

1907

EIGHTEENTH MEETING

22

The eighteenth meeting was called to order May 15, at 7:30 P.M., A.G. Daniels, chairman.

Prayer by J.N. Loughborough, and minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The chair stated that the session was to be devoted to the medical department. After inviting a number of the doctors to occupy the platform, the chairman called for a partial report on medical work from the committee on plans. This report was presented and it was moved to adopt considering each item separately.

Before taking up the recommendations, the chairman reviewed the forming of the Union conference departmental plan in the Atlantic Union. This form of organization had been followed in the Southern, ~~and the~~ ^{Southwestern, and Northern} Central Unions, and now the general plan was being adapted to a General Conference departmental organization, to foster medical missionary interests as the interests of other departments were conserved by departmental committees.

The first series of recommendations on medical work, number 17 in the report of the committee on plans, was considered item by item as follows:--

17. "Whereas, True medical missionary work is an essential principle of the gospel as set forth in the threefold message of Revelation 14; and,--

"Whereas, We have been repeatedly counseled by the spirit of prophecy that medical missionary work should not be separated from the other lines of gospel work of the conference, the church, and the people; therefore,--

"We recommend, (1) That this branch of our work be made the Medical Missionary Department of our Conference organization."

Question was called, and the second section of the series was read.

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"(2) That the medical missionary work in all its features receive the same fostering care and financial support from the conference organization, churches, and people that is given to other branches of our work."

In reply to a question, remarks were made on this resolution.

A.G.Daniells: It is not that the medical worker as a regular means of support will be placed upon the tithe as evangelistic ^{field} workers, but he will be treated as the educational and other workers. The true medical missionary is a gospel worker as much as the true Bible worker or preacher, and in entering new fields and getting to his place of work and getting started in it should be helped in the same general way that help other laborers. Yet it is not at all contemplated that the medical worker shall be salaried from the conference treasury, leaving income from the work to be used in enlargement, etc. Examples were cited in Australia showing how help from the conference enabled workers to get a foothold in new centers, and then the work itself was able to sustain the laborer. In mission fields where there can be no supporting income, as in the case of Inland China, our medical missionaries are dealt with the same as all the other workers.

Dr. W.A.George: No physician will feel that he has made a success until self-supporting, but in getting into new fields help is needed.

A.T.Robinson: Nebraska has been putting nurses into field work on salary as Bible workers. The receipts have been more than the salary, and they have secured entrance to homes that could not have been reached otherwise. The conference is very pleased with this kind of work.

Question was called, and the next section read as follows:--

"(3) That the general advisory work of this department in the General, Union, and local conferences be placed in the hands of departmental committees of suitable size and experience to properly develop the medical missionary work."

Question was called, and further recommendations read, dealing with the question of corporations for holding properties of medical mis-

sionary institutions, as follows: "That the real estate and personal property of medical missionary institutions created and supported by conferences be held in trust for said conferences by legal corporations created by said conferences, and that the executive management of each institution be vested in a local board of management elected by the conference or constituency." "That the constituencies or trustees of corporations aforementioned shall be elected by the conferences in sessions."

Free discussion was had of the question as to whether the creation of special corporations for holding these properties should be recommended by the General Conference, or whether it should be left to local ~~man~~ arrangement without such general recommendation. The question was whether it is better to have one corporation as a body to hold conference properties, churches, schools, and sanitariums, or whether it is not better to have a special conference corporation to hold sanitarium properties. All were agreed as to the necessity of local boards of management, with full powers, created by and responsible to the conference.

An amendment was moved to make it read "legal corporations specially created by said conferences for this purpose."

It was, however, voted to refer these recommendations to the committee on plans for further study.

Further ^{sections of recommendation 17} ~~recommendations~~ were considered and amended as follows:--

"(4) That the General Conference Medical Missionary Departmental committee consist of the chairmen of the Union conference medical missionary organizations, ~~and~~ or where there are no medical missionary departments in the Union, that a representative from the Union conference be chosen by the Union conference or its executive committee, and eight persons to be appointed by the General Conference Committee.

"(5) That the departmental committee be authorized to appoint standing committees either of their own number or others, to supervise definite phases of the work."

Question was called on the report as far as considered and amended, and it was adopted unanimously.

A.G. Daniells, Chairman.
W.A. Spicer, Secretary.

NINETEENTH MEETING

The nineteenth meeting was called to order at 9:30 A.M., May 23, A.G. Daniells in the chair.

Prayer was offered by S.H. Lane. A few minutes were given to formal legal meetings of the Washington (.D.C.) Sanitarium Association, and the General Conference Association.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read.

The chairman was called on to report the interview with President Roosevelt. It was a very pleasant and satisfactory interview. The President wished the deputation to express to the Conference his ~~thanks~~ appreciation of the address presented and of the sentiments expressed. More time was allowed in the interview than had been anticipated, and the reception was very cordial. The press has reprinted the address, ~~and fully reported.~~

The Committee on Plans was asked to report further on the recommendations referred back.

The recommendations were reported as follows, and unanimously adopted as sub-sections 6 and 7, of recommendation 17:--

(6) That each conference institution be placed under the management of local Boards elected by the conference, or by such arrangement as the conference may provide; that said local boards be chosen with reference to securing the best possible attention to the current needs and direction of the work of the institution; and that said local Boards be responsible to the conference which they represent.

(7) That owing to the difference of the local corporate laws and existing conditions in various parts of the world, the question of holding the property be left to local conferences and fields.

The further report was taken up and adopted as follows:--

18. We further recommend:--

- (a) Name: Medical Missionary Council of the General Conference.
- (b) Territory: The field of the General Conference.
- (c) Duties: To assist in advancing medical missionary interests in all parts of the field.
- (d) Relationship:
 - (1) To the General Conference,--departmental

and administrative; that is to say, the Medical Missionary departmental committee is responsible to the General Conference for doing the work of the conference in medical missionary lines.

- (2) To union and local medical departments, institutions, and enterprises,--advisory and co-operative.

19. Whereas, There is great need on the part of our people and the world as well of fuller knowledge of the principles of healthful living; therefore,--

We recommend, That there be inaugurated a vigorous health and temperance educational campaign through the world:

(a) By the circulation of an efficient and up-to-date health and temperance literature.

(b) By encouraging those conducting sanitariums, treatment rooms, hygienic restaurants, and food stores to continually endeavor to make their work educational gospel enterprises.

(c) By aiding in making all our sanitariums, treatment rooms, hygienic restaurants, and food stores centers for the circulation of our health and temperance literature.

(d) By encouraging our physicians and nurses who are doing independent, self-supporting missionary work to make their work evangelical, and to be active in the circulation of our health and temperance literature.

(e) By inviting all our ministers to heartily unite in this campaign by preaching more frequently on health and temperance subjects and encouraging all our churches to engage in this work.

(f) By holding conventions for our physicians, nurses, and other medical missionary workers, where ~~practical~~ practical questions on all phases of medical missionary work may be considered, and plans of work laid.

(g) By conducting schools of health as opportunity may make it advisable.

20. We recommend, That our people be encouraged to utilize medical missionary and health publications as far as possible in their missionary work.

21. Resolved, That provision be made for systematic instruction in medical missionary lines, including simple treatments, general hygiene, physical culture, and dietetics in our schools and our general gatherings as far as consistent.

Question was called on the report, and it was unanimously adopted.

Further medical missionary recommendations were reported from the Committee on Plans, and on motion to adopt, considered as follows:--

22. We recommend, That a standing committee of seven on medical literature be appointed by the Medical Missionary Council, who shall encourage the preparation of manuscripts, examine and pass upon such manuscripts as are submitted, and make recommendations to the General Conference Publication Committee and the publishing houses.

23. We recommend, That the publishing houses be requested to give the same attention to the publication and circulation of health and temperance literature as is given to other lines of publications.

24. We recommend, That the literature committee be requested to make a careful study of the most pressing needs in these lines, and of the special qualifications of individuals to meet these needs, and that of those whose experience and other qualifications are suitable be requested to prepare and submit manuscripts for the use of this department.

25. Whereas, The work of the nurses training school is fundamental to good medical missionary work,--

Resolved, That we approve of the effort that is being made to bring our training schools for nurses to the highest possible standard.

26. Resolved, That everything possible be done to increase the missionary spirit, zeal, and efficiency of our nurses training schools.

On recommendations 25 and 26, remarks were made, of which the following is a brief report:--

W.A.George: Called attention to the fact that some states are now requiring state qualifications for nurses as for ~~physicians~~ physicians. It is essential to maintain a high standard.

W.C.White: Training schools should train students so that, as treatment room ~~workers~~ workers, for instance, one will not simply wait for patronage to come, but be able to go out ministering to the poor, doing Bible work, and by health literature canvassing, etc., to work up a patronage.

C.McReynolds: Urged course of study in Bible doctrines so as to be able to give the third angel's message to the people while ministering to their physical needs.

Dr. J.E.Colloran: In the ^{sanitarium} Iowa school Bible teachers are appointed to give the nurses the same instruction as Bible workers, and nurses must pass examination on Bible doctrine the same as other topics.

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Dr. S.P.S. Edwards: He believed the nurses were ~~as~~ familiar with doctrines as the average of our youth. He rejoiced that there was a movement throughout all the denomination to ground our youth in the fundamentals of the message--and this movement has penetrated the nurses training school also. He urged that each conference give special attention to helping its training institutions to get this instruction. The physician in charge may do his best, but often his attention is so taken up with pressing lines of work that he cannot prepare studies as he might desire.

S.H. Lahe: Usually the nurse enters training at eighteen or twenty, and before that time in the regular school work the youth should be grounded in the message.

Wm. Covert: At Madison (Wis.) the nurses come in very largely from other schools where there has been instruction in Bible truth, but they keep up this same instruction in the school.

C.L. Taylor: At St. Helena they endeavor to teach that nursing is not a business--it is only a means to the greater work, the salvation of the people. A large number who ~~apply~~ apply for training have the idea of making a living. But this should not be the idea. So they send out the nurse to do city mission work, Bible work, to canvass, and to get an all-round experience. The nurse in practical life can ~~rarely~~ rarely nurse all the time, as it is so taxing to the strength. With this all-round training the worker may vary the employment--all the time working to the same end.

The time having arrived for the ministerial institute, it was voted to postpone the institute in order to continue the medical department work. After ten minutes' recess the conference resumed session.

It was voted to defer further consideration of resolutions, in order to listen to papers and reports.

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Dr. W.A.George was invited to take the chair for the program of reports. He called for the following paper on "The Christian Experience of a Physician" from Dr. W.R.Simmons, of the Portland Sanitarium, which, with additional experiences related, met with many warm "amens" from the conference:--

Insert >

Dr. G.A.Hare, of the Washington (D.C.) Sanitarium, was then asked to present a paper on "Education for Medical Missionary Work." (This paper we hope to publish later.)

Dr. J.E.Froom, of Takoma Park, presented a paper on, "Educational Effort in Creating a Constituency," as follows:--

Insert >

The Religious Liberty Department presented the matter of an interview with the Turkish Minister in Washington, in behalf of Brother Baharian and others in Turkey, who are suffering imprisonment. The ~~main~~ point desired, as was stated by L.R.Conradi, was to bring the fact that we are Protestant Christians before the Turkish authorities, difficulty ~~being~~ being caused our workers by the refusal of the Protestant representatives to recognize us as Protestants.

It was voted that K.C.Russell, W.A.Colcord, and S.B.Horton be authorized to present the following letter to the Turkish Minister:--