

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Washington, D.C., U.S.A.,

May 23, 1905.

To His Excellency Chebib Bey,

Turkish Ambassador,

2101 S St., N/W, Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:--

In behalf of the World's Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, we respectfully present the following statement for the information of your Excellency:--

1. We believe in Civil Government, recognizing that "the powers that be are ordained of God," and that civil rulers are to be obeyed in all matters civil.

2. We are Protestants, taking the Bible as our only rule of faith and practice, and are generally acknowledged as such throughout the world, as is evidenced by the accompanying enclosures.

3. In view of the above, we respectfully request and petition your Excellency's government that our people throughout the Turkish Empire be recognized as Protestants, and granted the same privileges as are accorded to other Protestant bodies in his Majesty's Government.

Respectfully submitted,

K.C.Russell,
W.A.Colcord,
S.B.Horton,
Committee.

The meeting adjourned.

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

TWENTIETH MEETING

May 23

The twentieth meeting was called at 3:30 P.M., the first hour being taken by Sister White, who read from manuscript messages that had come when she was in Australia, bearing specially on the medical missionary work.

In closing she urged house to house work by all the people. The Lord desires us to do a hundredfold more than is being done. Satan is much busier than the children of light. The Lord promises to lift up a standard against the enemy, and he calls on us now to come up to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

The minutes were called for and read. The unfinished partial report of the Committee on Plans was taken up and adopted as follows:--

27. Resolved, That the course of study, requirements for entering the schools and for graduation be referred to a standing committee on training schools for nurses, and we recommend that this committee should consist of the General Conference Medical Missionary secretary and the superintendents of organized nurses training schools.

28. Whereas, The work of nursing is an important part of the great work of introducing and carrying forward the gospel of Christ; therefore,--

We recommend, That our nurses training schools seek a closer cooperation with their respective conferences with a view of enlisting as fully as possible the services of nurses in missionary work; and further,--

29. We recommend, To our union or local conferences the establishment of nurses agencies for the purpose of securing suitable employment for all our graduate nurses.

On the latter recommendation it was explained that these ~~nights~~ ~~in~~ agencies might be a bureau of information, a means of keeping in touch with trained nurses.

On Finance

Further reports being called for, the Committee on Finance made a partial report, which was read by its secretary, C.P. Bollman.

Twentieth Meeting-2-

The first recommendation, with a series of sections on tithes and offerings was considered, but not adopted, as the time for adjournment came while it was under consideration, the last section having been read but not discussed. The entire recommendation will be incorporated in the minutes when disposed of.

There was earnest discussion of the tithe question in the consideration of this report. It was felt that there was need for crying aloud among all believers in view of the evident fact that we are far from reaching a full tithe. A.G.Daniells presented carefully prepared estimates showing that a full tithe would add a vast sum to the treasury of this cause. Some of the foreign field# averages were cited as showing that with the same faithfulness among the believers in this country, hundreds of thousands of dollars more would be received, available for advanced missionary effort. It was evident that for the sake of those who are shutting away God's blessing by neglect in this matter, and for the sake of the work of God, a great effort must be made throughout the conferences to arouse all to the solemn importance of this sacred obligation. This is a duty the ministry, as the Lord's watchmen, owe to the people. Many feel diffident about taking up the financial side of gospel truth. It was not so in former days. We need a revival on this matter--conference officers and ministers must labor earnestly to bring the ranks into line with gospel finance in this time when the work is closing and men's souls are being weighed in the balance of the Judgment.

The meeting adjourned, it being stated that E.H.Gates would report for Polynesia at the evening service. (The report appeared in the last issue.)

H.W.Cottrell, Chairman.

W.A.Spicer, Secretary.

TWENTY-FIRST MEETING

The twenty-first meeting was called at 9:40 A.M., ^{May 24} Elder J.N. Loughborough acting as chairman pro tem in the opening of the meeting.

Prayer was offered by M.C.Wilcox, It was then announced that the session would be devoted to the Publication department, and W.C.White, chairman of the department, was given the chair. He called for the departmental secretary's report, which was presented by H.H.Hall, as follows:--

(Insert Publishing Committee's report for 1903, '04.)

As the report was read Brethren M.C.Wilcox, W.W.Prescott, and W.D.Salisbury were called upon to speak briefly as to the removal of the Pacific Press to the country, of the Review and Herald to a suburb of Washington, and of the Echo Publishing Company, ~~of Melbourne~~, Australia, to a country location. All spoke of the assurance of divine guidance in these moves.

E.H.Gates spoke briefly of the printing plant in connection with the Avondale school, which has brought out publications in Raratongan, Fijian, Tongan, Maori, Tahitian, Samoan. In addition to this, the Avondale press prints the Union Conference paper and the Australasian Good Health. The students assist in this work, which is a strong missionary department of the school.

W.C.Sisley stated that the reason why about one thousand believers in Great Britain could put out so much literature was that all are united to do something toward the sale of our publications. They work at it the year round, the same in the summer as in the winter, old and young taking part in it, going from house to house with the messengers of truth, our books, tracts, and papers. Interesting experiences were related, showing how even people not in our churches have taken hold to help sell

Twenty-first Meeting-2-

and distribute our literature.

A.J.Haysmer reported for the East Caribbean Conference, which is publishing seven thousand copies of the Caribbean Watchman monthly. These are sold by members of the churches. They have a small outfit of type, &c, hiring the printing ~~is~~ done by outside offices.

The meeting adjourned.

W.C.White, Chairman.

W.A.Spicer, Secretary.