nor what it should be properly to carry forward this cause, yet it is a matter of encouragement to know that it has increased, and shows progress in the right direction.

Publishing Work

Table 2 gives information regarding institutional work. Section 1 shows that there are 41 publishing houses, having assets of \$2,393,248.54. The total book sales for 1917 were \$2,076,191.13; periodical sales, \$861,231.75; or total literature sales of \$2,937,422.88. There are 802 persons employed in the production of this literature, and 1,862 in its distribution. At the close of 1917

this literature was issued in 94 languages, in the form of 562 bound books, having 137,294 pages, one copy of each, in cloth binding, being valued at \$558.48; 364 pamphlets, comprising 25,639 pages, one copy of each being valued at \$43.49; 1,648 tracts, containing 23,069 pages, one copy of each being valued at \$25.62; 134 periodicals, containing annually 30,038 pages, having a combined subscription price of \$76.91; thus representing a total of 2,708 publications, comprising 216,040 pages, and one copy of each being valued at \$704.50.

Sanitarium Work

Section 2 of Table 2 gives information with reference to the 32 sanitariums, showing their assets to be \$3,105,636.41. Their patient capacity is 1,993, and the number of patients treated during the year 17,421. The force of workers thus employed is 1,817, and in the 16 treatment rooms, 95 others, making a total force of 1,912. Of this number 147 are physicians, 892 nurses, and 873 other employees.

School Work

Section 4 of Table 2 shows that the 68 colleges, academics, and intermediate schools have total assets of \$2,748,961.46, an annual income of \$1,389,133.20. The total enrolment was 9,375, an increase of 1,411 over the previous year. The total teachers of colleges, academics, and intermediate schools was 669. The total number of persons graduated from these schools was 681, and there entered 1,290 students from these schools into some line of denominational work. In addition there are 738 primary schools employing 869 teachers, having an enrolment of 15,635, with buildings and equipment valued at \$237,006.09, and an annual maintenance of \$234,195.65.

(Continued on page 8)

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ALL PURPOSES, DURING 1917 — Summary 1.

1 UNION	2 Tithe	3 Foreign Offerings	4 Other Offerings	5 Total Funds, 1917	6 Total Funds, 1916	7 Increase	8 Decrease
General Conference	\$ 2,362.30	\$ 5,581.93	.....	\$ 7,944.73	\$ 10,083.44	.....	\$2,138.71
Atlantic Union	193,148.37	96,309.61	\$69,740.70	359,198.68	271,198.02	\$88,000.66	.....
Central Union	231,730.33	115,438.21	66,281.53	413,450.57	325,399.47	88,051.10	.....
Columbia Union	244,489.09	99,733.74	93,142.09	437,364.92	350,672.34	86,692.58	.....
Eastern Canadian Union	33,725.46	16,212.62	6,895.48	56,833.56	43,995.23	12,838.33	.....
Lake Union	338,765.05	153,465.66	103,486.80	595,717.51	472,319.97	123,397.54	.....
Northern Union	203,784.64	101,056.62	82,922.14	387,763.40	336,903.58	50,859.82	.....
North Pacific Union	243,265.14	113,999.88	69,169.94	426,434.96	308,547.31	117,887.65	.....
Pacific Union	309,303.36	145,378.56	114,520.55	569,202.47	437,229.53	131,972.94	.....
Southeastern Union	68,413.12	33,504.17	31,024.98	132,947.27	97,597.68	35,349.59	.....
Southern Union	53,850.56	25,101.68	26,347.26	105,299.50	80,157.00	25,142.50	.....
Southwestern Union	127,650.83	62,027.03	24,590.66	214,268.52	164,230.25	50,038.27	.....
Western Canadian Union	116,588.22	45,519.71	35,094.94	197,202.87	127,920.32	69,282.55	.....
Totals for 1917	\$2,167,082.47	\$1,013,329.42	\$723,217.07	\$3,903,628.96	\$3,026,254.14	\$879,513.53	\$2,138.71
Totals for 1916	1,632,543.98	778,694.10	615,016.06	3,026,254.14		2,138.71	
Gain for 1917	534,538.49	234,635.32	108,201.01	877,374.82		877,374.82	
Per Cent of Gain	32.74	30.12	17.59	28.99			
Europe	477,400.00	239,813.40	39,200.00	756,413.40	510,906.30	245,507.10	.....
Australasian	146,976.24	55,676.35	40,608.81	243,261.40	209,832.16	33,429.24	.....
Asia	31,112.96	12,645.75	1,657.98	45,416.69	46,236.48	.....	819.79
Austral Union	25,908.51	7,593.00	5,665.61	39,167.12	33,190.10	5,977.02	.....
Brazilian Union	21,875.42	5,015.01	1,971.86	28,862.29	27,106.46	1,755.83	.....
Inca Union	2,033.73	397.96	885.42	3,317.11	3,843.93	.....	526.82
North Brazil Union	1,510.07	404.22	45.76	1,960.05	.....	1,960.05	.....
South African Union	34,141.88	5,906.64	278.95	40,327.47	42,247.29	.....	1,919.82
West Indian Union	22,485.09	6,605.06	1,899.21	30,989.36	26,145.68	4,843.68	.....
North Latin-American Union	11,546.16	4,320.41	1,388.65	17,255.22	13,900.26	3,854.96	.....
Miscellaneous	4,834.96	1,978.35	1,770.56	8,583.87	10,828.98	.....	2,244.61
Totals for 1917	\$779,825.02	\$340,356.65	\$95,872.31	\$1,216,054.48	\$924,237.64	\$297,327.38	\$5,511.04
Totals for 1916	658,879.48	185,006.13	80,352.03	924,237.64		5,511.04	
Gain for 1917	120,945.54	155,350.52	15,520.78	291,816.84		291,816.84	
Per Cent of Gain	18.35	83.99	19.31	31.57			
Grand Totals for 1917	\$2,946,907.49	\$1,353,686.07	\$819,089.88	\$5,119,683.44	\$3,950,491.73	\$1,176,841.41	\$7,649.75
Grand Totals for 1916	2,291,423.46	963,700.23	695,363.09	3,950,491.73		7,649.75	
Gain for 1917	655,484.03	389,985.84	123,721.79	1,169,191.66		1,169,191.66	
Per Cent of Gain	28.61	40.46	17.79	29.59			

Financial Summary for 1917—Summary 2

TITHE	Amount	Per Cent of Fund Named	Total Amount	Per Cent of Grand Total
From North America	\$2,167,082.47	73.54		
From all other countries	779,825.02	26.46		
Total			\$2,946,907.49	57.57
FOREIGN MISSION OFFERINGS				
From North America:—				
Reported by Conferences	517,279.44			
Reported by Sabbath Schools	449,751.78			
Reported by Missionary Volunteer Societies	46,298.20			
	1,013,329.42	74.85		
From all other countries:—				
Reported by Conferences	176,475.14			
Reported by Sabbath Schools	151,180.93			
Reported by Missionary Volunteer Societies	12,700.58			
	340,356.65	25.15		
Total			\$1,353,686.07	26.44
HOME MISSIONS				
Contributed for home mission work (funds sent outside the church, but not to a foreign field):—				
From North America:—				
Reported by Conferences	182,554.63			
Reported by Missionary Volunteer Societies	11,808.38			
From all other countries:—	194,363.01	85.51		
Reported by Conferences	31,551.22			
Reported by Missionary Volunteer Societies	1,397.48			
	32,948.70	14.49		
Total			227,311.71	4.43
SPECIAL FUNDS				
Tithe appropriated by Conferences in North America for evangelistic work in home mission fields	508,623.64			
Tithe thus appropriated from all other countries	24,353.68			
	532,977.32			
Total offerings to foreign missions, as above	1,353,686.07			
Total offerings to home missions, as above	227,311.71			
Total tithes appropriated and offerings made for benefit of home and foreign mission fields during 1917	2,113,975.10			
Amount of similar funds during 1916	1,578,697.21			
Net increase during 1917	535,277.89			
Per cent of increase	33.91%			
Per capita for the entire membership of 153,857	\$13.74			
LOCAL CHURCH WORK				
Contributed for all lines of local church missionary work:—				
From North America:—				
Reported by Conferences	307,919.04			
Maintenance of church schools	218,494.11			
Reported by Missionary Volunteer Societies	2,440.91			
	528,854.06	89.37		
From all other countries:—				
Reported by Conferences	46,215.64			
Maintenance of church schools	15,701.54			
Reported by Missionary Volunteer Societies	1,006.93			
	62,924.11	10.63		
Total			591,778.17	11.56
GRAND TOTALS				
Grand total of all funds raised during 1917 for evangelistic work:—				
From North America	\$3,903,628.96	76.25		
From all other countries	1,216,054.48	23.75		
Totals for 1917			\$5,119,683.44	100.00
Totals for 1916			3,950,491.78	
Net increase for 1917			1,169,191.66	
Per cent of increase			29.59%	
Per capita for the 87,222 members in North America	\$44.75			
Per capita for the 66,635 members outside North America	\$18.25			
Per capita for the entire membership of 153,857	\$33.28			
Another statement as to funds indicates that there was:—				
Raised by churches as tithe	\$2,946,907.49	57.57		
Raised for all other funds	2,172,775.95	42.43		
Grand Total			\$5,119,683.44	

Statistical Report for 1917

Table with 16 columns: NAME OF CONFERENCE OR MISSION, Number of Churches, Membership, Baptized During Year, Ordained Ministers, Licensed Ministers, Licensed Missionaries, Book and Periodical Conveyers, Total Laborers, Total Tithe Receipts, Tithe Per Capita, Total Offerings to Foreign Missions, Total Contributions for Home Mission Work, Total Contributions for Local Church Work, Number of Sabbath Schools, Membership. Data is organized into regional sub-sections such as Atlantic Union, Central Union, etc.

Section 1—Publishing Houses

Table with 12 columns: NAME, ADDRESS, Assets, Book Sales, Periodical Sales, Total Value Literature Sold, Buildings, Employees, Periodicals Published, Languages. Includes sub-sections for In North America and Outside North America.

(a) Including branches. (b) See elsewhere in this report for footnote giving complete list of languages in which publications are issued. * Estimated because of failure to receive returns.

Section 2—Sanitariums

Table with 12 columns: NAME, ADDRESS, Assets, Buildings, Acres, Capacity, Patients Treated, Charity Work, Physicians, Nurses, Other Total Employees. Includes sub-sections for In North America and Outside North America.

(a) Including 47 engaged in lines of work other than institutional. (b) Assets included in General Conference Corporation. (c) Including 23 engaged in lines of work other than institutional. (d) Including 74 engaged in lines of work other than institutional. (e) Assets shown are for equipment only; real estate and buildings are held by another corporation. * Estimated because some could not and others would not report the desired information.

Section 3—Treatment Rooms

Table with 10 columns: NAME, ADDRESS, Assets, Daily Capacity, Patients Treated, Charity Work, Physicians, Nurses, Other Total Employees. Lists various treatment rooms globally.

Total Funds Contributed by the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination—1863 to 1917—Summary 11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Year	Tithe	Foreign Mission	Home Mission	Total Funds	Per Capita	Total 10 Years	Per Cent of Gain
1863	\$8,000.00	.....	.....	\$8,000.00	\$2.29		
1864	10,000.00	.....	.....	10,000.00	2.63		
1865	12,000.00	.....	.....	12,000.00	3.00		
1866	15,000.00	.....	.....	15,000.00	3.53		
1867	18,661.39	.....	.....	18,661.39	4.32		
1868	23,366.57	.....	.....	23,366.57	5.22		
1869	18,952.77	1,800.75	.....	20,753.52	4.24		
1870	21,822.46	3,552.59	.....	25,375.05	4.66		
1871	23,066.42	2,511.71	.....	25,578.13	5.62		
1872	25,956.42	687.52	.....	26,643.94	5.55	\$185,378.60	
1873	30,687.49	122.50	.....	30,809.99	5.24		
1874	31,000.00	502.15	.....	31,502.15	4.50		
1875	32,618.62	536.57	.....	33,155.19	4.13		
1876	43,998.47	8,395.28	.....	52,393.75	5.21		
1877	47,176.56	7,313.12	.....	54,489.68	4.65		
1878	47,637.29	7,381.15	\$ 25.00	55,043.44	4.21		
1879	51,714.38	7,757.56	1,584.12	61,056.06	5.02		
1880	61,856.88	3,160.22	2,784.35	67,801.45	4.35		
1881	74,185.55	1,609.68	2,991.18	78,786.41	4.66		
1882	84,261.36	9,441.40	3,096.58	96,799.34	5.64	561,837.46	203.05
1883	96,418.62	9,957.19	3,711.69	110,087.50	6.31		
1884	105,543.41	15,115.79	4,175.23	124,834.43	6.67		
1885	122,641.69	21,649.85	6,898.74	151,190.28	7.36		
1886	146,936.78	29,682.11	8,075.22	184,694.11	7.99		
1887	192,720.99	42,384.70	6,136.11	241,241.80	9.33		
1888	163,129.23	49,468.09	7,730.43	220,327.75	8.44		
1889	224,743.78	55,998.08	10,773.29	291,515.15	10.29		
1890	225,433.98	50,495.63	10,935.36	286,864.97	9.66		
1891	258,037.27	61,325.30	12,684.11	332,046.68	11.12		
1892	302,310.19	75,296.59	13,973.50	391,580.28	11.59	2,334,382.95	315.52
1893	350,690.56	108,612.11	13,866.68	473,169.35	12.65		
1894	321,517.06	108,438.10	18,712.37	448,667.53	10.49		
1895	309,142.76	73,331.54	24,819.40	407,293.70	8.55		
1896	341,978.37	83,682.47	16,459.05	442,119.89	8.45		
1897	363,415.16	74,400.71	14,672.35	452,488.22	8.02		
1898	432,158.08	103,638.72	18,826.69	559,623.49	9.41		
1899	490,656.16	93,059.68	18,129.70	601,845.54	9.40		
1900	510,258.97	130,151.09	21,558.93	661,968.99	8.74		
1901	578,628.13	156,684.77	22,034.98	757,347.88	9.69		
1902	643,747.83	139,789.50	25,658.40	809,195.73	11.01	5,613,720.32	140.49
1903	684,030.54	137,315.67	21,044.00	842,390.21	10.86		
1904	691,819.33	144,712.20	20,182.75	856,714.28	10.48		
1905	858,014.91	169,335.11	153,567.62	1,180,917.64	13.52		
1906	998,275.82	193,005.86	203,080.25	1,394,361.93	15.23		
1907	1,064,753.43	264,138.12	375,826.57	1,704,718.12	18.13		
1908	1,101,396.47	308,045.68	361,206.92	1,770,649.07	18.14		
1909	1,218,243.46	333,084.93	383,228.76	1,934,557.15	19.66		
1910	1,338,689.65	458,943.70	426,134.17	2,223,767.52	21.27		
1911	1,477,590.26	485,245.43	400,252.60	2,363,088.29	21.68		
1912	1,653,624.54	595,004.72	453,569.76	2,702,199.02	23.66	17,023,363.23	203.27
1913	1,771,989.60	658,524.04	436,213.76	2,866,727.40	23.42	2,866,727.40	
1914	1,818,436.08	772,248.39	499,800.33	3,090,484.80	24.56	3,090,484.80	
1915	1,968,168.26	872,666.84	566,463.07	3,407,298.17	24.89	3,407,298.17	
1916	2,291,423.46	963,700.23	695,368.09	3,950,491.78	27.92	3,950,491.78	
1917	2,946,907.49	1,353,686.07	819,089.88	5,119,683.44	33.28	5,119,683.44	
Totals	\$28,745,434.95	\$9,302,591.21	\$6,105,341.99	\$44,153,368.15		\$44,153,368.15	
Percentages	65.10	21.07	13.83	100.00			

(Continued from page 9)

Summary 11

From summary 11 it will be seen that the total funds contributed for evangelistic work from 1863 to 1917 constituted a total of \$44,153,368.15. Of this amount there was paid as tithe \$28,745,434.95; for foreign missions \$9,302,591.21; for home mission work, \$6,105,341.99. Of every \$100 contributed, \$65.10 was tithe, \$21.07 foreign mission funds, and \$13.83 home mission offerings.

Foreign Mission Offerings from North America

It will be observed that the total contributions for foreign missions during the year 1917 was \$1,353,686.07. Of this amount, \$1,013,329.42 was from North America. There is given below the amount contributed with the per capita during recent years. In

this summary there is included returns from the United States only, up to and including 1912, after which date the figures include the returns from Canadian territory as well, such arrangement corresponding with previously published reports.

YEAR	AMOUNT	PER CAP.
1906	\$159,064.40	\$2.72
1907	211,458.61	3.61
1908	246,314.52	4.16
1909	303,239.99	5.07
1910	352,025.27	5.96
1911	357,587.73	5.89
1912	444,428.23	7.20
1913	499,713.65	7.43
1914	615,565.95	8.55
1915	706,293.50	9.08
1916	778,694.10	9.74
1917	1,013,329.42	11.61
	\$5,687,765.37	

Church Buildings, Their Value, and Seating Capacity — Summary 12

YEAR	No. Buildings	Value	Seating Capacity
1902	847	.....	.....
1903	945	.....	.....
1904	1,017	.....	.....
1905	1,091	.....	.....
1906	1,132	.....	.....
1907	1,172	\$1,331,330.85	180,576
1908	1,177	1,514,549.80	185,027
1909	1,246	1,691,959.13	192,424
1910	1,256	1,721,178.85	201,121
1911	1,318	1,892,824.92	204,381
1912	1,317	1,894,443.37	199,161
1913	1,350	2,048,811.51	203,932
1914	1,449	2,226,561.88	212,805
1915	1,531	2,246,517.98	241,688
1916	1,587	2,461,779.95	232,593
1917	1,546	2,513,377.85	232,606

