

Transcription of minutes of GC sessions from 1863 to 1888

The following General Conference Session minutes from 1863 to 1888 have been typed from the official minutes. They are useful for search purposes. They may contain typographical errors. Verification should be made from the original minutes through contacting the General Conference Archives, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600.

RECORDS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

1863 to 1876

BEGINNING MAY 20, 1863

Seventh-day Adventists were invited to meet for the purpose of organizing a General Conference, by the following call which appeared in the Advent Review, Volume 21, No. 23, May 5, 1863:

General Conference

There will be a General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at Battle Creek, Michigan, to commence Wednesday, May 20, at 6 o'clock p.m.

The objects of this meeting, for the general good of the cause of Bible truth and holiness everywhere, have been specified in the Review.

The several conference committees in the different states are requested to send delegates, or letters at their discretion.

The brethren in those localities where there is no state conference, can also be represented in this Conference by delegates or letters.

All delegates and letters must be sanctioned by some state conference, or conference committee, or--where there are no state conferences,--some church, or meeting of scattered brethren.

James White,
J. N. Loughborough,
John Byington,
Michigan Conference Committee.

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING

May 20, 1863

The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists convened according to appointment at Battle Creek, Michigan, May 20, at 6 o'clock p.m. The meeting was temporarily organized by choosing J. M. Aldrich, chairman, and U. Smith, secretary. The Conference was then opened by singing the hymn on page 233, and prayer by Brother Snook. A committee to receive and judge of the credentials of delegates being called for, it was

VOTED, That we have a committee of three on credentials.

The following brethren were thereupon chosen as that committee: Elder J. N. Loughborough, of Michigan; C. O. Taylor, of New York; and Isaac Sanborn, of Wisconsin.

The remainder of this session was occupied in the presentation of credentials to the committee, and the meeting adjourned to the following morning, May 21, at 9 o'clock.

In the morning session, the committee announced the following brethren as the duly elected delegates from their respective states: from New York, Brethren J. N. Andrews, N. Fuller, C. O. Taylor, and J. M. Aldrich; from Ohio, I. N. Van Gorder; from Michigan, the ministers present from that state, namely, Brethren White, Bates, Waggoner, Byington, Loughborough, Hull, Cornell, and Lawrence, with a lay representation of Brethren James Harvey, of North Liberty, Indiana, and William S. Higley, Jr., of Lapeer, Michigan; from Wisconsin, Isaac Sanborn; from Iowa, Brethren B. F. Snook, and W. H. Brinkerhoff; from Minnesota, Washington Morse.

The report of the committee was accepted.

VOTED, That Brother H. F. Baker be received as an additional delegate from Ohio.

The following brethren were then appointed a committee to draft a constitution and by-laws for the government of this Conference: Brethren J. N. Andrews, N. Fuller, I. Sanborn, W. Morse, H. F. Baker, B. F. Snook, J. H. Waggoner, and J. N. Loughborough. After due deliberation the committee presented the following constitution for the consideration of the Conference:

CONSTITUTION OF GENERAL CONFERENCE

For the purpose of securing unity and efficiency in labor, and promoting the general interests of the cause of present truth, and of perfecting the

organization of the Seventh-day Adventists, we, the delegates from the several State Conferences, hereby proceed to organize a General Conference, and adopt the following constitution for the government thereof:

Article I. This Conference shall be called the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Article II. The officers of this Conference shall be a President, Secretary, Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of three, of whom the President shall be one.

Article III. The duties of the President and Secretary shall be such respectively as usually pertain to those offices.

Article IV. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive and disburse means under the direction of the Executive Committee, and keep an account of the same, and make a full report thereof to the regular meetings of the Conference.

Article V. Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to take the general supervision of all ministerial labor, and see that the same is properly distributed; and they shall take the special supervision of all missionary labor, and as a missionary board shall have the power to decide where such labor is needed, and who shall go as missionaries to perform the same.

Section 2. Means for missionary operations may be received by donation from State Conferences, churches, or individuals; and the Committee are authorized to call for means when needed.

Section 3. When any State Conference desires ministerial labor from a minister not a resident within the bounds of such Conference, their request shall be made to the General Conference Executive Committee, and ministers sent by said Committee shall be considered under the jurisdiction of the Conference Committee of such State: PROVIDED, 1. That if such minister consider the State Committee inefficient, or their action so far wrong as to render his labor ineffectual, he may appeal to the General Conference Executive Committee; PROVIDED, 2. That if such State committee consider such minister inefficient they may appeal to the General Conference Committee, who shall decide on the matter of complaint, and take such action as they may think proper.

Article VI. Each State Conference shall be entitled to one delegate in the General Conference, and one additional delegate for every twenty delegates in the State Conference, such delegates to the General conference to be chosen by the State Conferences or their Committees: PROVIDED, That the delegates to such State Conferences be elected according to the following ratio, to wit: Each church to the number of twenty members or under shall be entitled to one delegate, and one delegate for every additional fifteen members.

Article VII. The officers shall hold their offices for the term of one year, and shall be elected at the regular meetings of the Conference.

Article VIII. Section 1. The regular meetings of the Conference shall be held annually, and the time and place of holding the same shall be determined by the Executive Committee, by whom due notice thereof shall be given through the Review.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called at the option of the Committee.

Article IX. This constitution may be altered or amended by a two-third's vote of the delegates present at any regular meeting: PROVIDED, That any proposed amendment shall be communicated to the Executive Committee, and notice thereof given by them in their call for the meeting of the Conference.

The report was accepted and the committee discharged.

The Conference then took up the reported constitution item by item, for consideration and discussion, which resulted in its entire adoption.

The Conference being now ready for a permanent organization, it was

VOTED, That a committee of three be appointed to nominate officers to act under the constitution already adopted.

Brethren William S. Higley, James Harvey, and B. F. Snook, were appointed as that committee.

Adjourned to 1 o'clock p.m.

Afternoon session. Prayer by Brother Cornell. The committee on nominations reported as follows: for president, James White; secretary, Uriah Smith; treasurer, E. S. Walker. Executive Committee, James White, John Byington, J. N. Loughborough.

Report accepted and committee discharged.

On motion the Conference proceeded to vote on the nominations presented. Brother White was unanimously chosen president, but declined to serve. After a considerable time spend in discussion, the brethren urging reasons why he should accept the position, and he why he should not, his resignation was finally accepted, and Elder John Byington elected as president in his stead. The nominations for secretary and treasurer were then ratified. J. N. Andrews and G. W. Amadon were chosen as the remaining members of the Executive Committee. On motion of Brother Loughborough it was

VOTED, That, as one object of the General Conference is to secure uniformity of action throughout all the states, a committee of five be appointed to draw up a constitution for state conferences, to be recommended to the brethren in the different states, that there may be uniformity in the matter of state conferences. The following brethren were then chosen as that committee: Brethren Sanborn, of Wisconsin; Brinkerhoff, of Iowa; Aldrich, of New York; Loughborough, of Michigan; and Morse, of Minnesota. On motion of Brother Waggoner it was

VOTED, That this Conference recommend to the Publishing Association to publish a new prophetic chart.

VOTED, That we recommend to the Publishing Association to publish a chart of the ten commandments, suitable for public lectures.

The next business brought before the Conference was the matter which the Battle Creek Church at a special meeting, March 29, 1863, as reported in the Review, No. 18, voted to lay before the General Conference, in relation to the charges and reports that are in circulation concerning Elder James White. As no one had reported any grievances pertaining to the subject in hand, according to the request in the Review, the committee could only report that fact to the Conference, and place in its hands the more than three-score and ten fervent testimonials which have been received on the other side, with the recommendation that, as it seemed that no one dared appear, to sustain the aforesaid reports, some action be taken by this Conference to show the falsity of these reports, and vindicate before the world the character and course of Brother White. On this matter the following resolutions were adopted:

RESOLVED, That the committee employed by the Battle Creek Church, be empowered to act further in this matter in behalf of this Conference, and prepare for publication a record of the action of the Battle Creek Church relative to the accusations against Brother James White, and the substance of the responses received.

RESOLVED, That this committee shall invite, through the Review, further responses on this subject, for the space of two months.

Adjourned to evening after the Sabbath, at half-past seven.

Met again according to adjournment. Prayer by Brother Andrews. The committee appointed to draft a constitution for State Conferences, reported through its chairman, J. N. Loughborough, the form of a constitution for the consideration of the Conference. This was examined item by item, and after full discussion it was

VOTED, That this Conference recommend the following form of constitution to the different State Conferences:

CONSTITUTION FOR STATE CONFERENCES

WHEREAS, We have before us the great work of disseminating light upon the commandments of God, the faith of Jesus, and the truths connected with the third angel's message; and

WHEREAS, Order, union, and concentration of action in the dissemination of these truths is of the utmost importance, therefore

RESOLVED, That we adopt the following constitution, as recommended by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, assembled at Battle Creek, Michigan, May 20, 1863.

Article I. Section 1. This Conference shall be known as the _____ Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and shall be composed of all ministers in good standing and delegates from organized churches within its limits.

Article II. Section 1. The officers of this Conference shall be a President, Secretary, Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of three, of whom the President shall be one; and they shall be elected annually.

Section 2. The duties of the President and Secretary shall be such as usually pertain to those offices respectively.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep an account of the receipts and disbursements of the Conference funds,--to pay out the same under the directions of the Executive Committee, and to make an annual report thereof at the regular meetings of the Conference.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to appoint through the Review the time and place of the annual Conferences, and to call special Conferences, whenever in their judgment it may be needful so to do: to call on the churches and scattered brethren for means when needed, and to disburse the same; to take the general supervision of all tent operations, and property belonging to the Conference; to audit and settle accounts with ministers and others in the employ of the Conference, and to exercise a general watch-care over all matters pertaining to the interests of the cause within the bounds of the Conference.

Article III. Section 1. Conference funds shall be raised from the proceeds of Systematic Benevolence, and by gifts and donations.

Section 2. We recommend that all churches belonging to this Conference adopt the plan of Systematic Benevolence on the tithing principle, as set forth on first page of our Systematic Benevolence books.

Section 3. The churches and scattered brethren within the bounds of this Conference will be expected to pledge to the Executive Committee the amount that they will give each month during the Conference year, for the support of the ministers and tent operations, and for such other purposes as may be necessary for the advancement of the cause; said sums to be paid to the Treasurer monthly, when convenient so to do; or at the commencement of every quarter; viz., on the first of April, July, October, and January; except when it be preferable to give it, or a portion of it, directly to preachers who labor among them.

Section 4. The churches will be expected to make a report to the Secretary at the end of each quarter, of the amount they have sent to the Treasurer, or paid to preachers, during such quarter.

Section 5. It shall be the duty of ministers to report to the Secretary at the end of each quarter the amount they have received and expended during such quarter, and at the end of each year they shall make a written report to the regular meetings of the Conference of the entire amount of their receipts and expenditures during such Conference year.

Article IV. Section 1. When any church or scattered brethren wish ministerial labor in their vicinity, their call shall be made to the Executive Committee.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the churches in this Conference to send a written report to the regular meetings of the Conference of their standing, their losses, and additions during the year, also the yearly amount of their Systematic Benevolence fund.

Article V. Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Conference to determine who are the approved ministers within the bounds thereof, to grant suitable credentials to the same at each regular meeting; and during the interval of such meeting the Executive Committee shall perform such duties.

Section 2. Those who feel it their duty to improve their gifts as messengers or preachers, shall first lay their exercises of mind before the Conference Committee, to receive a license from them, if the Committee consider them qualified.

Article VI. Section 1. It shall be the duty of the ministers of this Conference to make a written report to each annual meeting thereof, of their labors each week during the Conference year.

Article VII. Section 1. The delegates to this Conference shall be elected according to the following ratio: Each church to the number of twenty members or under shall be entitled to one delegate, and one delegate for every additional fifteen members.

Section 2. In case all the delegates to which any church is entitled do not attend the Conference, the delegates attending may cast the full number of votes to which said church is entitled.

Article VIII. Section 1. This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the Conference by a two-third's vote of the members present, provided such amendment shall not conflict with the constitution of the General Conference.

The Michigan State Conference having appointed a committee to frame a series of rules and regulations to suggest to those building and holding meeting-houses, and to report to the General Conference, the report of said committee was called for and submitted. The report was accepted. It was then

VOTED, That J. N. Andrews, James White, and U. Smith, be a committee to take this matter into consideration, and at some future time to report through the Review. To this committee Brethren Byington and Waggoner were afterward added.

VOTED, That this Conference issue a pamphlet containing the minutes of this Conference, together with the address on organization, issued by the Battle Creek Conference of October 5 and 6, 1861; also that the minutes of this Conference be published in the Review.

VOTED, That we recommend state conferences to publish in pamphlet form the minutes of their proceedings, and distribute to their churches.

Adjourned sine die.

John Byington, Chairman.
U. Smith, Secretary.

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

May 18, 1864

This meeting was held, according to appointment of the Committee, at Battle Creek, Michigan, Wednesday, May 18, 1864, at 9 o'clock a.m. Prayer by Brother White.

Duly elected and authorized delegates were present from New England, the New York and Pennsylvania State Conference, Ohio, Michigan, the Illinois and Wisconsin State Conference, and Minnesota. Brother George I. Butler, of Waukon, Iowa, being present, on motion of Brother White he was received as a delegate from that state. J. H. Waggoner was also received as a delegate to the Conference in behalf of Ohio, where he has labored mostly during the past year.

Minutes of last meeting read and accepted.

Report of missionary labor performed under the direction of the General Conference Committee was then called for, and submitted by Brother Loughborough, who read reports from M. E. Cornell, S. Pierce, the Vermont State Conference, and himself. A summary of his own labors was given as follows: traveled fifty-eight hundred miles. Held two hundred and fifty meetings. Baptized thirty persons. Books and charts sold, \$502. Subscribers obtained for the Review, thirty-six. Reports from others engaged on the mission were equally encouraging. The standing of the mission is as follows: number of names enrolled in churches organized and partly organized, two hundred and fifty-three. Amount of Systematic Benevolence fund, \$1,051.34. Amount pledged to the mission, \$882.65.

The report was accepted. Brethren White and Andrews expressed their gratification at the good results thus far of the Eastern Mission.

The treasurer's report was then called for and submitted, showing the following result: amount of funds in treasury, May 20, 1863, \$384.25. Received during the year, \$2,122.18. Total, \$2,506.43. Amount expended, \$1,715.12.

Funds on hand to balance \$791.31.

Report accepted. Adjourned to 2 o'clock p.m.

Afternoon session. Prayer by Brother Andrews. The following preamble and resolution was presented by Brother White, and adopted:

WHEREAS, It seems most proper that the executive committees of the several state conferences should be composed of ministers in those states where three ministers suitable for the office can be found; and

WHEREAS, It would be embarrassing to such a Committee to have the whole responsibility of settling with the ministers of their conference, therefore

RESOLVED, That we recommend to the state conferences to choose a committee of six to act with the executive committee in the settlement of accounts with ministers for the preceding year.

Distribution of laborers for the coming year was then taken into consideration, whereupon Brother Loughborough spoke for the cause East, Brother Andrews for the cause in New York, Brother Waggoner for Ohio, Brother Ingraham for Wisconsin and Illinois, Brother Morse for Minnesota, Brother Butler for Iowa, and Brother Lawrence for Michigan. From all parts of the field, with the exception of Minnesota, the reports were encouraging, and the prospects represented as most cheering.

The election of officers for the coming year being taken up, the action of the Conference resulted as follows: for president, John Byington; remaining members of Executive Committee, G. W. Amadon and J. N. Loughborough; secretary, U. Smith; treasurer, E. S. Walker.

The following resolution by Brother Andrews was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, We deem the recent work of Sister White, entitled, An Appeal to Mothers, a work of great importance for general circulation, therefore

RESOLVED, That we earnestly commend this book to the attention of our brethren everywhere, and that we especially call the attention of parents and guardians to the duty of placing it in the hands of the young.

Adjourned, subject to the call of the Committee.

Extra session, evening after the Sabbath. The subject of the distribution of laborers again taken up.

The following resolution was offered by Brother White, and unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, That it is the judgment of this Conference that Elder Isaac Sanborn, of Wisconsin, should return to Minnesota, to labor there under the direction of the General Conference.

On motion of Brother Loughborough, the Vermont State Conference, at the request of said conference, was admitted to the General Conference.

VOTED, That the doings of this Conference be published in the Advent Review.

Adjourned to the call of the Committee.

John Byington, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

THIRD ANNUAL MEETING

May 17, 1865

This meeting met according to appointment in Battle Creek, Michigan, May 17, 1865, at 9 o'clock a.m. Prayer by Brother White. Delegates were present from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Ohio, New York, and Vermont; the remainder of New England being represented by J. N. Loughborough. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Reports from missionaries who had been laboring in the employ of the Conference being called for, interesting statements were read from Brother Sanborn who has labored a portion of the time in Minnesota, Brethren Rodman, Bourdeau, Cornell and Loughborough, who have labored in New England, and from Brother White who has labored in New England and New York. The reports from all these brethren were accepted. They were encouraging and showed a cheering state of the cause in all parts of the field. A good work is being accomplished by missionary labor.

The treasurer's report was then called for, which was read as follows:

Amount in treasury at close of	
last Conference year-----	\$ 791.31
Received during the year-----	<u>2701.41</u>
Total-----	\$3492.71
Paid to J. N. Loughborough-----	\$1156.71
Paid to J. N. Andrews, expenses to Washington	58.46
Paid to James and Ellen G. White,	

expenses on Eastern Tour-----	286.00
Paid to Ellen G. White-----	66.00
Paid to M. E. Cornell-----	186.25
Cash on hand to balance account-----	<u>1139.29</u>
Total-----	\$3492.71

MOVED, By Brother Andrews, that a committee of three be appointed by this Conference to draft resolutions on such subjects as they deem important to be brought before the meeting, and report at the next session of the Conference. Carried.

Brethren J. N. Andrews, J. N. Loughborough and Isaac Sanborn, were thereupon chosen by vote of the Conference to act as such committee.

MOVED, By Brother White, that the committee already appointed be also a committee to nominate officers for the ensuing year. Carried.

Adjourned till 2 o'clock p.m.

Afternoon session. Prayer by Brother Andrews.

The subject of the distribution of laborers was taken up.

MOVED, By Brother Andrews, that letters from the delegates be read, expressing the wants of the brethren in different locations. Carried.

Letters were then read from Ohio, Vermont, New York, Iowa, New England and Missouri, setting forth the state of the cause, and its wants and prospects in those localities. Brother Bostwick spoke for the cause in Minnesota, reporting the condition of things in that State as somewhat better than it was a year ago. Brother Sanborn spoke for the cause in Wisconsin.

The Committee on Nominations being called upon, reported as follows: for president, James White; secretary, U. Smith; treasurer, I. D. Van Horn. Not being able to fix upon an Executive Committee, they made no nominations in that direction. The report was accepted, and the brethren designated for president, secretary and treasurer, were thereupon elected to those offices.

On motion of Brother White, J. N. Andrews was elected as one of the remaining members of the executive committee.

On motion of Brother White, J. N. Loughborough was elected as the remaining member of the Executive Committee.

The officers having thus been elected, the proposed changes in the constitution of the Conference were taken into consideration. All the changes proposed, namely, adding sections 4 and 5 to Article V, and adding to Article

I, a statement of whom the Conference should be composed, as set forth in the Review containing the call for the Conference, were unanimously adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions being called upon to report, offered the following resolutions which were unanimously adopted.

RELIGIOUS DISCUSSIONS

WHEREAS, It is of special importance in the great work to which God has called us, of making ready a people prepared for the Saviour's appearing, that we be able to act in entire harmony in all that concerns our conduct before our fellow men, we deem it duty to express ourselves anew on the following matters:

RESOLVED, That in our judgment, religious discussions are less likely to result in converting men to the truth than is the divinely appointed instrumentality of preaching the word; and that we recommend to those who are public laborers in this cause that they make preaching their grand agency rather than debating; departing from this rule only in such cases as plainly require such departure.

VOTING

RESOLVED, That in our judgment, the act of voting when exercised in behalf of justice, humanity and right, is in itself blameless, and may be at some times highly proper; but that the casting of any vote that shall strengthen the cause of such crimes as intemperance, insurrection, and slavery, we regard as highly criminal in the sight of Heaven. But we would deprecate any participation in the spirit of party strife.

OUR VIEWS OF WAR

RESOLVED, That we acknowledge the pamphlet entitled "Extracts From the Publications of Seventh-day Adventists Setting Forth Their Views of the Sinfulness of War," as a truthful representation of the views held by us from the beginning of our existence as a people, relative to bearing arms.

OUR DUTY TO THE GOVERNMENT

RESOLVED, That we recognize civil government as ordained of God, that order, justice, and quiet may be maintained in the land; and that the people of God may lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty. In accordance with this fact we acknowledge the justice of rendering tribute, custom, honor, and reverence to the civil power, as enjoined in the New Testament. While we thus cheerfully render to Caesar the things which the

Scriptures show to be his, we are compelled to decline all participation in acts of war and bloodshed as being inconsistent with the duties enjoined upon us by our divine Master toward our enemies and toward all mankind.

RESOLVED, That this Conference request the Executive Committee of the General Conference to prepare an article for publication setting forth our view of the teaching of the Scriptures on the subject of war.

STATE CONFERENCES

RESOLVED, That in our judgment it is highly important for the well-being of the cause that the president of the General Conference should attend the session of each of the state conferences.

EXPENSE OF DRAFT DOCUMENTS

WHEREAS, The General Conference Committee have been under the necessity of incurring a considerable expense in preparing and procuring preliminary proofs and documents to enable certain of our brethren to avail themselves of the law in favor of non-combatants, which expense as yet has been but partially met from the avails of said proofs and documents, therefore,

RESOLVED, That this Conference hereby request all those for whose personal benefit said expense was incurred; viz. those who were liable to the draft--and all others who are so disposed, to contribute one dollar each for the purpose of defraying the same, and that each of said contributors be entitled to a copy of said documents.

HOLDING OF THE WINDS

WHEREAS, A terrible rebellion has for the past four years convulsed our land, and retarded the progress of the third angel's message, and

WHEREAS, This rebellion has been suddenly brought to nought,

RESOLVED, That we acknowledge, with devout gratitude, the hand of God in this event, as a direct answer to prayer, and that in view of the increased responsibilities laid upon us in again opening the way for the progress of the message, we solemnly consecrate ourselves anew to this great work to which God has called us.

RESOLVED, That this Conference fully indorse the view of Brother J. N. Andrews respecting the commandment to restore and build Jerusalem, Daniel 9:25, and that we hereby request him to write out his view of the same for publication, at the earliest opportunity.

DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln, the noble-minded and upright chief magistrate of this nation, has fallen by the hand of an assassin,

RESOLVED, That we hereby record our deep distress at the loss of this "prince and great man," 2 Samuel 3:28-38, who was stricken down by his enemies at the very moment when he was studying how to forgive them all, and that we recognize in this most atrocious crime the true character of the slaveholders' rebellion.

MEETING-HOUSE AT BATTLE CREEK

WHEREAS, Battle Creek, Michigan, is a central point for the General Conference to hold its sessions, also for the sessions of the Michigan State Conference, and being the place where the property of the Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association is located,

RESOLVED, That it is the opinion of this Conference that a house of worship should be built in the city of Battle Creek of sufficient size to convene the meetings of worship usually held in connection with our annual conferences, and that the General Conference Committee should feel free to solicit funds from the friends of the cause in the wide field, and to act in connection with the church in Battle Creek in erecting the house.

RESOLVED, That the General Conference Committee be authorized to take the initiatory steps preparatory to the building of said meeting-house immediately, and to adopt such plan, and make such call for means through the Review, as in their judgment may be best adapted to the prosecution of the work.

THE SOUTH

RESOLVED, That a field is now opened in the South for labor among the colored people and should be entered upon according to our ability.

BLANKS

RESOLVED, That blanks be prepared by the General Conference Committee for the use of churches, ministers, etc., in making their reports; and such other blanks as may be needed to establish more uniformity, and expedite matters in our Conference business.

RESOLVED, That we hereby tender the Battle Creek Church our sincere thanks for the kind attention and generous hospitality with which we have been entertained.

MOVED, That the minutes of this Conference be published in the Advent Review. Carried.

Adjourned to the call of the Committee.

John Byington, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING

May 16, 1866

Conference met according to appointment in Review, in Battle Creek, May 16, 1866. Brother White being unable to attend the meeting, Brother Byington was chosen chairman pro tem. Prayer by Brother Bates. Delegates were present from Michigan, New York, Vermont, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, and Ohio. With the exception of Vermont, which was represented by her own delegate, New England was represented by the returned missionaries, J. N. Andrews and M. E. Cornell. Minnesota was represented by letter.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Reports from missionaries were handed in, Brother Andrews giving a brief statement of his labors in connection with Brother Cornell, in New England; Brother Ingraham of his work in Iowa, giving an encouraging report of the state of things in that part of the field, all the churches which he had visited having taken a decided stand against the defection in that State. Brother Cornell made brief remarks concerning his labors in New England. Brother Loughborough presented a report from Brother Rodman, of Rhode Island, also of his own labors what portion of the time he has been able to be in the field.

The treasurer presented his report showing the following results:

Amount on hand at last report-----	\$1739.43
Amount received during Conference year-----	<u>1751.22</u>
Total-----	\$3490.65
Paid out as per treasurer's book-----	\$1460.27
Cash in treasury to balance-----	<u>2030.38</u>
Total-----	\$3490.65

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three on resolutions. Carried. Brethren Andrews, Loughborough, and Ingraham, were thereupon named as said committee.

MOVED, That a committee of three be appointed by the chair to nominate officers for the ensuing year. Carried. Brethren Taylor, Lawrence, and Harvey, were thereupon named as the committee on nominations.

The next item of business being distribution of labor, letters and remarks were called out in reference to the condition and wants of the cause in various localities. With these the remainder of this session was occupied. One fact was very apparent: The field is large, and the laborers are few. Adjourned till 3 o'clock p.m.

Afternoon session. Prayer by Brother Andrews. Report presented from Brother Sanborn on the state of the cause in Minnesota.

Committee on Nominations reported for president, James White; secretary, U. Smith; treasurer, I. D. Van Horn. Executive Committee, James White, J. N. Andrews, J. N. Loughborough. Report accepted. After some remarks by Brethren Loughborough and Andrews, Brother White was chosen president for the ensuing year, and the other brethren named, were chosen to the respective offices for which they were nominated.

Committee on Resolutions reported so far as they had prepared resolutions. Report accepted. The Conference then proceeded to act upon the resolutions offered as follows: Resolution on dress read. Resolutions of the Battle Creek Church read. After considerable discussion, the matter was referred again to the committee with instructions to add a resolution touching evils just the opposite of those condemned in the resolutions.

Resolution on meeting house in Battle Creek was adopted, reading as follows:

WHEREAS, The church in Battle Creek, Michigan, contemplate building a larger house of worship, and

WHEREAS, This seems to be the proper place for the general meetings of our people; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Conference Committee be authorized to solicit from the several state conferences, and from individuals, such a proportion of the entire cost of the house, as they shall deem equitable and just.

OUR VIEWS OF WAR

RESOLVED, That Brother J. N. Andrews be requested to prepare an article setting forth the teachings of the Scripture on the subject of war.

QUESTION BOOKS

RESOLVED, That Brother G. W. Amadon, superintendent of the Battle Creek Sabbath School, be requested to prepare immediately, question books for the use of Sabbath Schools, in a progressive series adapted to the use of infant classes, children and adults.

Adjourned to meet at the call of the committee.

THIRD SESSION. May 17, at 11 o'clock a.m. Committee on Resolutions were called on for a further report. The committee reported progress, and asked leave to sit again, which was granted. Resolution of the committee on dress read. Resolutions of the Battle Creek Church read. These resolutions were amended by adding "Point 12" as follows:

"While we condemn pride and vanity, as set forth in the foregoing resolutions, we equally abhor and abominate everything that is slovenly, slack, untidy, and uncleanly in dress or manners."

Point 7 was then amended by substituting the word "wearing" for "donning," in the expression, "We think the brethren greatly err from the sobriety of the Christian, in donning the moustache or goatee," so that as amended, it should read, "We think the brethren greatly err from the sobriety of the Christian in wearing the moustache or goatee."

The resolutions presented by the committee, were then acted upon, and the following unanimously adopted:

DRESS

WHEREAS, The Scriptures enjoin the use of modest apparel, prohibiting the wearing of broidered hair, gold, pearls, and costly array, and

WHEREAS, We consider the work of Judson, the devoted missionary to Birmah, entitled, "A Letter to the Women of America on Dress," an admirable exposition of the Scriptures on this subject, and

WHEREAS, The Resolutions on Dress passed by the Battle Creek Church, and published in Review, Volume 27, No. 23, make application of those principles to certain foolish fashions of the present day, therefore

RESOLVED, That this Conference adopt these resolutions as amended, and earnestly recommend our people to live them out.

RESOLVED, That the Publishing Association be requested to append these resolutions to Judson's work on dress.

STATE CONFERENCES

WHEREAS, The General Conference Committee cannot properly discharge their duties, without a thorough acquaintance with the wants and abilities of the cause in all parts of the field, therefore

RESOLVED, That it is the judgment of this Conference that one or more of the General Conference Committee should be present at the sessions of each state conference, and participate in all their business proceedings.

WHEREAS, At the session of the Iowa State Conference, held at Pilot Grove, Iowa, July 3, 1865, it was "Voted, That the cases of Elders Snook and Brinkerhoff be placed in the hands of the General Conference Committee," and that they be requested to recommend to the Iowa Conference Committee, such action, in each case, as they may deem best for the cause, and their own welfare; and

WHEREAS, Messrs. Snook and Brinkerhoff have openly renounced the work of the third angel's message, therefore

RESOLVED, That we recommend to the Iowa State Conference that their names be dropped from their minutes.

SABBATH DISCUSSION

WHEREAS, There appeared in the World's Crisis, of February 14, 1866, a very defiant challenge to Seventh-day Adventists for the discussion of the Sabbath question, particularly the history of the Sabbath, through the columns of that paper, and

WHEREAS, This challenge was promptly and unqualifiedly accepted, with the offer on our part that it should also appear in the Review, and

WHEREAS, The Crisis thereupon refused to allow the discussion to appear in its columns; and further refused to publish the brief note of acceptance from J. N. Andrews who was designated to conduct the discussion on the part of our people; and further, when courteously requested to let the fact appear that the challenge had been accepted, would not even grant us that favor, therefore,

RESOLVED, That we express our surprise at such a course on the part of the Crisis, and our inability to reconcile it with the principles of honor, of justice, and of Christianity. Unanimously adopted.

EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

RESOLVED, That in our judgment the expulsion of members from church fellowship should never be effected by less than a two-thirds vote of the entire membership of the church in question; and such action should not take place without previous faithful labor with the erring member, and also due notice of the trial. The only circumstances under which these regulations should be departed from at all are in the case of outrageous crime in which the guilt is manifest; in which case, at the discretion of the church this previous labor may be dispensed with.

RESOLVED, That in the case of church trials involving the expulsion of members, we deem it advisable that our brethren, if possible, secure the aid of some experienced preacher; if this is not consistent that they make application to their own state conference committee for the aid of some experienced and judicious lay-brethren to aid by their counsel and advice, excepting such cases only as are excepted in the preceding resolution.

WHEREAS, It seems proper that churches should sometimes have representation in conference before they are fully organized, by which we mean having ordained officers, therefore,

RESOLVED, That when Sabbath-keepers in any place have enrolled their names under the church covenant of Seventh-day Adventists, appointed a leader and organized systematic benevolence, they shall be entitled to delegates to the sessions of the state conference to the same extent as though fully organized.

WHEREAS, The subject of health is now attracting much attention among us as a people, and we are now learning the great truth that the proper way to avoid disease, or to recover from it, is to adopt correct habits of life, therefore

RESOLVED, That this Conference request our brother Dr. H. S. Lay, whom we deem fully competent so to do, to furnish through the Review a series of articles on the health reform.

RESOLVED, That we acknowledge the health reform as set forth in the testimony of Sister White, as part of the work of God incumbent on us at this time; and that we pledge ourselves to live in accordance with these principles, and that we will use our best endeavors to impress their importance upon others.

RESOLVED, That the delegates from each state conference should be prepared to furnish to the General Conference the statistics of their respective conferences; and it is hereby requested of the secretaries of the several conferences that they furnish the delegates of their own conferences, such statistics, specifying the number of ministers and licentiates, the number of churches, the number of the membership, and the total amount of their systematic benevolence fund, etc.

RESOLVED, That in the judgment of this Conference it is much to be regretted that in small churches where two or three substantial and efficient members constitute the chief pillars of strength, these members frequently move away with no weighty reason for so doing, leaving the church of which they were members to be scattered and extinguished.

RESOLVED, That we recommend to the several state conferences, that they require from each minister in their employ, a written report of each day's occupation.

RESOLVED, That in the judgment of this Conference it is a great error in the course of some of our brethren that they leave their fields of labor, to go elsewhere when the work is not completed where they are; so that they not only leave the interest to die out among the people, and thus fail to reach a large number that might have been converted to the truth, but they also leave many of those already identified with the work, too feeble to stand securely against their enemies.

WHEREAS, The Michigan State Conference at a former session voted to donate to the General Conference Missionary Fund the sum of \$500; and

WHEREAS, The Michigan State Conference desires to aid in the erection of a suitable house of worship in Battle Creek, therefore,

RESOLVED, That we release the Michigan State Conference from \$300 of its pledge.

WHEREAS, The same reason exists in the case of the General Conference

Committee as in that of the state conference committees for selecting lay brethren to aid in the settlement of accounts of preachers,

RESOLVED, That the chair be empowered to appoint two brethren to aid in such settlement.

RESOLVED, That we empower the General Conference Committee to solicit aid for Brethren Cornell and Cottrell, in their efforts to obtain for themselves a humble home; and that they solicit this aid through the Review, or in any other way that they may think proper.

RESOLVED, That when a member takes a letter of commendation from a church, it is the judgment of this Conference that he remains a member of that church, till he becomes a member of another church; and that he should pay his systematic benevolence accordingly, giving due notice when he joins the church of another place.

MOVED by Brother Andrews, that we refer the subject of issuing a small collection of revival hymns to the General Conference Committee, with a request that they give it their favorable consideration. Carried.

MOVED by Brother Loughborough, that the committee of this Conference be empowered to publish such number of minutes as they see fit, including the original minutes, amendments to constitution, and the minutes of the present meeting.

Adjourned to meet again at the call of the committee.

The Conference held in all, seven business sessions; and the various resolutions drew forth animated, interesting, yet harmonious discussion, and were each adopted by a unanimous vote.

John Byington,
President, pro tem.
U. Smith, Secretary.

FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

Business Proceedings

Of the Fifth Annual Session of the General Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists

May 14, 1867

Met according to appointment in Review, May 14, 1867, at 9 o'clock a.m. Brother White not being able to attend the morning session, Brother J. M. Aldrich was chosen chairman pro tem. Prayer by Brother Andrews.

Delegates being called for, credentials were presented by the following brethren:

Elders A. S. Hutchins, of Vermont; H. C. Blanchard, and John Matteson, of Wisconsin and Illinois; N. Fuller, and J. N. Andrews, of New York; William Carpenter, J. M. Aldrich, M. E. Cornell, E. H. Root, James Harvey, of Michigan; D. T. Bourdeau and A. A. Fairfield of Iowa; I. N. Van Gorder of Ohio, and Stephen Pierce of Minnesota. On motion Brother Mallory was received as a delegate from Missouri.

Returned missionaries present were Brethren Waggoner, Canright, Van Horn, and Lawrence.

Minutes of last meeting called for, read, and approved.

On motion the ministers present who are not members of this Conference, were invited to take part in this Conference.

Reports from Conferences presented, showing the following result:

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j
Mich. Conf.	10	1	47	1308	\$6143.00	1824.37	43*8.64		3433.90
N.Y.&Pa.	5	3	25	536	3131.03	159.12	2817.92	155.00	
Wis.&Ill.	3	3	20	554	2441.55	488.31	953.24		
Iowa			15	390	2076.40	315.28	1661.12	100.00	274.67
Ohio			11	50	811.24	8*.00	673.24	58.00	153.02
Vermont	4		10	205	982.27	6*.00	922.27		300.00
Minnesota	2	1	5	170	787.60	150.45	536.83	50.00	50.00
N.E. Mission	4	2	27	987	2288.30				
Total	28	10	160	4320	18661.39	3077.52	12883.26	363.00	4212.17

[*Columns in original copy were blank where * appears.]

aNames.

bMinisters.

cLicentiates.

dChurches.

eMembers.

fSystematic Benevolence Fund Pledged.

gUsed by Church.

hPledged to Conference.

iPledged to State Conference.

jFunds on hand.

Brother Cornell being called on to report in reference to the amount raised for his benefit, gratefully acknowledged the liberal donations of the brethren, in the sum raised, \$648.10, and reported that he had no need of further help in this direction.

Brother Andrews made a similar report in behalf of Brother Cottrell.

The report on the meeting-house in Battle Creek, being the next item introduced, showed the following standing and prospects of the house:

Expended on the meeting-house to the present time-----	\$7,076.57	
Outstanding bills-----	23.43	
Lots, still the property of the Publishing Association-----	<u>1,000.00</u>	
		\$8,100.00
Received on pledges-----	\$5,208.30	
Unpaid pledges-----	633.00	
Value of old house-----	<u>1,300.00</u>	
		\$7,141.30
Balance		\$ 958.70

The Michigan Conference has, since the above was reported, pledged \$700.00 more for the house, leaving a deficit, after paying for the lots of \$258.70.

Brother Andrews being called upon to speak in reference to the task allotted him at the last Conference of writing on the subject of war, reported that for want of time the work was in an unfinished condition.

On the subject of question books for children, youth and adults, Brother Amadon reported that from sickness, and press of labor what time he had been able to work, he had not been able to carry out the instructions of the Conference. He made some progress on a question book for small children, and marked out a plan for the whole, in which condition the work now stands.

The General Conference Committee to whom was referred the subject of issuing a collection of revival hymns, reported that nothing had been done on it, but they had had under consideration the subject of a hymn book for general use.

Reports of ministers called for, and submitted to the committee.

The Treasurer's report showed the financial condition of the Conference to be as follows:

Amount on hand at last report-----	\$2,030.25
Amount received during year-----	<u>2,248.46</u>
Total-----	\$4,278.71

Paid out as per Treasurer's book-----	\$3,625.79
Cash in treasury to balance-----	<u>652.92</u>
Total-----	\$4,278.71

The change in the Constitution, as proposed in the call for the meeting was considered and adopted, by striking out the proviso in Article IX, and changing the words "two thirds vote," to "three-fourths vote," so that as amended it reads,

"Article IX. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a three-fourths vote of the delegates present at any meeting."

The Constitution of the Conference was then still further amended as follows:

Section 1 of Article V, was amended by adding thereto the words, "and they shall audit and settle accounts with ministers and others in the employ of the Conference," so that, as amended, it shall read,

"Article V. Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to take the general supervision of all ministerial labor, and see that the same is properly distributed; and they shall take the special supervision of all missionary labor, and as a missionary board shall have the power to decide where such labor is needed, and who shall go as missionaries to perform the same; and they shall audit and settle accounts with ministers and others in the employ of the Conference."

Section 5 of Article V, was amended so as to read, "It shall be the duty of the ministers and others in the employ of the General Conference to make a written report to each annual meeting thereof, of each day's occupation during the Conference year, or such portion of the year as they may have been in the employ of the Conference."

Article V was further amended by the addition of another section as follows:

"Section 6. It shall be the duty of the Conference to select a committee of two laymen to act with the executive committee in the examination and settlement of accounts."

Article VII, was amended by striking it out as it now stands, namely, "The officers shall hold their offices for the term of one year, and shall be elected at the regular meetings of the Conference," and inserting the following in its stead: "The officers shall be elected at the regular meetings of the Conference, and shall hold their offices for the term of one year, or until

their successors are chosen."

The Executive Committee then presented the following resolutions which were unanimously adopted.

RESOLVED, That we recommend to the different state conferences to adopt the following as Section 3, of Article VII, of their State Conference Constitution:

This conference may, at its discretion, invite all persons present who are members of our churches in good standing to take part in the discussion of business, but not to participate in voting.

RESOLVED, That we recommend to the different state conferences to adopt the resolutions passed at the General Conference of 1866 on the expulsion of members and church trials as a part of their State Conference Constitution.

RESOLVED, That we recommend to the several state conferences the adoption, as part of their Constitutions, of the resolution of 1866 on the subject of systematic benevolence in the case of members moving from one church to another.

RESOLVED, That it is the judgment of this Conference that one or more of the General Conference Committee or some one appointed by them, should be present at the sessions of each state conference, and participate in all its business proceedings.

FIELDS OF LABOR

RESOLVED, That ministers who leave their fields of labor when their work therein is unfinished shall be liable to censure from the conference of which they are members.

LETTERS OF COMMENDATION

RESOLVED, That in the judgment of this Conference no church clerk should ever give letters of commendation except when instructed so to do by vote of the church.

MEMBERS MOVING

RESOLVED, That we deem it worthy of severe censure that our brethren frequently move from churches to which they belong when there is no sufficient reason for so doing, and when the churches of which they were members are thereby so weakened as to have their very existence endangered: and, that in our judgment such churches may at its discretion withhold letters of

commendation
from members moving under such circumstances.

RESOLVED, That in our judgment, the ordinances of the Christian church belong only to those who accept the duties and responsibilities of church membership.

RESOLVED, That we deem it duty to caution our brethren against purchasing patent rights; and that we express our surprise and regret that our friends should so often forget the warnings given on this subject through the Testimonies.

RESOLVED, That in the judgment of this Conference, it is to be regretted that some persons travel about without a license from the Conference, introducing a few points of present truth, and those points in an objectionable manner; and we hereby enter our protest against such a course.

RESOLVED, That in our judgment it is more for the advancement of the truth to live it out before our neighbors, than to be constantly contending with them.

ENLARGEMENT OF Review

RESOLVED, That in the judgment of this Conference, the cause of God demanded the enlargement of the Review already made, and also demands the one proposed to take effect at the commencement of next volume, and that we recommend to our ministers and people to sustain it by extending its circulation as far as possible, and by donating sufficiently to relieve all embarrassment arising therefrom.

RESOLVED, That we recommend to the editor of the Advent Review to reject articles that are of a personal or censorious character, except such as are positively necessary to defend the cause of truth.

Adjourned to one-half past two p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Met according to adjournment. Prayer by Brother White. The meeting being opened, Brother White stated that he had simply come to excuse himself from serving as chairman of the meeting, and in view of his state of health, and his anticipated change of location, as he wished for rest and retirement awhile, he requested to be released from all office in the Conference during the coming year. At his suggestion, Brother Aldrich again took the chair.

The Conference then proceeded to the further consideration of resolutions prepared by the committee, which were unanimously adopted as follows:

SEVENTH-DAY BAPTISTS

WHEREAS, We desire as much as in us lies, to live peaceably with all men, and especially with that people who in common with ourselves observe the ancient Sabbath of the Bible, and

WHEREAS, On several occasions collisions have arisen between ourselves and the Seventh-day Baptists, and in the excitement of debates reports have been written in which unguarded language and more or less of personalities have been used,

RESOLVED, That we hereby express our regret that such language has ever been allowed in the Review and that we request the Editor to strike out all such matters from the articles inserted in its columns unless the most obvious reason for its insertion exists.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

RESOLVED, That we express our continued faith in the perpetuity of spiritual gifts during the gospel dispensation, and our gratitude to God that he has intimately connected the spirit of prophecy with the proclamation of the third angel's message.

APPEAL TO MOTHERS

RESOLVED, That we deem it important to call anew the attention of parents and guardians to the work of Sister White, entitled Appeal to Mothers, and that we earnestly invite them to place this work in the hands of such young persons as are under their care.

YOUTH'S INSTRUCTOR

RESOLVED, That it is the judgment of this Conference, that the wants of our young people demand a more frequent publication of the Youth's Instructor; and we hereby request the Publishing Association to issue the Instructor once in two weeks.

HYMN BOOK

WHEREAS, Our present hymn book is exhausted, and,

WHEREAS, We believe that the present book can be materially improved, if sufficient time and labor be bestowed upon the work, therefore,

RESOLVED, That _____[sic] be a committee to engage in the preparation of such work: and they are hereby instructed to use their best endeavor to furnish a work of moderate size and of reasonable expense, filled with the choicest hymns of praise and devotion, and expressive of the great truths of our holy faith.

RESOLVED, That it is the judgment of this Conference, that a small collection of devotional hymns should be immediately issued to meet the wants of those who have no hymn books, till such time as a larger and more complete work can be published.

HEALTH REFORM

RESOLVED, That we acknowledge the Health Reform as a proper exemplification of the subject of Christian temperance, and an important part of the great work of preparation for the Judgment.

THE HEALTH INSTITUTE

RESOLVED, That we recognize the hand of God in the successful establishment of the Health Institute, and that we invite the continued action of our people in order that this may be enlarged to meet the wants of its patients.

DRESS

RESOLVED, That we earnestly entreat all our friends to regard the subject of plainness of dress as set forth in the pamphlet recently issued from the Review Office, containing the General Conference Resolutions on dress, and Judson's letter on the same subject.

REFORMED DRESS

RESOLVED, That we recommend to our sisters the Reformed Dress set forth in Testimony No. 11, and now in use at the Health Institute.

WAR

RESOLVED, That it is the judgment of this Conference, that the bearing of arms, or engaging in war, is a direct violation of the teachings of our Saviour and of the spirit and letter of the law of God. Yet we deem it our duty to yield respect to civil rulers, and obedience to all such laws as do not conflict with the word of God. In the carrying out of this principle we render tribute, customs, reverence, etc.

PRIVATE PUBLISHING INTEREST

RESOLVED, That it is the judgment of this Conference, that there should be no private interest connected with the Association, but that whatever is published at the Office, depending for sale upon the patronage of our people, such works should be the property of the Association.

RESOLVED, That we deem the circulation of publications relating to the present truth a matter of vital importance to the cause in which we are engaged; and that we consider it indispensable that our ministers should personally interest themselves in this work, though the care and perplexity of their sale should be borne by others.

RESOLVED, That we request Brother J. N. Andrews to complete his article on the subject of war and publish through the Review at his earliest convenience.

RESOLVED, That it is the judgment of this Conference, that the wants of our people at large demand a work on the structure, functions and care of the human system; and we request the Health Reform Institute to issue such a work.

RESOLVED, That this Conference renew its request to Brother G. W. Amadon, to prepare a series of question books for Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes, in such series as were recommended at the last Conference.

On motion, the chair was empowered to appoint two laymen to aid the Executive Committee in examining and settling accounts of missionaries, as required by the amended constitution. Brethren E. H. Root, and James Harvey were thereupon appointed as such committee.

The subject of distribution of labor was next considered. Brother Loughborough presented petitions from Ohio, California, Missouri, etc. Brother Bourdeau spoke for Iowa, Brother Mallory for Missouri, Brother Matteson for the Danes and Norwegians of the West.

All the calls for help were referred, on motion, to the General Conference

Committee.

Adjourned to call of Committee.

THIRD SESSION, THURSDAY, 2:30 P.M.

After prayer by Brother Waggoner, the auditing committee's report was read and accepted.

Election of Officers. MOVED, That the officers of the Conference for the ensuing year, be nominated by ballot. Carried.

The balloting resulted in the nomination of the following persons for the officers of the Conference: for President, Elder J. N. Andrews; Secretary, U. Smith; Treasurer, Elder I. D. Van Horn; Executive Committee, Elder J. N. Andrews, Elder J. N. Loughborough, and J. M. Aldrich.

On motion, the persons named were declared unanimously elected.

On motion, the Executive Committee of the Conference were appointed as a committee to fill the blank in the resolution on hymn book.

A letter being read from Brother Stratton, it was voted in reference to Elders Stratton, Howard, and Rodman, as this was the first time their names had come before the Conference for action, that it be referred to the Executive Committee to grant them such credentials as in their judgment shall seem proper.

FOURTH SESSION, FRIDAY, 3 P.M.

After prayer by Brother Fuller, the committee reported the following names to fill the blank in the resolution on hymn book: Elder J. N. Andrews, Elder J. N. Loughborough, Elder J. H. Waggoner, Elder R. F. Cottrell, and U. Smith.

The following preamble and resolutions were then presented by Brother Andrews, and unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The season of fasting and prayer that the war might be brought to a close was followed by a signal answer to that prayer; and

WHEREAS, Such answer to prayer called for the deepest humiliation before God, that we might discharge the great responsibilities that devolved upon us by this opening to give the warning voice of the Third Angel; and

WHEREAS, Instead of this, a spirit of self-laudation and vanity came over us that justly displeased the Lord,

RESOLVED, That we publicly acknowledge the hand of God in the great humiliations that have come upon us, and that we beseech the great God of Heaven to grant us such a spirit of repentance and humiliation that he can properly remove his just displeasure from us.

RESOLVED, That we express our solemn convictions that in some places our brethren have been more anxious to impress upon the public the idea that they were an upright worthy people, than to call their attention to the awful importance of the truths we cherish.

FIFTH SESSION, FIRST-DAY, MAY 19, 4 P.M.

The following resolutions were unanimously passed at this session:

RESOLVED, That we request Brother U. Smith to prepare for publication in pamphlet form his argument in answer to the objections against the visions.

RESOLVED, That we tender a vote of thanks to the church in Battle Creek for their kindness and hospitality during these meetings.

RESOLVED, That the minutes of this meeting be published in the Review.

Adjourned sine die.

J. M. Aldrich,
Chairman pro tem.
U. Smith, Secretary.

SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

Business Proceedings

Of the Sixth Annual Session of the General Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists

May 12, 1868

Met according to appointment in Review, May 12, 1868, at 9 o'clock a.m. Prayer by Brother White. Delegates being called for, credentials were presented by the following brethren:

George I. Butler, J. T. Mitchell, of Iowa. R. F. Andrews, T. M. Steward, of Wisconsin and Illinois. James White, James Harvey, A. Gleason, R. J.

Lawrence,
of Michigan. A. C. Bourdeau, of Vermont. J. N. Andrews, of New York. J. H.
Waggoner, of Ohio. L. L. Howard, of Maine. J. H. Rogers, of Missouri.

On motion, all the ministers present were invited to participate in the
deliberations of the Conference.

On motion, Brother M. G. Kellogg was invited to sit in the Conference as
delegate from California.

On motion, Brother A. W. Smith was invited to represent the New England
mission-field.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Reports from State Conferences presented and read, showing the following
results:

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j
Mich. Conf.	9	6	46	1354	\$7963.26	3079.67	4883.59	1000.00	880.35
N.Y. & Pa.	5	6	25	585	2866.43	228.79	2579.79	207.85	60.00
Wis. & Ill.	5	1	18	600	3177.91	635.58	2542.32		
Iowa	1		13	362	2379.29	553.49	1825.80	125.00	
Ohio	1		12	187	1250.94	68.08	1095.00	87.86	
Vermont	4	2	11	220	1417.70	136.64	1281.06		125.00
Minnesota	2		7	180	787.00				
Maine	4	3	10	208	1235.74				
N.E. Mission	1	1	17	779	2288.30				
Total	32	19	159	4475	23366.57	4702.25	14994.56	1420.71	1065.35

aNames.

bMinisters.

cChurches.

dMembers.

eSystematic Benevolence Fund Pledged.

fUsed by Church.

gPledged to Conference.

hPledged to General Conference.

iFunds on hand.

The following committees were then appointed:

Auditing Committee. A. W. Smith, of New Hampshire, and J. T. Mitchell, of
Iowa.

On Resolutions. James White, J. N. Andrews, J. H. Waggoner.

On Preaching. J. N. Loughborough, G. W. Amadon, and U. Smith.

The Hymn Book Committee reported through brother Waggoner, showing the progress that had been made in the work, and the general plan which the Committee would recommend. Remarks by Brother White.

Brother Andrews reported in reference to the instructions given him to write upon the subject of war. He found the subject one requiring much research and study, and reported the matter unfinished. On motion, the matter was still left in his hands.

Reports from missionaries called for, and presented by Brethren J. N. Loughborough, I. D. Van Horn, D. T. Bourdeau, L. L. Howard, J. N. Andrews, and James White.

The treasurer presented his report, showing the following results:

Funds on hand May 1, 1867-----	\$ 652.92	
Funds received during the year-----	<u>3444.51</u>	\$4097.43
Paid out as per treasurer's book-----	\$3217.08	
Funds on hand to balance-----	<u>880.35</u>	\$4097.43

I. D. Van Horn, Treasurer.

Report accepted. On motion, the following brethren were appointed by the chair, as a nominating committee: George I. Butler, A. C. Bourdeau, James Harvey.

Adjourned to 2 p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Met according to adjournment. Prayer by Brother A. C. Bourdeau.

Committee on Nomination reported for president, J. N. Andrews; secretary, U. Smith; treasurer, J. N. Loughborough. Executive Committee, J. N. Andrews, James White, D. T. Bourdeau. Report accepted.

On motion, these persons were declared unanimously elected to the offices for which they were respectively named.

The subject of the distribution of labor was at this point taken up. Brother M. G. Kellogg entered a strong plea for California. Brother Rogers spoke for Missouri, setting forth the need of judicious labor in that State, and the prospects for good, if such labor could be bestowed. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The cause of Health Reform among our people demands that labor and attention which our preachers cannot bestow in connection with their other arduous labors, therefore,

RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this Conference that Brother M. G. Kellogg, M.D., should labor in that department of the great work of preparation for the coming of the Son of man, by the counsel of the General Conference Committee.

WHEREAS, A wrong use has been made of the resolution passed by the General Conference of last year relative to our brethren moving from place to place,

RESOLVED, That we hereby rescind the above-named resolution of last year.

RESOLVED, That we also rescind the resolution relative to private publishing interests.

RESOLVED, That we heartily indorse the efforts lately made to circulate Spiritual Gifts, and recommend to the brethren at large to continue their efforts by contributing to the book fund, and placing our works in the hands of honest inquirers.

RESOLVED, That the Committee on Resolutions be authorized and requested to prepare an address to set forth our views on certain existing evils, which we cannot consistently embrace in other forms.

Adjourned to call of Committee.

THIRD SESSION. WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 13, 1868.

Prayer by Brother Bates. The house being well filled, on motion, all present were invited to participate in the deliberations of the General Conference this evening. The subject before the meeting was what we may do for the Lord in the persons of his worthy poor, and in this, not so much to learn what our duty is, as to devise means whereby it may be discharged in a manner acceptable to God. Remarks were made by Brethren White, Gleason, D. T. Bourdeau, A. C. Bourdeau, J. N. Andrews, Barker, Rogers, Waggoner, and others.

On motion, a committee was appointed to bring this matter in a definite shape before the Conference, to consist of nine persons, and to be appointed by the chair.

MOVED, That the General Conference Committee be empowered to employ some person to assist Brother and Sister White as amanuensis. Carried.

The committee to whom was committed the subject of our duty to the poor, was named by the chair as follows: James White, U. Smith, J. H. Waggoner,

J. M. Aldrich, J. N. Loughborough, S. H. King, A. W. Smith, James Harvey, and M. E. Cornell. Brethren J. N. Andrews and G. I. Butler were afterward added to that committee.

On motion, the subject of the manner of holding General Conference in future was referred to the above-named committee. adjourned to call of Committee.

FOURTH SESSION. THURSDAY EVENING.

The report of committee on the subject of the relief of the poor among us, was read and accepted, after which the subject was continued as the object before the Conference. After remarks by various ones it was,

MOVED, That the resolutions presented by the committee by acted upon by this Conference. Carried. The doings of the committee were thereupon adopted as follows:

RESOLVED, That we have such an association as is under consideration, to be called the Seventh-day Adventist Benevolent Association.

RESOLVED, That there be a president, secretary, treasurer, and Executive Committee, of three of this Association.

RESOLVED, That membership be obtained by paying into the treasury the sum of \$10.

RESOLVED, That this Association be composed of all our people who are willing to enter into it.

RESOLVED, That the elders and deacons of each church be requested to act as agents to carry out the objects of this Association.

The subject of election of officers for this Association being taken up, the chair being empowered by vote so to do, named Brethren Loughborough, Waggoner, and King, as a committee on nominations.

While the committee were deliberating, the subject of holding our yearly meetings on camp-meeting plan was taken up. After some discussion, it was

RESOLVED, That this Conference recommend to our people to hold a general camp-meeting annually at the time of the sessions of our business associations.

RESOLVED, That the General Conference Committee be authorized, at their discretion, to carry this plan into execution.

WHEREAS, In the struggle through which our country lately passed for its national existence, our sympathies were with our rulers and our government in their efforts to maintain law and order; and in view of the unsettled state of our national affairs, and of troubles lying before us in the future, we shall continue to pray for those in authority, that they may have wisdom to govern with discretion and in the fear of God; and while we cheerfully pay tribute and honor to those to whom they are due, desiring to live peaceable and quiet lives, as law-abiding people,

RESOLVED, That we feel called upon to renew our request to our brethren to abstain from worldly strife of every nature, believing that war was never justifiable except under the immediate direction of God, who of right holds the lives of all creatures in his hand; and that no such circumstance now appearing, we cannot believe it to be right for the servants of Christ to take up arms to destroy the lives of their fellow-men.

Dr. Trall having been invited to visit Battle Creek and give a course of lectures on health, a committee was appointed to meet him and arrange for lectures from him.

Brethren White and Andrews, and Doctors Lay and Kellogg, were appointed as that committee. Adjourned to call of Committee.

FIFTH SESSION. FRIDAY, 4:45 P.M.

Committee on nomination of officers for Benevolent Association called upon to report, whereupon they presented the following names: for president, James White; secretary, M. S. Burnham; treasurer, U. Smith; Executive Committee, James White, J. N. Andrews, and S. H. King. These individuals were then unanimously elected. Adjourned to call of Committee.

SIXTH SESSION. EVENING AFTER SABBATH.

Prayer by Brother Loughborough. After hearing report from the Auditing Committee, it was

VOTED, That a printed form for business be prepared for the use of the conferences.

The Executive Committee were designated as the ones by whom they should be prepared.

MOVED, That the matter of hymn book be referred to the Executive Committee to take such action as they see fit. Carried.

They were instructed to attend to this thing at their earliest convenience.

Brethren and sisters united in considering the subject of dress. Sister Doctor Lamson was chosen chairman; Sister Van Horn, secretary, and Sisters White, Chamberlain, and Burnham, as committee of a convention of sisters, to take into consideration the matter of deciding upon a proper style and manufacture of hats for their use. Adjourned to call of committee.

SEVENTH SESSION. MONDAY, 8 A.M.

Prayer by Brother D. T. Bourdeau. Brother Andrews stated the calls from missionary fields. Brother A. C. Bourdeau made remarks about Vermont. Brother Butler same of Iowa. Brother J. H. Waggoner in regard to Ohio. Their means would not permit running the tent--the only labor expected is among the churches. Brother Howard spoke for New England. A. W. Smith for New Hampshire. Brother Kellogg mentioned California. Brother White spoke in behalf of missionary labor. Churches must not have so many visits from ministers. A mission in California might be sustained. Not decided that the time had come. Brother J. N. Loughborough spoke of strong impressions and dreams in regard to California. Brother White speaks of the work in Iowa. The opposite of war is the best means of overturning rebellion. Refers to the recent work in Monterey as an illustration. Brother Lawrence speaks of his circumstances at home. Brother Andrews speaks of himself, and for Brother Canright. Brother Bates refers to his past experience, and his willingness to do all he can in the work. Brother Steward speaks to the Conference about Brother Ingraham. Remarks by different ones in reference to Brother Pierce. Brother White is in favor of Brother Ingraham returning to the Illinois and Wisconsin Conference. Brother R. F. Andrews is of the same mind, and speaks of Brother Sanborn, who designs to remain in that field.

On motion by Brother White, Brother Ingraham was invited to return to the Illinois and Wisconsin Conference. On motion, it was

RESOLVED, That the minutes of this Conference be publishing in the Review.

Adjourned sine die.

J. N. Andrews, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

Business Proceedings

Of the Seventh Annual Session of the General Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists

May 18, 1869

Conference assembled, according to appointment in Review, May 18, 1869, at 9 o'clock a.m. Prayer by Brother White. Delegates being called for, credentials were presented by the following brethren:

Iowa Conference. M. E. Cornell, H. Nicola.

Maine Conference. Charles Stratton.

Michigan Conference. Joseph Bates, John Byington, R. J. Lawrence, Francis Nelson, S. H. King, James Harvey.

New York and Pennsylvania Conference. R. F. Cottrell, J. N. Andrews.

Ohio Conference. By letter.

Vermont Conference. By letter.

Wisconsin and Illinois Conference. By letter.

New England Mission. J. H. Waggoner, D. M. Canright.

California Mission. By letter.

Ministers present, in good standing, were invited to take part in the deliberations of the meeting.

Missionaries present as members of Conference, Brethren White, Waggoner, and Canright.

Minutes read and accepted.

Reports from the different State Conferences presented, showing the following results:

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j
Iowa	1	1	12	381	\$2069.37	\$ 413.87	1645.50	\$125.00	
Maine	4	3	10	216	889.22				
Michigan	10	8	47	1573	3959.34				
Minnesota	2	2	8	200	900.00	3959.34	3849.68	800.00	
N.Y. & Penn.	5	5	24	589	2954.07	201.54	2752.53	200.00	232.20
Ohio			11	185	1132.78	10.26	1122.52		
Vermont	4	2	12	256	1659.20	242.65	1416.55		
Wis.-Illinois	5	2	23	646	3639.75	727.95	2911.80		
N.E. Mission	2	1	17	779	1224.04	180.00		1044.04	227.71
California Mn.			3	75	525.00				
Total	33	24	167	4900	\$18952.77	\$5735.61	\$13698.58	\$2169.84	\$459.91

aGeneral Conference Summary for the Year 1869. Names of Conferences.

bMinisters.

cLicentiatees.

dChurches.

eNumber of Members.

fSystematic Benevolence Fund Pledged.

gSystematic Benevolence used by the Churches.
 hSystematic Benevolence Pledged to Conferences.
 iSystematic Benevolence Fund Pledged to General Conference.
 jSystematic Benevolence Fund on hand.

On motion, the following brethren were chosen as Auditing Committee: S. H. King, of Michigan; H. Nicola, of Iowa.
 Committee on Resolutions: J. N. Andrews, J. H. Waggoner, R. F. Cottrell.
 Committee on Preaching: James Harvey, F. Nelson, S. H. King.
 Committee on Nominations: R. F. Cottrell. R. J. Lawrence, J. Byington.
 Special Committee to amend Constitution: J. H. Waggoner, F. Nelson, U. Smith.

Brother White reported on Hymn Book, as the matter was left in hands of General Conference Committee. Reported the book in the hands of the binder, to be here before the Conference closes.

Missionary reports called for, were presented by Brethren Andrews, Waggoner, Canright, and White.

Subject of Distribution of Labor taken up. Calls for help read from Missouri and Kansas, and a letter respecting a mission among the Freedmen. Brother Harvey appeals for Indiana. Brother Waggoner speaks for Missouri, Ohio, and Maine. Brother Canright spoke for New England; Brethren Stratton and White for the same. Brother Cornell spoke for Iowa.

Treasurer's Report read, and accepted.

Adjourned to 2 o'clock p.m.

SECOND SESSION, AS PER APPOINTMENT.

Prayer by Brother Bates.

Committee on Amendment reported through Brother Waggoner. Recommended to amend Article I of the Constitution, by the addition of the following words: "And shall be composed of delegates from the State Conferences, and such ministers as shall have been employed as missionaries during any part of the year;" so that, as amended, it shall read, "Article I. This Conference shall be called the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and shall be composed of delegates from the State Conferences, and such ministers as shall have been employed as missionaries during any part of the year."

Article IX of the Constitution was then amended by changing the word "delegates" to "members;" so that, as amended, it shall read, "This Constitution may be altered or amended by a three-fourths' vote of the members present at any meeting."

Committee on Nominations reported for president, James White; secretary, U. Smith; treasurer, E. S. Walker; Executive Committee, James White, J. N. Andrews, J. H. Waggoner, all of whom were elected to the offices named.

Committee on Resolutions reported by offering the following, which were unanimously adopted.

DRESS REFORM

RESOLVED, That we renew the expression of our interest in the Dress Reform, believing that the teachings of the Scriptures in regard to simplicity and modesty in dress, are of great importance in this age of vice and subserviency to vain and immodest fashions; and that we recommend to our sisters conformity to the model presented in the tract on this subject, that they may recommend it, by their practice, to all observers.

THE HEALTH REFORM

RESOLVED, That we consider the Health Reform as an important auxiliary to the cause of present truth, and recommend to all our ministers to urge it to a proper extent upon the churches, and to endeavor to be examples to all in this respect.

Adjourned to call of committee.

THIRD SESSION

The following resolutions were presented by the Committee on Resolutions, and unanimously adopted.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

RESOLVED, That our faith and confidence in the Gifts of the Spirit of God, so graciously vouchsafed to us in these last days, are not only unshaken by the attacks of the opposers of the truth, but greatly strengthened and increased by the warnings we have received in times of danger, the counsels and admonitions when we have erred, and the comfort in our afflictions; as well as by the purity of their teachings, and the respect and reverence they produce for the word of God. And we earnestly recommend to all the scattered flock a more careful reading of, and more strict compliance with, the Testimonies to the Church.

CALIFORNIA MISSION

RESOLVED, That we wish to express our unabated interest in the California Mission, and our pleasure in the prospect before the ministers in that field; and we still extend assurance of our hearty sympathy and co-operation in their work, and our fraternal greeting to those who have embraced the present truth in that State.

SEVENTH-DAY BAPTISTS

Believing that we ought to cultivate fraternal feelings with all those who keep the commandments of God and teach men so, and believing that some of our brethren have not pursued the most judicious course in regard to them, therefore,

RESOLVED, That Brethren Cottrell, Andrews, and Fuller, be a committee to address the Seventh-day Baptists, and open such correspondence with them as they may deem fit.

RESOLVED, That we hail with joy every indication of the present truth going to the nations and tongues of the earth, and though we cannot enjoy the privilege of hearing, and speaking to them, we wish to assure our Danish brethren of our deep interest in their welfare, and our sympathy and prayers shall ever be with them in this work.

MOVED, That Brother Andrews be invited to write an appeal to young men in reference to entering the ministry. Carried.

Adjourned to call of chairman.

THIRD SESSION. [sic]

On motion, the resolution adopted by the Health Institute, relative to Brother and Sister White, was adopted as an expression of the sense of this Conference.

The following resolution was also adopted:

RESOLVED, That we consider it our duty to publicly make known our disapproval of the movement for the founding of a colony in Kansas; facts having come to our knowledge by which we are assured that those who engage in it will be subjected to disappointment and suffering.

On motion, the thanks of the Conference were extended to the Battle Creek church, for their hospitality during this meeting.

On motion, Brother Waggoner was added to the Auditing Committee.

Adjourned to call of chairman.

FOURTH SESSION.

At the fourth session, monday a.m., the following resolutions were adopted:

RESOLVED, That this Conference recommend to the State Conferences to make preparations for, and hold, camp-meetings, procuring the best assistance in their power, and leave it to Brother and Sister White to attend such of them as the providence of God may direct.

RESOLVED, That this Conference accept the new Hymn Book at the hands of our Executive Committee, and return our thanks to them for a book which we can so cordially recommend to our people, as well suited to our wants, both in public and social worship.

The following resolution respecting the cause in Switzerland, was, for prudential reasons, withheld from the printed minutes:

WHEREAS, We have received the request of the believers in the third angel's message in Switzerland, to receive them under the care of this General Conference, and to consider that field as missionary ground,

RESOLVED, That we accept their request with the deepest feelings of fraternal kindness, assuring them of our interest in their welfare; and we hereby pledge ourselves to render them any assistance that may be in our power to bestow.

Toward the close of the Session, stirring and interesting remarks were made respecting the mission to Switzerland, and the correspondence with the Swiss brethren was read.

J. N. Andrews, President.
Uriah Smith, Secretary.

EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

Business Proceedings

Of the Eighth Annual Session of the General Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists

March 15, 1870

Conference assembled, according to appointment in Review, March 15,

1870. Singing, Calvary [sic]. Prayer by Elder George I. Butler, of Iowa.

Delegates being called for, credentials were presented by the following brethren:

Iowa Conference. Elders George I. Butler, D. M. Canright.
 Illinois and Wisconsin Conference. Elders Robert F. Andrews, T. M. Steward.
 Ohio Conference. Oliver Mears.
 New York and Pennsylvania Conference. Ira Abbey, Henry Hilliard.
 Michigan Conference. Aaron Hilliard, G. H. Bell, William Carpenter, Franklin Howe, Charles Jones, S. A. McPherson.
 Vermont Conference. Elders A. C. Bourdeau, A. Stone.
 Massachusetts. Elder S. N. Haskell.
 Minnesota. By letter.
 California. H. T. Hewett.
 Maine. Elder C. Goodrich.
 Rhode Island. Elder P. C. Rodman.
 Missouri. Elder H. C. Blanchard.
 New Hampshire. W. H. Ball.
 Switzerland. James Ertzenberger.

Other brethren present from the several States were invited to take seats with the delegates, to take part in the deliberations of the Conference.

Minutes of last meeting read and accepted.

Treasurer's report presented, showing the following standing of the Conference funds:

Cash on hand May 1, 1869-----	\$	191.97
Cash received to March 15, 1870-----		<u>2,555.91</u>
		2,747.88
Paid out as per Treasurer's book-----		<u>3,020.78</u>
Present indebtedness of the Conference-----	\$	272.90

Reports from State Conferences being called for, the following were presented, showing the standing of State Conferences as follows:

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j
Iowa	2	1	17	470	\$ 2624.38				
Maine	3	1	11	298	678.79				
Michigan	11	15	51	1749	6732.40	\$2475.43	\$4256.97		
Minnesota	2	2	8	217	915.00		915.00		
N.Y. and Penn.	5	5	24	589	2954.07	201.54	2752.53		
Ohio			11	185	1132.78	10.26	1122.52		
Vermont	5	2	12	256	1447.00	125.00	1332.00		
Wis. & Illinois	5	8	24	717	3314.00	662.80	2651.20		

N.E. Mission	2	1	17	779	1224.04	180.00		1044.04
California Mis'n	2		4	130	800.00			800.00
European Mission				50				
Total	37	35	179	5440	\$21822.46	\$3655.03	\$13020.22	\$1844.04

aGeneral Conference Summary for the Year 1870. Names of Conferences.

bMinisters.

cLicentiates.

dChurches.

eNumber of Members.

fSystematic Benevolence Fund Pledged.

gSystematic Benevolence Fund used by the Churches.

hSystematic Benevolence Fund Pledged to Conferences.

iSystematic Benevolence Fund Pledged to General Conference.

jSystematic Benevolence Fund on hand.

Missionary reports were presented from J. N. Loughborough, D. T. Bourdeau, John Matteson, S. N. Haskell, P. C. Rodman, M. E. Cornell, I. D. Van Horn, R. J. Lawrence, James White, J. N. Andrews, and J. H. Waggoner.

Interesting remarks were made by Elders White, Andrews, and Waggoner, in reference to their respective fields of labor.

On motion, the chair appointed the following committees:

Auditing Committee. O. Mears, Ohio; William Carpenter, Indiana; Ira Abbey, H. Hilliard, New York; G. H. Bell, Charles Jones, Michigan.

Committee on Resolutions. J. N. Andrews, J. H. Waggoner, G. H. Bell.

Committee on Nominations. S. N. Haskell, S. A. McPherson, W. H. Ball.

Adjourned to 2 p.m.

SECOND SESSION.

Prayer by Elder A. Stone, of Vermont.

Committee on Nominations reported the following for the officers of the Conference the coming year:

President, James White; secretary, U. Smith; treasurer, G. H. Bell; Executive Committee, James White, J. N. Andrews, J. H. Waggoner.

These nominations were thereupon ratified by vote of the Conference.

Committee on Resolutions reported by offering the following, which were unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, That while our sympathies are drawn out toward our brethren in other lands, we are not forgetful of the interests of those in our own land, who are of foreign birth, and speak other languages. Their devotion to the truth has won our warmest regard, and we pledge to them all the aid and encouragement that our ability and circumstances will permit. In this direction we will do all that lies in our power to publish works in their respective languages to correspond as nearly as possible in price with similar works in English.

RESOLVED, 1. That we approve of the recent action of the Battle Creek Church, and indorse the resolutions adopted by it. And we further express, as the mind of the General Conference, that the Publishing Association has a right to insist that the influence surrounding its office shall be of the best kind. And it is our decided opinion that when unconsecrated persons, without advice, move into the neighborhood of the Office, and call the editor, officers, and employees away from their business to attend to their personal difficulties, they are hindering the cause of God, and robbing the Lord's treasury, by occupying the time of those who are called and employed to devote their strength and energies to this sacred work.

2. That in view of our past experience, and the troubles arising in this direction, we disapprove of, and protest against, persons moving into the neighborhood where the office is located, without first consulting the Executive Committee of the General Conference.

RESOLVED, That in view of the repeated admonitions of the Spirit of God of the alarming prevalence of licentiousness in its various forms, and of the purity of life requisite to stand before a holy God; and of the sad instances of depravity manifested by some professing to keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus Christ, we regard the book recently published, entitled, Solemn Appeal, as most timely, and we cordially recommend it to all as a valuable and much-needed work.

RESOLVED, that for the sake of our blessed Redeemer we desire to cultivate fraternal feelings, and maintain friendly relations, with all who name the name of Christ; and in particular with those who in common with us hold to the unpopular doctrine of the second advent of our Saviour near.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

WHEREAS, We as a people have held the doctrine of the perpetuity of Spiritual Gifts, and professed to believe that "the spirit of prophecy" was manifested among us as "the remnant" (Rev. 12:17; 19:10),

AND WHEREAS, Our faith on this subject has been, to a very great extent, a merely nominal or dead faith, as the following facts bear witness:

1. The Testimonies of the Spirit have faithfully warned against the spirit of worldliness and selfishness, yet very many of the persons professing to believe the Testimonies have manifested this spirit in their lives.

2. The Testimonies have spoken most pointedly of the danger arising from the licentious tendencies of the age, and of the necessity of purity of heart and life, yet we have had a most deplorable case of depravity developed by a minister and in a church professing also to believe the warnings.

3. The Testimonies have, from time to time, warned of the danger of pursuing certain courses of action by those having charge of, or laboring in, the Review Office for several years past; yet those in the Office where these Testimonies were published, and whence they were sent forth, have, in many important particulars, pursued exactly the course against which they were warned, thereby contradicting their profession and wounding the cause; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we will humble ourselves before God for these things, and endeavor to so walk in harmony with the teachings of the Spirit, as no longer to present such inconsistency in our lives, and to grieve God's Spirit away from us.

AND WHEREAS, In these things we have seen that those who disregard these Testimonies, whether in private or public life, have shown themselves to be lamentably weak in judgment, and have wounded themselves and the cause by their unfaithfulness; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we recognize the wisdom of God in the Testimonies to the Church, and that it is dangerous and destructive to disregard or neglect their instructions; and we confess our weakness and inability to carry on this sacred work to divine acceptance, without their aid.

RESOLVED, That we express our high regard for the labors of Brother James White, not only as a minister and a writer, but also for his efficient management of our publishing department; and we further express our perfect confidence in his integrity as an honest man and a devoted Christian; and we request him to accept the oversight of our business affairs, for the coming year.

RESOLVED, That we deplore the errors and wrongs committed by those who had the management of the Publishing Association and the Health Institute during the period of Brother White's prostration by sickness, and that we acknowledge the painful experience as teaching us the lesson that those who

neglect the Testimonies of the Spirit of God, will be sure to commit serious errors in the work of the third angel's message.

SWITZERLAND

RESOLVED, 1. That we recognize the hand of God in the establishment of a body of Seventh-day Adventists in Central Europe.

2. That we extend to them our love and Christian salutation, and the expression of our fellowship and esteem.

3. That we acknowledge the representative of these brethren, James Ertzenberger, who has been with us since June last, as a beloved brother in Christ, whose gifts and graces give the most satisfactory evidence that he is called of God to participate in the great work of preaching the final warning to men.

4. That we set him apart to the work of the Christian ministry, that he may return to Switzerland to preach the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

Resolution 4 elicited quite a lengthy and interesting discussion, as also No. 8 [sic], accompanied by a very touching appeal from Brother Ertzenberger.

At this point Elder J. N. Andrews introduced an interesting letter of inquiry from H. Malcom, D.D., of Philadelphia.

Elder I. Sanborn having written stating circumstances which would prevent his attending the Conference, it was

VOTED, That we approve of the course of Elder Sanborn in attending to the urgent interests of the cause in his section, rather than discontinuing his discussion to attend this Conference.

Some time was then occupied in discussing the California mission, and listening to the recital of interesting facts respecting that work.

Elder James White then spoke of the importance of issuing an "Appeal to the Public" to correct certain misapprehensions which exist in the minds of the people concerning us. He spoke further of the importance of establishing a Ministerial Institute to aid in the work of preparation for the ministry.

VOTED, That Elder White preach on this subject at his own convenience.

Adjourned to call of Committee.

THIRD SESSION, THURSDAY, 8 A.M.

Prayer by U. Smith. Minutes of the last meeting omitted for want of time.

On motion of Elder J. N. Andrews, Professor Allen, delegate from the Seventh-day Baptists, was unanimously received as a member of this body.

The following resolution was then read, and after interesting remarks from Elder J. N. Andrews, Professor Allen, Elders Cottrell, Waggoner, Bates, and White, was unanimously adopted.

SEVENTH-DAY BAPTISTS

RESOLVED, That we cordially welcome the representative of the Seventh-day Baptist denomination, a people whom we esteem for their adherence to the Sabbath of the Lord. That we express an earnest desire to maintain with them relations of Christian friendship, and, as far as the circumstances of our respective bodies permit, to co-operate with them in leading our fellow-men to the sacred observance of the fourth commandment.

On motion, the foregoing resolution was unanimously adopted by the entire congregation.

The following resolution was then offered by Brother Andrews, and after remarks by Brother White, and other brethren, it was amended by adding, "with liberty, if he shall be unable to attend, to appoint his alternate," and as amended, was unanimously passed.

RESOLVED, That we appoint Elder James White as a delegate to the Seventh-day Baptist General Conference, with liberty, if he should be unable to attend, to appoint his alternate.

Brother Andrews then raised the question, What can we do for Switzerland, which elicited many interesting remarks from the brethren.

Adjourned to call of chairman.

FOURTH SESSION, FRIDAY, 2:15 P.M., MARCH 18.

Prayer by Brother White. Subject of camp-meetings introduced, and discussed at length.

On motion of Brother Andrews, the chair appointed a committee consisting of one brother from each State, to take this matter into consideration.

On motion of Brother Bourdeau, Brother White was added to the committee.

Brother Waggoner introduced the subject of a New England Conference.

VOTED, To recommend the formation of a New England Conference, to embrace all the New England States.

The chair appointed the following as the committee: Minnesota, James White; Iowa, G. I. Butler; Wisconsin, P. S. Thurston; Illinois, R. F. Andrews; Michigan, John Byington and S. H. King; Ohio, O. Mears; New York, J. M. Lindsay; Vermont, A. C. Bourdeau; Massachusetts, S. N. Haskell; Rhode Island, P. C. Rodman; Maine, J. B. Goodrich.

At this point, the Conference was pleased to listen to interesting matter from Sister White respecting ministers, their failures and their duties.

Moved by Brother Waggoner, That this Conference show its concurrence in the remarks of Sister White, by ordering their publication. Carried.

VOTED, That the President of the Conference take into consideration the subject and the subjects of ordination.

FIFTH SESSION, SUNDAY, 8 A.M.

Prayer by Brother Bell.

VOTED, In view of the formation of a conference in New England, to release the brethren there from paying into General Conference Funds, except as a donation, from this date.

Brother White reported on Book Fund.

VOTED, That we hereby express our confidence in the wisdom and integrity of Brother White in his management of the Book Fund, and that we request him to continue to have charge of it.

Missionary work was taken into consideration. Brother Bourdeau made some interesting statements respecting the work and prospects in Canada.

VOTED, To leave the matter of providing assistance for Brother Ertzenberger in preparing works in the German, with General Conference Committee; also the Canadian mission.

Adjourned to call of chairman.

SIXTH SESSION.

Prayer by Brother Van Horn. Camp-meeting committee reported. Report

accepted and referred to General Conference Committee.

Committee in reference to California mission reported. Report accepted.

MOVED, To pay the California missionaries their own fare to field of labor, transportation of tent, and tent and traveling expenses for themselves, and a weekly allowance equal to the highest amount paid to any laborers in the Conference.

On motion, Brother Bell was authorized to prepare blanks for ministers, to secure uniformity in their accounts to Conference.

Adjourned to call of committee.

James White, President.

Uriah Smith, Secretary.

NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

Business Proceedings

Of the Ninth Annual Session of the General Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists

February 7, 1871

Conference assembled according to appointment in Review, February 7, 1871.
Prayer by Elder J. N. Andrews.

Delegates being called for, credentials were presented by the following brethren:

New York and Pennsylvania Conference. J. N. Andrews.

Ohio. I. D. Van Horn (by invitation of Conference).

Michigan and Indiana. James White, D. R. Palmer, S. H. King, E. H. Root, James Harvey.

Illinois. R. F. Andrews.

Wisconsin. C. W. Olds.

Iowa. George I. Butler, D. M. Canright.

Minnesota. Stephen Pierce.

Maine. J. H. Waggoner (by invitation of Conference).

New England Conference. S. N. Haskell. By invitation of Conference, M. E. Cornell also acted as delegate from New England.

Kansas and Missouri. R. J. Lawrence (by invitation of Conference).

On motion, all ministers present were invited to participate in the deliberations of this Conference.

Minutes of last Conference read and accepted.

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j
Maine	1	5	9	194	\$ 950.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 940.00		
New England	2	2	16	300	3044.60		3044.60	\$ 160.00	500.00
Vermont	5	4	12	262	1501.34	172.01	1329.33	50.00	34.00
N.Y. & Penn.	5	5	24	589	2954.07	201.54	2752.53		
Ohio		4	10	194	1220.01	108.50	1111.41		675.25
Michigan & Ind.	11	14	53	1543	5779.81	1851.93	3927.88		2000.00
Wisconsin	2	4	17	450	2551.00		2551.00	500.00	100.00
Illinois	2	4	8	178	875.00				
Minnesota	2	2	9	250	990.50		990.50	100.00	
Iowa	2	4	18	400	2400.00			300.00	650.00
Kansas & Mo.	1		5						
California Mis.	1		4	130	800.00		800.00		
Swiss Mission	1			60					
Total	35	48	185	4550	\$23066.42	\$2343.98	\$18322.25		
	\$1110.00	\$3959.25							

aGeneral Conference Summary for the Year 1871. Names of Conferences.

bMinisters.

cLicentiates.

dChurches.

eNumber of Members.

fSystematic Benevolence Fund Pledged.

gSystematic Benevolence used by the Churches.

hSystematic Benevolence Pledged to Conference.

iSystematic Benevolence Pledged to General Conference.

jSystematic Benevolence Fund on hand.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED

Auditing Committee. E. H. Root, James Harvey.

On Nominations. George I. Butler, I. Sanborn, E. H. Root.

On Resolutions. J. N. Andrews, D. M. Canright, James Harvey.

Elder H. P. Burdick, Seventh-day Baptist, being present, was invited to participate in the deliberations of the Conference.

Missionary reports were called for, and presented by the following brethren:

Elder J. H. Waggoner spoke of his labors in Maine, giving an encouraging account of the prospects of the cause in that State.

Brother Cornell spoke of the cause in Boston, Massachusetts, and vicinity.

Brother Lawrence spoke of labors in Kansas and Missouri. Reported five organized churches in that Conference, and four other places where regular meetings are held.

Brother Matteson spoke of his labor in the same field. He also gave a very encouraging account of the interest he found among the Danes and Norwegians in Michigan and Wisconsin.

Brother White spoke of his labors in different parts of the field, especially during the camp-meeting season, referring for particulars to his reports published in the Review.

Treasurer's report presented, showing the following result:

Indebtedness of Conference at last report---	\$ 272.90	
Received from March 15, 1870 to Feb. 7, 1871		<u>\$3261.42</u>
Paid out as per book, during same time-----	2535.16	
Balance in Treasury Feb. 7, 1871-----	<u>453.36</u>	
		\$3261.42

Report accepted.

By vote it was left to the General Conference Committee to arrange for preaching during the Conference.

Adjourned to 3 p.m.

SECOND SESSION

Committee on Nominations reported for President, the coming year, James White; Secretary, U. Smith; Treasurer, A. P. Van Horn; Executive Committee, James White, J. N. Andrews, W. H. Littlejohn.

These persons were thereupon elected to their respective offices.

Committee on Resolutions reported the following for the consideration of the Conference:

1. RESOLVED, That we recognize in the present condition of the Pope of Rome and the Sultan of Turkey, unmistakable evidence that we have reached the very conclusion of the great lines of prophecy, and that our confidence in the speedy advent of our Lord is unwavering. Adopted.

2. RESOLVED, That we cherish the cause of the Sabbath, identified as it is with that of the moral law, as holy and elevated, and that we pledge ourselves

to continue earnest effort that we may lead many to its sacred observance.
Adopted.

3. RESOLVED, That we deeply regret the circumstances which rendered it impracticable that our delegate to the Seventh-day Baptist General Conference should attend the session of that body last September. We recall with much satisfaction the visit of their delegate, Professor Jonathan Allen, at our session one year since; and we express anew our earnest desire to maintain with this body of Sabbath-keepers the most friendly Christian relation. And as the most suitable manner to give effect to this feeling, we again appoint our esteemed Brother Elder James White to represent us as a delegate to this people, with power, in case of inability to attend, to appoint a substitute.

After interesting remarks by Elders J. N. Andrews and H. P. Burdick, this resolution was adopted.

4. RESOLVED, That we highly appreciate the faithful and abundant labors of Elder James White in many departments of the work as preacher, writer, general publishing agent, and editor, and also as having the care of many other matters pertaining to the advancement of the cause, and the well-being of mankind. We consider that the prosperity which has attended his management of our publishing interests fully sustains and justifies the statements of the Testimonies relative to his call to this position. And while we earnestly invite him to retain his oversight of the work of publication, we do, as an act of justice, request him to take a furlough that shall be sufficient to enable him fully to recover his wonted strength. We judge that a much smaller amount of business might be well for some months to come, and that this could be placed in the hands of others, who should act with his counsel. Adopted.

5. RESOLVED, That we re-affirm our abiding confidence in the Testimonies of Sister White to the church, as the teaching of the Spirit of God, and that we have each year continual and growing evidence that they are such. Adopted.

6. A sixth resolution touching the Health reform, after remarks by Brethren Waggoner, White, and Burdick, was recommitted to the committee for a revision of its phraseology.

7. RESOLVED, That we express our deep interest in the work of Brother Matteson in carrying the truth to the Danes and Norwegians in our country, and that we assure him of our sympathy and support. Adopted.

8. WHEREAS, God has shown that there should be picked men at the heart of the work, and,

WHEREAS, Heretofore the cause has suffered for the lack of such men who would help to bear burdens, and,

WHEREAS, We think there are those among us who would please God and relieve his overtasked servants by coming and helping in such things as they could do, therefore,

RESOLVED, That a committee of three be appointed to select such men to remove to Battle Creek, as they shall think duty calls to this place. Adopted.

9. RESOLVED, That we regret the lack of a missionary spirit among our people, and that we encourage proper men and women, especially the young, to consecrate themselves to the work of God; not simply as ministers and lecturers, but as helpers in the various departments of the cause, in organizing Sabbath-schools, visiting from house to house, circulating books, etc., where our lecturers have first opened the way. Adopted.

Adjourned to 6:30 p.m.

THIRD SESSION

This session was occupied with a general consideration of the wants of the cause in all parts of the field. Remarks were made by Brethren Pierce, White, Andrews, Haskell, Canright, Waggoner, and others. From Maine to Minnesota, and in Washington Territory, Oregon, and California, most pressing needs exist; and from all these places most urgent calls come in. Most stirring remarks were made on the duty of all to take hold of the work, and do what they can, in any manner they can, to forward the work, to avoid sectional feeling, as the cause is one, and to pray the Lord of the harvest to raise up laborers to go forth into his vineyard.

FOURTH SESSION

Wednesday, 4:30 p.m. The chair, being empowered to nominate the committee called for in Resolution 8, presented the names of the following persons, who were chosen to do the work there specified: E. H. Root, S. H. King, J. F. Carman.

FIFTH SESSION

February 11, 6 p.m. Brother H. W. Kellogg of Vermont, having arrived, presented credentials as delegate from that Conference.

The Committee on Resolutions presented Resolution 6 as amended:

RESOLVED, That while we humbly confess and deeply deplore the fact that errors have been committed in the management of the Health Institute and Health Reformer, we yet express our heartfelt thanks that they have been the means of spreading much light and doing much good in this sacred work, and we invite our people to give them their support; and we hereby pledge ourselves to unite with them all in renewing our interest in the cause of health reform. Adopted.

On motion, it was left with the General Conference Committee to secure laborers for the camp-meetings.

Fourteen camp-meetings were called for by the delegates from different states.

The President of the Conference was requested, by vote, to prepare a work on the subject of camp-meetings.

SIXTH SESSION

Sunday, 7:15 P.M. Brother Andrews spoke in regard to the Benevolent Association, formed in 1868, and read from the Review the objects for which the organization was instituted.

Brethren E. H. Root, S. H. King, and J. F. Carman were authorized to act with the General Conference Committee to induce such persons to remove to Battle Creek as can be a help in the work, and effect the removal from the place of such persons as can be of no help here.

The Library fund was left in the care of the Trustees of the Publishing Association.

Brother Harvey having to leave, Brother S. H. King was chosen to supply his place on the Auditing Committee.

SEVENTH SESSION

The chairman being empowered to appoint a committee to designate certain persons to write essays on the objects of the Missionary Society, Benevolent Association, Health Reform, etc., declined to act; whereupon the matter was left with the Committee on Publications.

Brethren Andrews, Cornell, and Canright, were chosen to arrange time and subjects for the lecture course.

James White, President.

U. Smith, Secretary.

TENTH ANNUAL SESSION

Business Proceedings

Of the Tenth Annual Session of the General Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists

December 29, 1871

Conference convened, at Battle Creek, Michigan, according to appointment, December 29, 1871, at 9 a.m., and was opened with the usual exercises.

The following delegates were present:

Jacob Hare and L. McCoy, of Iowa.
 E. H. Root, J. F. Carman, and S. A. McPherson, of Michigan.
 Stephen Pierce, of Minnesota.
 Oliver Mears, of Ohio.
 S. N. Haskell, of Massachusetts.
 A. C. Bourdeau, of Vermont.
 J. N. Andrews, of New York.
 P. S. Thurston and D. Downer, of Wisconsin.
 J. H. Bennet, of Illinois.
 J. H. Rogers, of Missouri.

Reports from the different State Conferences show the present standing of the General Conference to be as follows:--

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j
Maine	2	2	9	203	\$ 1046.84	\$ 5.93	\$ 1040.91	\$ 100.00	\$ 9.45
N. E. Conf.	2	1	16	300	3544.60		3544.60	550.00	350.00
Vermont	5	4	12	284	1658.00		1400.00		
New York	7	3	31	539	2861.00		2592.63	500.00	
Ohio	0	4	9	204	1115.50	150.00	965.50	150.00	234.89
Mich.&Ind.	11	14	53	1543	5779.81	1851.93	3927.88		2000.00
Wisconsin	3	8	24	640	3200.00			400.00	309.00
Illinois	2	4	12	246	1560.17		1560.17	50.00	341.60
Minnesota	2	2	9	250	990.50		990.50	100.00	
Iowa	2	4	18	400	2400.00			300.00	650.00
Kansas&Mo.	1		5						
California	2		4	130	800.00		800.00		
Swiss Mis.	1		2	62	1000.00				
Total	40	46	204	4801	\$25956.42	\$2007.86	\$16822.19	\$2150.00	
					\$3894.94				

aGeneral Conference Summary for year 1872. Names of Conferences.

bMinisters.
 cLicentiates.
 dChurches.
 eNumber of Members.
 fSystematic Benevolence Fund Pledged.
 gSystematic Benevolence Fund used by the Churches.
 hSystematic Benevolence Pledged to State Conference.
 iSystematic Benevolence Fund Pledged to General Conference.
 jSystematic Benevolence Fund on hand.

On motion, all visiting brethren were invited to participate in the deliberations of the Conference.

Brother Waggoner announced the presence of Elder N. Wardner, delegate from the Seventh-day Baptists; whereupon he was invited to take his seat with the delegates. On taking his seat, Elder Wardner remarked:--

"It is with much pleasure that I have the privilege of meeting with you. I have watched the history of your denomination with a great deal of interest; and I admire the perseverance, consecration, and earnestness, which seem to characterize all your movements. While there are some things that I, of course, do not exactly see as you do, there are many points that I do; and on these I most heartily strike hands with you. I believe that in all matters of practice, so far as practical duties are concerned, we are a unit. There are some differences of doctrine; but I cannot help indulging the fond hope that we may come nearer together than we are, by a mutual interchange of thoughts and feelings. We all profess to take the Scriptures as our only guide in faith and practice; and if we are all honest, we may come to see eye to eye, or as nearly so, as we may expect persons to do who are differently organized. I am very much interested in that despised sentiment which we all hold; that is, the Sabbath. And I attribute the interest now manifested on the subject of the Sabbath in the world, largely to your efforts. And I am happy to say that your course has served to stimulate us. I bid you God-speed in the work."

To the foregoing remarks from Brother Wardner, Brother J. N. Andrews responded as follows:--

"It gives me great pleasure this morning to greet Brother Wardner, as a delegate from the Seventh-day Baptist people; and the remarks he has made have touched my heart, as they have, no doubt yours. It was my pleasure in the month of September last, to meet with the Seventh-day Baptist brethren in their General Conference; and I am happy to be able to say to you, that I there received a brotherly and cordial greeting--a greeting such as I hope will be extended here to Brother Wardner. I there met with a large body of Sabbath-keepers, who, unlike us, have kept the Sabbath from their childhood; and there

is nothing that gives me greater pleasure than to know that the two bodies of Sabbath-keepers are drawing together. I expressed there the hope that we might be like the two wings of the same army; that instead of acting in a manner to thwart each other, we may turn our weapons against the common enemies of the truth, and co-operate together in forwarding the great cause of Sabbath reform. I am very happy to hear the remarks of Brother Wardner; and I would say to him, We reciprocate your feelings, and we wish to co-operate with you in leading men and women to the observance of the Sabbath of the Lord."

Remarks by the chairman: "Brother Andrews has expressed my feelings and the feelings of this body of Seventh-day Adventists. I wish to make a few further remarks in this direction. When we commenced the work in Maine, about a quarter of a century ago, it was from a very small beginning. Our venerable Brother Bates began to write upon the subject of the Sabbath. Brother Andrews and myself also began, as we had opportunity, to teach it. There were but a score of us. But the Seventh-day Baptists heard of us, and sent Elder S. S. Griswold away down into Oxford County in Maine to see us. We had no knowledge, really, of the Seventh-day Baptists, and we hardly knew what to say, or how to meet that effort on the part of that body to seek a mutual interest with us. We were exceedingly busy with our work; and I look back with regret upon the fact that we did not reciprocate their efforts as we should have done.

"At a later period the Corresponding Secretary of their Conference was instructed to write to me at Rochester, New York. I now see that I met that in a manner rather calculated to repulse than to encourage more fraternal feelings. And still later, men who sailed under our colors, men we could not control, and who have since apostatized, did a bad work in Pennsylvania. And as we have been pushing out, and breaking our way along, we have hardly been able to hold our own members in discipline. And while we have been urging the work forward, much of it has been a matter of experiment with us, and there have been more or less extremes on this hand and on that, as in every such case, and our people in some parts of the country have appeared to very poor advantage, sometimes, before the Seventh-day Baptists. We felt convicted some four years since that we did not sustain the proper relation to this people; and a committee was appointed to address them. Elder Andrews was on that committee, and wrote that address. The Seventh-day Baptists responded to it. And I have always regarded our movement toward them as a duty we owed to them, not only because in reference to practical truth we stand on the same platform, but because we, in our zeal in times past, have said and done some things that were calculated to alienate their feelings from us. I was very grateful that in response to that action, the Seventh-day Baptists sent Professor Jonathan Allen as a delegate to our body. His gentlemanly and Christian deportment among us won our hearts. We were also happy to learn of the cordial reception Brother Andrews met at their late Conference. This is a matter that takes hold of my feelings, and I shall be obliged to cease speaking.

"I must, however, here mention some courtesies that have been extended by them to me personally. At Milton, Wisconsin, when we were there last summer,

on the occasion of our camp-meeting, a large number of Seventh-day Baptists attended the meeting. I spoke as I usually do, touching upon the law and the Sabbath in my remarks. After the meeting, they crowded around me to extend to me the hand of friendship, one and another introducing themselves to me as Seventh-day Baptists. We were cordially received by Brother Carpenter, also, of that place. We have just returned from a visit to Westerly, Rhode Island. There we met a good reception. In the largest hall of the place, they gave us a good hearing, and manifested much interest. I had a very pleasant interview with Elder Tomlinson, who extended to me all the courtesies that could be asked of one of that denomination. The remark has been made by Brother Wardner that 'in all practical truth we are a unit.' Thank God for that. These are the main pillars. In some points of theory we may see an importance that our Seventh-day Baptist brethren do not see. We are not inclined to urge these. And we will try to remember that, on these points, they do not differ with us any further than we differ with them. The spirit of brotherly kindness, of Christian courtesy, of charity and liberality of feeling is a great deal more in harmony with the Spirit of God, than is the reverse, as manifested in contention and debate; and we shall be much more likely to be led together by the Spirit of God while cherishing happy relations than while cherishing a spirit of contention that might gender strife and division. I am very happy to know that such relations do exist; and in this I speak the sentiments of my brethren. God grant that they may continue and increase."

Minutes of the last meeting were then read and accepted.

The following committees were appointed by the chair:--

On Auditing: L. McCoy, of Iowa; and J. F. Carman, of Michigan.

On Nominations: S. N. Haskell, of Massachusetts; Jacob Hare, of Iowa; and Oliver Mears, of Ohio.

On Resolutions: Elder J. N. Andrews, Elder J. H. Waggoner, and U. Smith.

On Preaching: Elders D. T. Bourdeau, W. H. Littlejohn, and S. Pierce.

Reports from missionaries being now in order, Brother A. C. Bourdeau spoke of his labor among the French in Canada, the prosperity of the work there, and his need of French tracts to aid in spreading the truth among that people. Brother Waggoner spoke of his labors in Indiana, and the calls from Tennessee and Virginia. Brother E. B. Lane spoke for Tennessee and Indiana. Brother Matteson spoke of the cause of truth among the Danes and Norwegians, giving some very touching statements respecting the work and prospects among that people.

At the second session, 1:45 p.m., the Committee on Resolutions reported the following, which were adopted:

1. RESOLVED, That we gratefully acknowledge the providence of God in calling our attention, as a people, to truths of such priceless value as the

doctrine of the advent of our Lord at the door; the closing work of our High Priest in the heavenly sanctuary; the three messages of Revelation 14; the Sabbath and the law of God; the subject of Christian temperance; the nature and order of the work of the Judgment; the doctrine of spiritual gifts; the nature and destiny of man; the final restoration of our earth to its original excellence and glory; and the gathering together of the whole family of the redeemed at the return of our Lord in the clouds of heaven.

2. RESOLVED, that while our faith has ever led us to look with great interest upon the signs of the times, the events of the past year are peculiarly impressive; among which we enumerate the prostration of the papal civil power; the condition of the kingdoms of Europe, especially the humbling of those which have been supporters of the papacy; the present relation which Russia and Turkey sustain to each other; the work of spiritualism; the preparation for the formation of the image of Revelation 13:14, 15, in the Sunday movement; the terrible storms by sea and by land; the alarming increase of earthquakes; the fearful tidal waves; the wonderful "flame of devouring fire;" the likeness of our days, in point of crime, to those of Noah and of Lot; and finally the more extensive proclamation of the three predicted messages of warning of Revelation 14. And we express our deep conviction that all these things indicate the speedy approach of the final day, and by these things we are called upon to renew our consecration to the important and responsible work of warning our fellow-men of the judgments of God now impending.

3. RESOLVED, That it is high time that we consecrate ourselves to the work of God in a manner worthy of its exalted character. We cannot doubt the brevity of the period which remains for labor; we see our fellow-men asleep to their danger; to our hands God has entrusted the very truths which they need to understand in order to make preparation for the grand events before us; his providence has also given us great facilities for the promulgation of his truth; and we cannot doubt that he will call us to a strict account for the manner in which, as a people, we labor to save our fellow-men.

4. RESOLVED, That we recognize the wisdom of God in connecting with the doctrine of the advent at hand the practical truths of the moral law as the great standard of right by which we shall be tested in the Judgment itself; and that we express our deep gratitude to God that he has placed the work of the Third Angel's Message under the special guidance of the spirit of prophecy.

5. RESOLVED, That we express our gratification with the prosperity and future prospects of the Health Institute, in respect to its financial management, its excellent order, its success in the treatment of disease, and its moral and religious influence. That we consider that this favorable

state of the Institute is, under the blessing of God, owing to the interest taken in its behalf by Brother White, to the care and labor of the Trustees, and to the faithfulness of the physicians and helpers. And from personal observation we heartily recommend the Institute to all as worthy of their confidence and their patronage.

6. RESOLVED, That we recognize the providence of God in Brother White's being so long placed at the head of the publishing interest; that it has been, through his efficient labor and management, raised from a very small beginning to a large and prosperous work; and the result of the labor of the past three years is evidence of the capacity of the Association to do a great work when faithfully and efficiently managed. And,

7. RESOLVED, That, in view of the long and untiring labor of Brother White in the publishing department in connection with his other cares and responsibilities; and in view of our present facilities for publishing, we believe it to be just and right, and according to the mind of the Spirit of God, that Brother White should no longer labor so hard and bear so many burdens of this work; that we consider it far more important that, as a counsellor and minister, his life and strength be preserved to the cause, than that the Association should continue to increase its means to any great extent; and if the interests of our work demand a further extension of means and facilities for publishing the truth, it is better that the numerous friends of the cause supply the want from their abundance than that our most faithful and efficient laborer be utterly prostrated by over-taxing his mental and physical powers.

8. RESOLVED, That we cordially welcome the delegate of the Seventh-day Baptist General Conference, Elder Nathan Wardner; that we are happy to accept this evidence of a fraternal feeling on the part of that body which has so long stood before the world as vindicators of the integrity of God's holy law. And we rejoice that there is even one religious body in our land that we are able to meet on common ground on the important subject of the Sabbath of the Lord our God.

Pending the adoption of this resolution, Elder Wardner remarked:--

"I wish to express my gratitude, and appreciation of the sentiment of that resolution. And I wish to say that we were very glad indeed to welcome Brother Andrews, as your delegate to our General Conference. He made a very favorable impression upon us; and I am glad to think that, as a denomination, we were enabled to look upon you in a different light from what many of us had ever been able to look upon you before. And we hope that this fraternal feeling will continue. The next General Conference of our body is to convene with the church of which I am pastor. In connection with the Conference will be held

the bi-centennial celebration of the existence of our denomination in America. We expect the exercises will be of great interest. Important papers will be presented by those who have been appointed to prepare them. We hope to be able to welcome a delegate from your body at that time, and many others of your people who may find it convenient to attend. We have an influence over each other. You attribute to us, somewhat, the beginning of the Sabbath work among you, one of our sisters having introduced it to your people. We attribute to one of your sisters the commencement of a very important movement among us. This sister came to teach school in the southern part of Illinois, in the neighborhood of a Brother Kelly. This brother had learned while in the army, from some papers we had sent there, that there was such a denomination as Seventh-day Baptists. When this sister went to board in his house, he wanted to know why her practice differed from that of others. She was free to tell him. He found that he could not answer the arguments. Some points not being altogether satisfactory to his mind, he turned toward the Seventh-day Baptists, with the thought that perhaps he would there find views which he could more readily entertain. After some efforts by way of correspondence, he finally obtained some of our publications, and learned more of us as a people. At length he wrote to me, and wished me to come down and help him in his work, as he was engaged in the work of the ministry. A violent persecution arose against him on account of his change of views with regard to the Sabbath. He was gagged, and not allowed to speak in defense of his course, and was separated from his church, and so disposed of. Soon there was a sufficient number of Sabbath-keepers to form a little church in his neighborhood, which Brother L. Andrus helped him to organize. The next winter I assisted him to organize another church in another neighborhood. The work spread, and, in short, as the result of the movement, commenced by the faithfulness of that Seventh-day Adventist sister, nine Baptist ministers have embraced the Sabbath, four churches are organized, and one more is about ready for organization. So we cannot help but strike hands if we would; and let us not try to help it. The time is coming when we shall have to suffer together for our faith; and we might as well begin to sympathize with each other now. Let brotherly love continue."

Resolutions were still further presented and adopted as follows:

9. RESOLVED, That we deem it duty to especially acknowledge the hand of God in planting the truth in Switzerland; and that we feel very deep interest in the promotion of the work in that country, and will, so far as the providence of God shall open our way, do what lies in our power to assist in the spread of the truth in that country and in other countries of Europe.

10. RESOLVED, That we cordially invite our young men who have the cause of God at heart, and who are constrained by the love of Christ so to do, to

present themselves as candidates for the ministry.

11. RESOLVED, That we still cherish the subject of Christian temperance as represented in the health reform as every way worthy of the attention and regard of Christian men and women; and we consider it an important part of our present work of preparation, whereby God's people may be purified and strengthened to pass through the perils of the last days and fitted for translation at the appearing of our Lord.

12. RESOLVED, That in view of the great saving of money, and the increase of health and strength, and of the general blessing of God enjoyed by us as a people, because of adopting the health reform, we hereby recommend that ten thousand dollars be raised as a thank-offering, to be used as a fund for the issuing of health publications.

13. WHEREAS, The providence of God has thrown multitudes of foreigners into our land, where we may reach them with the present truth without the labor and expense of foreign missionary work, therefore

RESOLVED, That we will, with renewed interest and zeal, take hold of the work of missions among the foreign born population of this land, not only for their own sakes, but as one of the most efficient means of spreading to other lands a message which is to go to many nations, kindreds, tongues, and peoples.

14. WHEREAS, At the time when the Association was formed, Brother White voluntarily transferred to it the ownership of the Adventist Review, and for this received nothing; and

WHEREAS, After the period of serious loss sustained by the Publishing Association in other hands, it has, since its return to his management, shown a large increase in its assets, the direct result, under God, of his wise management and his severe labor, therefore

RESOLVED, That the time has now come when it is clearly the duty of the Association to perform an act of justice in paying Brother White the full value of what he freely gave into the hands of the Association in transferring the Review to that body.

On motion, the chair appointed the following brethren a committee on wills: W. H. Littlejohn, James Harvey, L. P. Bailey.

The Committee on Nominations reported the following-named persons as the officers of the General Conference for the coming year, who were thereupon elected to the offices named: President, George I. Butler; Secretary, U. Smith; Treasurer, Mrs. A. P. Van Horn; Conference Committee, George I. Butler, of Iowa; Ira Abbey, of New York; and S. N. Haskell, of Massachusetts.

The Treasurer's report for the past year was presented as follows:--

Cash on hand February 1, 1871-----	\$ 453.36
Amount received during the year-----	<u>3620.45</u>
Total-----	4073.81
Total amount paid out during the year-----	3156.82
Balance on hand December 25, 1871-----	916.99

A. P. Van Horn, Treasurer

On motion, it was voted to hold a general camp-meeting in the southern part of Michigan, about the first of June, 1872.

On motion, Elder James White was chosen as our delegate to the next General Conference of the Seventh-day Baptists, with Elder J. H. Waggoner alternate.

At the sixth and seventh sessions, motions were made and unanimously carried, to the following effect:

1. The case of G. S. West, as set forth in a communication received from him, was referred for adjudication to the General Conference Committee for 1872.

2. The Michigan and Indiana Conference was recommended to divide, the brethren in Indiana to form a Conference by themselves, to be called the Indiana State Conference.

3. Elder D. T. Bourdeau was recommended to labor awhile in Kentucky, according to openings existing there.

4. Elder Wardner was requested to furnish for publication in the Review the sermon preached by him before the Conference, on first-day forenoon.

5. The action of the Iowa Conference in sending Brethren Osborn and Hare to labor in Kentucky, was approved.

6. The President elect of this Conference, Elder G. I. Butler, was invited to visit the Eastern States, and acquaint himself with the wants of the cause in all parts of the field.

7. It was recommended that the articles appearing at the present time in the Review, on the two-horned beast, entitled, "The United States in the Light of Prophecy," be published in book form.

8. It was recommended that the review of Preble now appearing in the Review, be published in book form; and that the first chapter, with such other matter as may be thought proper to be connected with it, be published by itself for extended circulation.

9. Elder James White was appointed to write a Conference Address, to be presented at the opening of the next General Conference.

10. The formation of Tract and Missionary Societies was recommended, and a committee appointed, with brother Haskell to assist, in perfecting a plan for their formation.

W. H. Littlejohn, J. N. Andrews, J. H. Waggoner, and I. D. Van Horn, were named as said Committee.

11. The Conference voted to send out Brother Matteson as a missionary among the Danes and Norwegians and become responsible for any deficiency in his pay from the different States.

12. Brother Littlejohn was recommended to employ a person to attend him, and the General Conference voted to become responsible for the expense.

At the eighth session, January 3, at nine o'clock a.m., the committee on Tract Societies reported. Their report was accepted, and it was left with them to prepare a constitution and plan of operation for such societies, for publication.

The matter of courses of instruction, for those designing to enter the ministry in the different States, was referred to the General Conference Committee.

In view of the urgent calls for labor in the East and South, the question was raised whether Brother M. E. Cornell should not be recalled from California.

The matter was referred to the General Conference Committee.

The matter of translating some of our works into the German language was taken up, and left in the hands of the General Conference Committee.

Brother R. J. Lawrence was advised to labor in the Missouri and Kansas Conference the coming year.

The report from Switzerland was read, whereupon it was voted and carried,
 1. That we accept it with gratitude. 2. That it be published in the Review.
 3. That the General Conference Committee respond to it.

After a report from Brother Bourdeau respecting the French Mission, it was voted that the General Conference assume the responsibility of sustaining the Vermont Conference in supporting labor among the French Canadians.

On motion, it was voted to extend to William S. Ingraham, the sympathy of the Conference in his affliction, and to recommend to the Directors of the Health Institute to invite him to spend two or three months at the Institute.

It was recommended that Elder I. D. Van Horn spend two weeks in Mendon, Ohio, and that the Ohio Conference invite Brother O. Mears to visit and labor for the churches in that Conference.

It was recommended that Brother D. M. Canright spend a considerable portion of the coming year in Minnesota.

Adjourned sine die.

James White, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

Proceedings of the Eleventh Annual Meeting
of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

March 11, 1873

Conference convened, according to appointment, in Battle Creek, Michigan, March 11, 1873, at 9 a.m.

Prayer by Brother Andrews. The following delegates were present:--

New England Conference: S. N. Haskell.
Vermont: A. S. Hutchins.
New York and Pennsylvania: E. B. Gaskell, H. Lindsay.
Ohio: Oliver Mears.
Michigan: H. S. Woolsey, I. D. Van Horn, P. Strong.
Indiana: Isaac Zirkle.
Wisconsin: O. H. Pratt.
Illinois: R. F. Andrews.
Iowa and Nebraska: R. M. Kilgore, George I. Butler.
Minnesota: D. M. Canright.
Kansas and Missouri: T. J. Butler.
California: James White.
Swiss Mission: J. Matteson.

By vote, all the friends of the cause present were invited to participate in the deliberations of the Conference.

Minutes of last meeting read and accepted.

State Conference reports show the following exhibit of the standing of the General conference at the present time:--

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j
Maine	1	2	9	178	\$1102.13		\$ 1102.13	\$ 100.00	\$ 45.49
N.E. Conf.	2	1	15	325	3000.00		3000.00	600.00	800.00
Vermont	5	5	14	323	1780.22		1780.22	75.00	
N.Y. & Pa.	9	1	34	656	3785.15	378.51	3406.64	957.49	
Ohio	1	4	9	185	1479.59	123.43	1356.07	250.00	310.00
Michigan	13	19	54	1616	6528.72	2615.86	3912.86	1500.00	1906.88

Indiana		5	150	1000.00		1000.00	100.00	482.88
Wisconsin	3	17	25	650	2517.20	500.00	2017.20	1.00
Illinois	3	7	12	260	1600.00	200.00	1400.00	
Minnesota	2	7	15	400	2000.00		2000.00	100.00
Iowa & Neb.	8	9	30	700	3118.00	623.00	2495.00	1138.20
Kansas & Mo.	1	10	6	120	375.00		375.00	100.00
California	2	1	7	238	2151.57		2151.57	
Swiss Mission	1		4	74	250.00		250.00	
Total	51	83	239	5875	\$30687.49	\$4440.80	\$26246.69	\$3582.49 \$4884.45

aGeneral Conference Summary for Year 1873. Names of Conferences.

bMinisters.

cLicentiates.

dChurches.

eNumber of Members.

fSystematic Benevolence Fund Pledged.

gSystematic Benevolence Fund used by the Churches.

hSystematic Benevolence Fund Pledged to State Conferences.

iSystematic Benevolence Fund Pledged to General Conference.

jSystematic Benevolence Fund on hand.

The address to be presented by Brother White was made the special order for the opening of the afternoon session.

On motion, the following committees were appointed by the chair:

On Auditing. Harmon Lindsay, O. Mears.

On Nominations. J. N. Andrews, D. M. Canright, A. S. Hutchins.

On Resolutions. U. Smith, J. N. Andrews, J. H. Waggoner.

On Preaching. H. S. Woolsey, Harmon Lindsay, E. B. Gaskill.

On motion, a committee of three was appointed to report improvements in the general workings of our Conference. The following persons were appointed by the chair as that committee: J. N. Andrews, U. Smith, H. S. Woolsey.

Reports from missionaries being called for, the following brethren responded: Brother White, Brother Canright, Brother Matteson.

Adjourned to 2:30 p.m.

SECOND SESSION

Met according to adjournment. Prayer by Elder D. M. Canright. Brother White not being present, the regular business, hearing reports from missionaries, was resumed. Elder S. N. Haskell spoke in reference to his labors in New England and New York. Brother White then followed with an

interesting and stirring address.

THIRD SESSION

Prayer by S. N. Haskell. Elder S. Burdick was received as delegate from the Seventh-day Baptist General Conference. Remarks by Elders Andrews and White. Brother Matteson spoke further of the Danish Mission, followed by Brother Rasmussen.

The question of brethren moving to Battle Creek, was introduced. Brother White stated that the thing was working slow but well. Brother Andrews spoke, Brother Butler followed. The question was referred to a committee of three, appointed by the chair, as follows: J. N. Andrews, D. M. Canright, R. M. Kilgore.

The matter of the school was introduced and discussed by Brother Andrews and referred to the General Conference Committee, they to report to this Conference some steps to be taken to accomplish the object in view.

Adjourned to 2:30 p.m.

FOURTH SESSION

Met according to adjournment. Prayer by Brother White. The Committee on Nominations reported the following brethren for the officers of the Conference the coming year, who were thereupon unanimously elected: President, George I. Butler; Secretary, U. Smith; Treasurer, E. B. Gaskell; Conference Committee, George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, Harmon Lindsay.

The Committee on Resolutions reported the following, which were adopted:--

RESOLVED, That we greatly rejoice in the success of missionary labor in its various branches. The wonderful conversions which have taken place from the reading of our publications should stimulate all to renewed efforts in the work of the Tract and Missionary Society. And the success of the Danish Mission encourages us to make more earnest efforts to present the truth to people of other tongues.

RESOLVED, That we regard the Health Reform as an important part of our work, and that we learn with great pleasure of the prosperity of the Health Institute, which we believe is designed of Providence to exert a great influence, not only in healing the sick, but in imparting light and knowledge on the subject of our responsibility to regard the laws of our being.

RESOLVED, That we regard it as the imperative duty of Seventh-day Adventists to take immediate steps for the formation of an Educational Society, and the establishment of a denominational school.

RESOLVED, That while steps should be taken to secure a good moral influence in the community where the school shall be located, as a safeguard to its best interests, some provision should also be made to guard the community (as well as the school) against evil influences which may be imported in the persons of unsanctified and ungovernable pupils; and we therefore recommend that those who have charge of the school shall require a certificate, from proper sources, that the applicants for admission are persons suitable to be received into the school, and that whenever their course is detrimental to the school, or the community, they shall be promptly discharged.

RESOLVED, That while we cherish a deep and abiding regard for the precious truths which have been brought out for this time, we can but esteem highly for their works' sake, those who have been instrumental in their promulgation; and we pledge ourselves to stand by and strengthen the hands of those who are called to occupy the most prominent places in this cause which we so dearly love.

The question of translating tracts into other languages, was discussed by Elder White, Elder Matteson, and Elder Jorgensen.

RESOLVED, That we recommend to the Trustees of the Publishing Association that they put forth an earnest effort to secure the preparation of a suitable series of tracts for translation into other languages, and to secure the best translators for these tracts, and also, by all possible means to oversee this work of translation, that it be done in the best manner possible.

The committee appointed to report improvements in the workings of the General Conference, submitted the following report:--

The committee to whom was referred the question, "What can be done to render our General Conference of greater interest to the mass of our people?" recommend the following as worthy of trial:--

1. That our Conference should be opened with an anniversary sermon, and that several discourses suitable to different portions of our Conference work shall be preached as introductory to those proceedings. We specify, in particular, a missionary discourse and one concerning the proper education of men for the Christian ministry. We suggest, also, the appointment of persons to speak on subjects of interest to be selected by the Conference, these appointments to be made one year in advance.

2. We propose that all the members of our churches who may be present shall be considered as members of the Conference and entitled to act as

such. This is not designed to supersede the sending of regular delegates from each Conference, nor is it designed to change the relative strength of the State Conference as each Conference in case of a contested vote shall count according to the number of delegates to which it is entitled.

This report was laid on the table.

The treasurer's report was read as follows:

TREASURER'S REPORT

Amount on hand at the time of last report, Dec. 25, 1871-----	\$ 916.99
Amount received during the year-----	<u>5624.31</u>
Total-----	\$6541.30
Amount paid out during the year-----	\$2164.67
Balance in treasury at the present time-----	\$4376.63

Mrs. A. P. Van Horn,

Treasurer.

The report was referred to the Auditing Committee.

Adjourned to call of the chair.

FIFTH SESSION

Called Thursday at 3:15 p.m. Prayer by Brother Andrews. The committee on removals to Battle Creek, reported verbally through the chairman, recommending "that this Conference request the General Conference Committee to continue the same course of action as that which has been pursued the past year, relative to removal of families to Battle Creek." Which recommendation was adopted.

The report of the committee on the workings of our Conference, which was laid on the table, was now taken up and discussed by George I. Butler, J. N. Andrews, and H. S. Woolsey. The report was amended by striking off the second recommendation, and the report was then adopted.

It was moved and carried, That the chairman appoint a committee of three to make the appointments called for in the report. The following were appointed as that committee: S. N. Haskell, U. Smith, E. B. Gaskell.

Among the papers presented to the Conference, were reports from Switzerland, Indiana, Alabama, Chicago, California, and Minnesota.

The California Conference and the Indiana Conference were received into the General Conference.

The Michigan Conference was requested to grant a request from Elder J. N. Loughborough to be transferred to California, where he is now located.

Adjourned to 9 a.m., Friday.

SIXTH SESSION

Prayer by Elder S. Burdick. The committee, to whom was referred the matter of the school, submitted the following report:--

WHEREAS, The opening fields of labor before us demand laborers who can teach the word in several languages. And,

WHEREAS, The peculiar wants of our people, in order to properly educate their sons and daughters make it necessary that we should establish a denominational school. Therefore,

RESOLVED, That while it becomes our duty to pray to the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers, we also regard it as our duty to establish a school, guarded by sound moral and religious influence, where those who give themselves to the work of the Lord may discipline their minds to study, and at least qualify themselves to read, speak, and write the English language correctly; where our people can send their sons and daughters with comparative safety; and where men and women may study those languages especially now spoken by the people of those nations from whom we hope to gather a harvest of souls to the Lord:--

This resolution was adopted.

The following resolution was offered by Brother White, and was adopted:--

RESOLVED, That the establishment of the school be placed in the hands of the General Conference Committee.

The question of courses of lectures in different parts of the field was discussed by U. Smith, S. N. Haskell, R. M. Kilgore, G. I. Butler, R. F. Andrews, P. Z. Kinne, and James White, who offered the following resolution which was adopted:--

RESOLVED, That with great pleasure we consider the subject of Biblical Lectures by Brother Uriah Smith in the several divisions of the wide field, and, with deep interest for the success of the enterprise, confide it to the management of the General Conference Committee to make the proper arrangements with Brother Smith and with the State Conferences that shall desire the lectures.

Adjourned to 2:30 p.m.

SEVENTH SESSION

Prayer by Brother Haskell. The wants of the different Conferences were considered. Brother Canright spoke for Minnesota, Brother Haskell for New England, Brother White for California, Brother Hutchins for Vermont, R. M. Kilgore for Iowa, Brother Mears and T. J. Butler for Ohio, R. F. Andrews, Brother White, and Brother Matteson, for Illinois, Brother Zirkle, Brother Butler, Brother Carpenter, Brother Waggoner, Brother Lane, and Brother White, for Indiana and Tennessee. Sister White for the general interests of the cause.

Adjourned to call of the chair.

EIGHTH SESSION

Prayer by Elder R. F. Andrews. Tract work called up for discussion. Remarks were made by G. I. Butler, J. N. Andrews, S. N. Haskell, P. Z. Kinne, R. M. Kilgore, O. H. Pratt, D. M. Canright, I. D. Van Horn, R. F. Andrews.

On motion, it was recommended that Elder S. N. Haskell visit the different Conferences, to labor in Tract and Missionary work.

On motion, the appointment of a delegate to the next session of the Seventh-day Baptist General Conference was left with the General Conference Committee, they to appoint a suitable person in season for that meeting in September next. The Committee on Resolutions presented the following, which were adopted:--

RESOLVED, That we consider it a serious mistake on the part of some of our ministers, that without first consulting with our General Conference Committee, they make long journeys, and incur much unnecessary expense in finding their fields of labor.

RESOLVED, That, while we acknowledge that the prosperity of the Publishing Association is due to the untiring interest and labors of Brother White, we cannot overlook the fact, that with this is connected the prosperity of the work in every department; and while, in the providence of God, others are raised up to assist in bearing the burdens of labor, we trust that Brother White will, under the sanction of the General Conference, be free to occupy that position in the future, as far as his strength will permit, that God has so evidently

called him to occupy in the past, not to labor to the exhausting of his strength as heretofore, but to act as counselor, and to give to the cause the benefit of his mature judgment and experience.

RESOLVED, That we express our thanks for the labors of Brother and Sister White during this Conference, and that we renew our expressions of confidence in the Bible doctrine of Spiritual Gifts, and of our appreciation, in some degree, of the kindness and mercy of God in favoring this people with the Testimonies of his Spirit to the church.

On motion, it was recommended to state conference committees to purchase one or more small tents, of 30 or 40 ft. diameter, to be used by licentiates in efforts to reach the people in small districts during the summer months. The following resolutions were then adopted:--

RESOLVED, That we express, as the judgment of the General Conference, the opinion that those who go out to preach should not seek to provoke discussion or controversy, but, rather, should give themselves to the work of setting forth the truth of God in its simplicity and its power.

WHEREAS, In the wise providence of God, our venerable Father Bates has been called to close his earthly labors and to sleep in death,

RESOLVED, That we express our high appreciation of his long and useful life, filled up with noble and self-sacrificing efforts to advance the cause of Christ, and that we hold his memory in affectionate remembrance, and commend the example of his life to the ministers of Christ.

RESOLVED, That we again express our pleasure in receiving to our Conference the delegate from the Seventh-day Baptists, and we hope that by means of such friendly intercourse there may arise a more fraternal feeling between the two bodies of Christians who are united in the great object of proclaiming to the world the truth of the Sabbath of the Lord.

Adjourned to call of chair.

George I. Butler, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION

Business Proceedings of the Twelfth Annual

Meeting of the Seventh-day Adventist General Conference

November 14, 1873

The Seventh-day Adventist General Conference held its twelfth annual meeting, according to appointment, in Battle Creek, Michigan, November 14, 1873. The President, George I. Butler, in the chair. Opening prayer by J. N. Andrews.

Delegates being called for, the following responded:--

Elder R. F. Andrews, Illinois.
 P. Z. Kinne, New York.
 James Harvey, Indiana.
 Elder S. N. Haskell, New England.
 Elder James White, California.
 A. Vuilleumier, Swiss Mission.
 Elder John Matteson, Danish Mission.
 Elder George I. Butler, Iowa.
 Oliver Mears, Ohio.

The smallness of the number of delegates present was owing to the shortness of the notice, which did not give all time to appoint delegates in due form. Brethren being present from different parts of the field,

On motion, it was voted that the President appoint from those present, persons to act as delegates from the different Conferences. The following were appointed:--

D. A. Robinson to act for Maine.
 A. S. Hutchins to act for Vermont.
 C. Comings to act for New England.
 Elder J. N. Andrews to act for New York.
 Elder J. H. Waggoner, Elder I. D. Van Horn, Harmon Kenyon, Harmon Lindsay,
 A. W. Maynard, Ira Abbey, to act for Michigan.
 Elder John Matteson to act for Wisconsin.
 William Ings to act for Iowa.

Brother White made remarks explaining the call for a Conference at the present time. It was for the purpose of arranging matters preparatory to extending the work on the Pacific Coast, sending a missionary to Switzerland, etc.

Minutes of last meeting read and accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Amount on hand at the time of last report, March 3, 1873-----\$4376.63
 Amount received since last report----- 4663.00

Total-----	\$9039.63
Amount paid out since last report-----	4879.88
Balance on hand, November 12, 1873-----	\$4159.75

E. B. Gaskell, Treasurer.

On motion, it was referred to the Conference Committee to determine at what points in the meeting the annual addresses appointed at last Conference should be presented.

On motion, the president appointed the following committees:--

On Auditing: Oliver Mears, Ira Abbey.

On Nominations: I. D. Van Horn, P. Z. Kinne, James Harvey.

On Resolutions: J. N. Andrews, J. H. Waggoner, John Matteson.

On Preaching: The preachers present.

Reports from laborers being called for, responses were made by Brother Matteson, respecting the work among the Scandinavians. Many items of interest and encouragement were mentioned. Brother White related many interesting incidents of his sojourn the past summer in Colorado.

Adjourned to 2 p.m.

SECOND SESSION

Met according to adjournment, and listened to the opening discourse by Elder James White, based on the 10th chapter of Revelation.

THIRD SESSION

Sunday, 4 p.m. Prayer by Elder S. N. Haskell.

Committee on Nominations reported by suggesting the following persons as officers of the Conference the coming year, who were unanimously elected:--

President: Elder George I. Butler, Mount Pleasant, Iowa.

Secretary: Syndey Brownsberger, Battle Creek, Michigan.

Treasurer: E. B. Gaskell, Battle Creek, Michigan.

Conference Committee: George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, Harmon Lindsay.

The General Conference Committee reported through the chairman in reference to the matter committed to their hands by the last Conference in reference to inducing proper persons to move to Battle Creek. He reported a number of families brought in, in this manner. Their action was approved by vote of the

Conference.

On motion, the Committee were requested to continue their action for the year to come.

The Conference Committee, having been intrusted with the matter of raising funds for a denominational school, reported through the chairman. Fifty-two thousand dollars have been pledged.

Most of the session was taken up with remarks by various persons.

Adjourned to call of the President.

FOURTH SESSION

The report of the Committee on Resolutions being called for, they reported the following, which were adopted:--

1. RESOLVED, That God has committed to us as a people two great truths which he holds us responsible to set before our fellow men, viz., the doctrine of the near advent of Christ, and that of the commandments of God, and the holy Sabbath.

2. RESOLVED, That while we must ever feel an interest in those who are looking for the return of the Lord, we deeply regret the opposition of many of the Advent people to the Sabbath and the law of God; and we cherish toward them no spirit of contention or of bitterness, but hope that with many of them a more candid spirit toward these great truths may yet prevail.

3. RESOLVED, That we recognize in the Seventh-day Baptists a people whom God has highly honored in making them in past ages the depositaries of his law and Sabbath, and that we desire, so far as practicable, to co-operate with them in leading men to the conscientious observance of the commandments of God.

4. RESOLVED, That we fully indorse the position taken in the paper read by Elder Butler on Leadership. And we express our firm conviction, that our failure to appreciate the guiding hand of God in the selection of his instruments to lead out in this work has resulted in serious injury to the prosperity of the cause, and in spiritual loss to ourselves. And we hereby express our full purpose of heart faithfully to regard these principles, and we invite all our brethren to unite with us in this action.

5. RESOLVED, That our confidence is increased in the gift of the spirit of prophecy which God has so mercifully placed in the third angel's message; and that we will endeavor to maintain an affectionate regard for its presence and its teachings; and we hereby request our Executive Committee to prepare or cause to be prepared a work giving our reasons for believing the testimonies of Sister White to be the teachings of the Holy Spirit.

6. RESOLVED, That we behold the wisdom and goodness of God in the reforms

which he has introduced among this people. And with deep regret we have noticed a declension from both the health and dress reforms. And we entreat our people to arouse and to make these subjects matters of conscience, and to take that stand which will make us an example to the world, and secure the approbation of God.

7. RESOLVED, That we feel the deepest interest in the work among people of other tongues, and recommend to our Executive Committee to take steps for the speedy publication of tracts and periodicals in other languages; and we heartily indorse the suggestion of Brother White, not to wait for the cause to grow so strong among them that they can pay for these works, but to move out by faith as was done in the first publication of the Review and Herald, believing that the true method of extending the cause in that direction is to furnish them with present truth publications.

8. RESOLVED, That we recommend to the officers of the different state conferences, who arrange the quarterly meetings and missionary labor among the churches, to see that labor is bestowed upon the churches of other tongues in their State the same as upon those of our own nationality.

9. RESOLVED, That as a Conference we express our sincere approval of the action of our Executive Committee during the past year, involving, as it has, peculiar responsibilities in respect to the advancement of the work of God, and making more definite and plain the principles which should govern our action, as a people, and we believe that in these things they have had the special guidance of the Holy Spirit.

10. RESOLVED, That we consider it for the interests of the Tract and Missionary Societies to so consolidate their system by some general organization, that at the General Conference each Conference society may be represented, and thus uniformity of action be secured.

Amendment. That the General Conference Committee be requested to prepare a plan to secure the object herein mentioned.

Passed as amended.

A letter from the Missouri Conference was read by the president, and referred to the General Conference Committee for such action as they shall think is demanded.

On motion, the president was authorized to appoint a committee of four to act with the Executive Committee of the Conference, in the formation of an Educational Society preparatory to the establishment of a denominational school.

The following persons were appointed: James White, Ira Abbey, J. N. Andrews, and Uriah Smith.

The General Conference Committee were instructed by vote of the Conference to appoint a delegate to the Seventh-day Baptist General Conference, in season for its next session.

Adjourned.

George I. Butler, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

Proceedings of the Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

August 10, 1874

Conference convened according to appointment on the camp-ground, Battle Creek, Michigan, August 10, 1874, 9 a.m.

The president, George I. Butler, in the chair. Prayer by J. N. Andrews. The president stated some reasons for the call of the Conference, and requested delegates to present their credentials. The following responded:--

U. Smith, J. S. Wicks, R. J. Lawrence, Ira Abbey, S. H. King, and D. R. Palmer, Michigan.

Harrison Grant, Minnesota.

P. Z. Kinne and J. N. Andrews, New York.

Elder James White, California.

James Harvey, Indiana.

A. A. Hutchins, Ohio.

Henry Nicola, Iowa.

As Iowa is entitled to three delegates, and as other Conferences had no representation, the notice being too short to allow the appointment of delegates in due form, by vote of the Conference the following persons were appointed to act as delegates from those not fully represented:--

S. N. Haskell, New England.

A. S. Hutchins, Vermont.

Benn Auten and W. P. Andrews, Iowa.

S. Howland, Maine.

A. Vuilleumier, Swiss Mission.

By vote all brethren of good standing were invited to engage in the deliberations of the Conference. Minutes of twelfth session read and approved. Delegates from other religious bodies were called for.

Brother L. C. Rogers, delegate from the Seventh-day Baptist General Conference, responded. He read from the minutes of the last General Conference of Seventh-day Baptists, his appointment as delegate to this Conference and also the Report of their delegate to the Twelfth Annual Meeting of Seventh-day Adventists General Conference. Brother Rogers expressed his desire to make further statements during the course of the sessions. A response of welcome was delivered by J. N. Andrews, and by vote of the Conference, Brother Rogers was received.

The Conference empowered the president to appoint the usual standing committees. The following appointments were announced by the chair:-- Nominating Committee, Ira Abbey, Harmon Lindsay, and Benn Auten. Auditing Committee, P. Z. Kinne, S. H. King. On Resolutions, U. Smith, J. N. Andrews, and S. N. Haskell.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash on hand November 12, 1873-----	\$4159.75	
Received during the year-----	<u>2318.24</u>	
Total-----		\$6477.99
Paid out-----	<u>4557.53</u>	
Balance on hand-----		\$1920.46

E. B. Gaskell, Treasurer.

Report referred to Auditing Committee.

Adjourned to call of President.

SECOND SESSION, AUGUST 12, 1874, 9 A.M.

President, George I. Butler called the meeting to order, followed by usual opening exercises.

Minutes of previous session read and approved after slight corrections. The president introduced the tract and missionary cause for the deliberation of the Conference. He made some very interesting statements in regard to its importance, and read a plan of action as a basis for effecting a general organization. Elder S. N. Haskell spoke of the necessity of a more complete organization, and read some reports of the work accomplished by the Tract and

Missionary Societies in the different Conferences. Elder James White spoke urgently in favor of a general system of action. Elder S. N. Haskell followed with some interesting statements of the results of the distribution of tracts.

This being the last session of the Conference that Brother L. C. Rogers would attend, he was invited by the president to use the time of the Conference.

He delivered a stirring address, replete with good feeling and unity now existing between the two bodies of Sabbath-keepers, and expressed his earnest resolve to exert his energies to maintain these friendly relations, and encourage a closer union of labor and love.

J. N. Andrews, in behalf of Seventh-day Adventists, spoke in response. Elder James White expressed feelings of humiliation because of the frankness of the address of Brother Rogers. The responses of Elder J. N. Andrews and Elder James White, reciprocating the good feeling expressed by Brother Rogers, and a good-bye and hearty God-speed extended to him, were seconded by a unanimous vote of the brethren.

Adjourned to call of president.

THIRD SESSION, AUGUST 13, 1874, 9 A.M.

Prayer by Elder S. N. Haskell. Committee on Nomination reported the following: for president, Elder James White, Battle Creek, Michigan; secretary, U. Smith, Battle Creek, Michigan; treasurer, Harmon Lindsay, Battle Creek, Michigan; General Conference Committee, Elders James White, George I. Butler, and S. N. Haskell.

The report was accepted and the persons suggested were unanimously elected.

The Conference resumed the consideration of the tract and missionary cause. Second reading of the plan for a general organization was called for. After the reading and some discussion, it was referred to a committee of five, appointed by the chair, for revision, to be reported at the next session. The following brethren were appointed as said committee: James White, J. N. Andrews, U. Smith, P. Z. Kinne, and Henry Nicola.

The president reported progress in the school enterprise, and congratulated the Conference on the great success that had attended the efforts to establish a denominational school. The report of Committee on Resolutions was read and accepted.

After discussion of the resolutions by Elders James White, J. N. Andrews, and George I. Butler, the first, third, and fourth were adopted as given

below, and the second referred to Elder White for revision, to be reported at the next session. The Conference then listened to an address from Elder White in regard to the progress of the cause on the Pacific Coast. Adjourned.

FOURTH SESSION, AUGUST 15, 1874, 7:30 P.M.

Prayer by J. N. Andrews. Minutes of previous session read and approved. The report of the committee to revise the plan for a general organization of tract and missionary labor, was read and accepted. After discussion of plan by Elders White and S. N. Haskell, the report, suggesting the following plan of organization, was adopted by vote of the Conference.

GENERAL ORGANIZATION OF THE TRACT AND MISSIONARY SOCIETY

At our last General Conference the following resolution was passed:--

"RESOLVED, That we consider it for the interests of the Tract and Missionary Society to so consolidate their system by some general organization that at the General Conference each Conference Society may be represented, and thus uniformity of action be secured. And that the General Conference Committee be requested to prepare a plan to secure the object herein mentioned."

In response to this resolution, your committee offer the following: That this general organization be known as the General Conference Tract and Missionary Society of Seventh-day Adventists.

The officers of this Society shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and general agent. These shall constitute the Executive Board, who shall have the general management of the affairs of this Society.

It shall be the duty of the president to preside at each annual meeting of the Society, and to look after the general interests of the Society to see that there is uniformity of action throughout the entire organization. He shall see that an effort is made in each Conference Tract Society to do their proportion in raising means for different enterprises connected with the cause. He shall see that publications are supplied to individuals and companies of Sabbath-keepers or those who may be inquiring after the truth throughout the world, wherever in the judgment of the Executive Board it may be duty to send them. He shall see that proper blanks are gotten up and furnished to each Conference Tract and Missionary Society in season to report to the annual Tract meeting which shall be held in connection with each General Conference. He shall see that such documents as may be needed to give a better understanding of the work, are furnished to the various Conference Societies. He shall

superintend the raising of sufficient funds for sending matter to those outside of the limits of the Tract Society, and for all other purposes decided to be necessary by the annual meeting of the General Conference Tract and Missionary Society or by the Executive Board.

The duty of the vice-president shall be to act in absence of the president.

The duty of the secretary shall be to keep a record of the doings of each annual meeting of the Society; to keep a summary of all the annual reports of each Conference Tract Society and to make a report of the same and other matters of interest to every annual meeting of the Society; to make an account of all money paid to the general treasury and to give credit to the individuals or Conference Tract Societies from whom the money is received. He shall keep a strict account of all monies paid out, and for what purpose. If publications are sent to different parts of the world, he shall keep a record of where sent and the number of pages. He shall make it a special point to correspond with those in any part of the world outside of the boundaries of the various Conference Tract Societies wherever it may be deemed advisable by the Executive Board for the advancement of the cause of present truth, always preserving the addresses of the parties. He shall have a correspondence with the various Conference Societies and be prepared to give such information as properly pertains to the work of the general Society from time to time. If any discrepancy in business occurs between the Conference Secretaries and the Office of publication they may be referred to the General Secretary for him to assist in bringing about an understanding.

The secretary's books shall be open to the inspection of the General Conference Committee or any authorized agent of a Conference Tract Society, and they shall be so kept that any information pertaining to the general workings of the Society may be obtained.

The treasurer shall receive and account for all moneys paid into the general treasury of the Society, and pay out the same by the order of the other members of the Executive Board. He shall make a report at each annual meeting of the Society.

It shall be the duty of the Executive Board, in harmony with the General Conference Committee to call annual meetings of the Society and to oversee the general interests of the Society, and they may appoint corresponding agents or colporteurs wherever in their judgment it will be for the furtherance of the cause of present truth, and contribute such support to assist them in their work as in their judgment duty shall require. And they may devise such plans for raising means for the purchase of publications and the distribution of reading matter and other missionary purposes as in their judgment will make this Society efficient to accomplish the objects of its organization.

Every annual meeting of this Society shall be held in connection with the sessions of the General Conference, as the Executive Board may appoint.

Each Conference Tract Society shall be entitled to one delegate in the annual meetings of the General Society if they have two hundred members or less; and an additional delegate for every two hundred members.

The annual meeting shall elect the Executive Board for each ensuing term, and may transact such other business as may be for the interest of the Society.

The Constitution may be changed at any regularly called annual meeting, by a two-thirds' vote, of the delegates present.

In case of the death or resignation of any member of the Executive Board, between the sessions of the general meeting of the Society, said vacancy may be filled by the General Conference Committee. This General Conference of 1874 may appoint the officers of the Society for the present term. Each annual meeting of the Society may decide whether the members of the Executive Board shall receive salaries and how much each member shall receive.

At each annual meeting of the Society an Auditor shall be appointed to examine into the accounts and moneys of the Treasurer and report to the Society their condition.

The following officers were elected to serve in the General Tract and Missionary Society for the coming year:--president, Elder James White; vice-president, George I. Butler; treasurer, Benn Auten; business agent, S. N. Haskell. The appointment of secretary was referred to the General Conference Committee.

The report of the committee to revise the second resolution was read and accepted. after some remarks by Elder White in explanation of the resolution, the resolution, as revised, was adopted. The resolutions as adopted by the Conference are as follows:--

RESOLVED, That we hail with joy the cheering reports of the progress of the work on the Pacific Coast, and approve of the action of Elder James White in establishing a much-needed paper in the interests of the present truth in that section of our country. And,

WHEREAS, The cause west of the Rocky Mountains is new, and its friends comparatively few, and Brother White should not be left to bear the burden of conducting an Office there on his own financial responsibility, therefore

RESOLVED, That we recommend to the Trustees of the Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association to authorize Elder George I. Butler to act in behalf of

the Board at the California State Conference to be held in connection with their annual camp-meeting, October, 1874, in conferring with that Conference relative to the establishment of a branch office of publication, on the Pacific Coast.

RESOLVED, That we express our continued interest and confidence in the tract enterprise, especially in view of its workings the past year, and that we herein have additional evidence that this enterprise is to be an efficient source of prosperity in our cause.

RESOLVED, That the increasing indications of the truthfulness of our position, in the events transpiring around us in the religious and political world, and the accumulating evidences that what we have expected is soon to be fulfilled, are most cheering, and call upon us for a renewed consecration of all our powers to the sacred work of enlightening men in reference to the claims of the law of God, and warning them of impending dangers.

The interests of the Swiss Mission were introduced. The President recommended to the Conference to take some action in the matter, especially in consideration that Elder J. N. Andrews is about to take his departure to engage in the cause in Switzerland. The following resolution was adopted by the Conference:--

RESOLVED, That the General Conference, feeling the same interest in the Swiss Mission that has been expressed in former sessions, instruct the Executive Committee to send Elder J. N. Andrews to Switzerland as soon as practicable.

The propriety of establishing a paper upon the Atlantic Coast was next considered. Elder James White spoke in favor of stereotyping the pages of the Review, and sending one plate to the Pacific and another to the Atlantic Coast. On motion it was voted that we recommend to the favorable consideration of the Publishing Association the suggestions made by Elder White relative to preparing stereotype plates of the pages of the Review, and the publication of two editions. Adjourned sine die.

George I. Butler, President.
S. Brownsberger, Secretary.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

Proceedings of the Fourteenth Annual Session
of the Seventh-day Adventist General Conference

August 15, 1875

aGeneral Conference Summary for the year 1875. Names of Conference.
 bMinisters.
 cLicentiates.
 dChurches.
 eNumber of Members.
 fSystematic Benevolence Fund Pledged.
 gSystematic Benevolence Used by Churches
 hSystematic Benevolence Pledged to State Conference.
 iSystematic Benevolence Fund pledged to General Conference.
 jSystematic Benevolence Fund on hand.

Minutes of last session read and approved.

On motion, the chair appointed the following committees:--
 On Nominations, H. Nicola, E. H. Root, E. W. Whitney.
 On Resolutions, U. Smith, S. Brownsberger, J. H. Kellogg.
 On Auditing, Jerome Fargo, F. H. Chapman.

SECOND SESSION

Monday, August 16, 7:30 a.m. Prayer by Elder D. T. Bourdeau. Minutes of last session read and approved. By vote, Elder N. V. Hull, delegate from the Seventh-day Baptist General Conference, was heartily welcomed to a place in this body. Elder Hull responded with some very friendly and cordial remarks touching the relation of the body he represented, to the Seventh-day Adventists, to which Elder White in behalf of the Conference replied. By vote, all present in good standing were invited to participate in the deliberations of the Conference.

The Nominating Committee recommended the following persons as officers of the Conference the coming year:--

For president, Elder James White.
 For secretary, U. Smith.
 For treasurer, Miss Freddie House.

For Executive Committee, Elder James White, of Battle Creek, Michigan and Oakland, California; Elder J. N. Loughborough, of Oakland, California; Elder J. N. Andrews, of Neuchatel, Switzerland.

These persons were thereupon unanimously elected to the offices named.

The report of the Committee on Resolutions being called for, they presented the following, which were considered and adopted:--

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

The committee appointed to present resolutions to the Conference, suggest the following for their consideration:--

1. The School. WHEREAS, We recognize the hand of God in establishing a school in the city of Battle Creek, for the special purpose of presenting facilities, under favorable circumstances, for the thorough education of the youth of Seventh-day Adventists; and,

WHEREAS, Its establishment is unmistakable evidence that God would shield our children from the wicked influences so current in our public schools,

RESOLVED, That we hail with grateful hearts this new institution as meeting, in a measure, the providence of God.

RESOLVED, That this enterprise is worthy of our most hearty patronage, and that we do all in our power to recommend it to the friends of the cause of present truth and health reform generally.

2. The Health Reform. WHEREAS, The subject of health reform has now been agitated among us for more than half a score of years; and,

WHEREAS, We have found that the uniform result of the practical adoption of its teachings has been to increase physical, mental, and moral strength, and thus to promote spiritual growth,

RESOLVED, That we hereby express our confidence in the principles of health reform, and urge its more thorough adoption by those among us who have as yet made but little progress in this direction.

RESOLVED, That we especially urge upon our ministers the importance of this reform as a most efficient means of giving them clearness and strength of mind to present Bible truths in the most forcible and impressive manner.

RESOLVED, That, in view of the benefits which we have ourselves received from practicing the teachings of health reform, and of the intimate relation which it sustains to the general cause, we urge upon the friends of the cause everywhere greater energy in the promulgation of these truths by personal efforts in the circulation of health publications.

3. Fulfillment of Prophecy. WHEREAS, The fulfillment of the message of Revelation 14:9, which is to go to nations, tongues, and peoples, and is to be fulfilled but once, is the highest evidence of the nearness of the end; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the wonderful facts which have recently come to our knowledge relative to the springing up of the principles of this message in different parts of the world, almost without the aid of the living preacher, reveal to us, as nothing else could, the hand of God in this work, and call upon us for corresponding action.

RESOLVED, That we recommend the Executive Committee to take immediate steps to establish a printing office in Europe, to issue periodicals and publications in the French and German languages, and also to enter the openings presenting themselves in Great Britain, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Hungary, Africa, and Australia.

4. The Work on the Pacific Coast. RESOLVED, That we have great cause of gratitude, in the continued prosperity of the work on the Pacific Coast, through which already about a thousand souls in the territory between Mexico and British Columbia are rejoicing in the truth; and we recommend our people to take stock liberally in the Pacific Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association, that it may be immediately placed on a permanent basis.

RESOLVED, That we approve of the invitation extended by the Michigan Conference to Elder J. N. Loughborough, to labor for a time in Michigan, to help the suffering cause in that State.

5. Conducting Conference Sessions. RESOLVED, That, in our judgment, it would add great interest to the proceedings of our Conference, if each annual session should be opened with an anniversary sermon, pertaining to some portion of our Conference work; and, if suitable persons should be appointed to present essays, or address the Conference, upon such subjects of interest as the meeting might determine, these appointments to be made one year in advance; and we recommend that this course be pursued.

6. A Mammoth Tent. RESOLVED, That the General Conference should own a mammoth tent or pavilion, at least 80 by 120 feet, which can be used at our larger camp-meetings, or other important gatherings, as occasion may require.

7. Conference Constitution. RESOLVED, That the secretary prepare the Constitution of the General Conference, embodying all the amendments up to the present time, for publication in pamphlet form.

Respectfully submitted,

Committee,
U. Smith,
S. Brownsberger,
J. H. Kellogg.

8. Leadership. The following resolution was submitted to the Conference

by Elder George I. Butler:--

WHEREAS, In the session of the General Conference held in the autumn of 1873, a resolution was passed endorsing a tract entitled "Leadership," written by Elder Butler; and

WHEREAS, It has been shown that some of the sentiments contained in said tract were incorrect; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the resolution above referred to be, and the same is hereby rescinded.

Pending the adoption of this resolution, Elder White made very clear and forcible remarks on the subject, setting forth the manner in which his mind had been led in this matter, resulting in his writing out almost immediately the articles which subsequently appeared over his signature in the Signs and the Review, before he knew that any objection was raised against the address referred to. He also set forth ably the principles of leadership which, according to the Scriptures, must hold in the church of Christ.

It was then moved to amend the resolution by striking out its second and third clauses, and substituting in their place the following:--

"WHEREAS, Further examination has shown that some of the sentiments contained in said tract were incorrect; therefore,

"RESOLVED, That the tract referred to be placed in the hands of a committee (said committee to be appointed by this Conference) to be so revised as to correspond with the better understanding which now exists on the subject of leadership."

The amendment was carried, and the resolution as amended was then unanimously adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on Hand, at commencement		
of the year, July 31, 1874-----	\$1920.46	
Received during year-----	5515.17	
Total-----		\$7435.63
Paid out during year-----	\$6331.51	
Balance on Hand, August 9, 1875-----	1104.12	
Total-----		\$7435.63

THIRD SESSION

Prayer by Elder White. On motion, the chair appointed U. Smith, S. Brownsberger, and J. H. Kellogg, a committee of three to revise the address on "Leadership," according to Resolution No. 8.

On motion, Elder White was appointed to speak on the Wants and Progress of the Cause at our next annual meeting; S. Brownsberger, on the subject of Education; Dr. J. H. Kellogg, on the subject of Health Reform; Elder S. N. Haskell, on the subject of Tract and Missionary Operations; and Elder U. Smith, on the subject of Our Publications, in accordance with Resolution No. 5.

Adjourned to call of the chair.

James White, President.

U. Smith, Secretary.

SPECIAL MEETINGS

August, 1875

By vote, the following matter was ordered to be put upon the private records of the Conference for 1875, at the session below recorded:--[sic]

Evening session, Tuesday, August 17. Prayer by U. Smith. A brief history was given by Brother White of the embarrassments under which he had labored in connection with Brother Butler.

On motion, Elder Butler was invited to make an explanation of his course as set forth by Brother White, whereupon he responded. Brother White rejoined.

The following resolutions were then passed:--

RESOLVED, That we cannot so interpret the testimony given by Sister White to Brother Butler, as to justify the course he has taken, in withdrawing himself from important positions in this work.

RESOLVED, That we consider it very evident that this course on the part of Brother Butler, has had the effect to throw distrust over the minds of the brethren, and thus most effectually throw a weight of discouragement upon Brother White, and cripple his energies in the work. Therefore, further,

RESOLVED, That we consider that Brother White has had cause for his feelings in reference to the action of Brother Butler, and that Brother White's position in this respect, is such as to entitle him to our sympathy and support.

On motion, it was voted to appropriate one thousand dollars (\$1000) to Elder James White from the general missionary fund, toward the debt incurred by him in establishing the Signs of the Times, on the Pacific Coast.

Special session called Wednesday, August 18, at 11:30 a.m., at the church. Prayer by U. Smith.

After remarks by Brother Butler that he would accept the judgment of his brethren in his case, and try to act upon it, it was

VOTED, That we recommend that Brother Butler immediately visit Allegan County, to help affected brethren there, and that we pray that he may have the help and blessing of God in the undertaking. Adjourned sine die.

James White, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

March 31, 1876

This meeting convened, according to appointment, March 31, 1876, at 9 a.m. Singing, "Lord in the morning thou shalt hear," etc. Remarks by the president, stating some of the reasons why there is occasion for a special session of Conference at this time.

Prayer by U. Smith.

On calling for delegates, the following responded:--

James White, from California.
H. H. Van Camp, from Ohio.
B. L. Whitney, from New York.
John Fulton, from Minnesota.
O. A. Olsen, from Wisconsin.
W. B. Sprague, from Wisconsin.
J. Fargo, from Michigan.
S. Brownsberger, from Michigan.
E. H. Root, from Michigan.
J. S. Day, from Michigan.
James Harvey, from Indiana.

T. M. Steward, from Illinois.
 J. B. Goodrich, from Maine.
 J. T. Mitchell, from Iowa.
 D. T. Shireman, from Iowa.

The subject of correspondence being taken up, communications were received from the following sources: S. Osborn, in behalf of the cause in Kentucky; J. N. Ayers, in behalf of the Kansas Conference; A. S. Hutchins, in behalf of the Vermont Conference; H. A. St. John, in behalf of the Ohio Conference; J. G. Matteson, in behalf of the cause among the Norwegians, in this country and Europe; L. N. Whisby in behalf of the cause in Sweden, Europe; R. Asbury, in behalf of the cause in Virginia; also from R. D. Benham, A. Rasmussen, Mrs. L. Parker, O. M. Olds, E. D. Hoagland, Alva and Hannah Craw, C. C. Aldrich, L. D. Avery. Adjourned to call of the chair, who immediately appointed next session at 2 p.m.

SECOND SESSION

Prayer by the chairman, after singing. The session was occupied by an address from the president stating the wants of the cause, and some of the questions to come before us at this meeting. The meeting was not called to meet the emergency of any difficulties that are pressing upon us and threatening to distract and divide us; for there is nothing of the kind. There never was a stronger influence for unity among us, generally considered, than exists at the present time. This meeting is called to consider what we shall do next, not in the sense of men who are out of work and are looking about for something to do, but as those who have so much pressing upon them that they know not what to take hold of first. We have come to confer together how we may best husband our strength to meet the demands of the work which is rising in such magnitude before us.

On motion, brethren present were invited to participate in the deliberations of this Conference.

Adjourned to 7 p.m., evening after the Sabbath.

THIRD SESSION

Prayer by Brother Canright. Roll called. General business taken up.

Brother Van Camp spoke for Ohio, stating that the cause is prosperous in that state, and everything betokens good success the coming season.

Brother Olsen spoke for the cause in Wisconsin. God has blessed them since last Conference. Never had so good meetings, and such success in the work.

They want two camp-meetings, one at Sparta, and one at Ripon.

Brethren Root and Canright spoke for Michigan. Many openings presenting themselves. Calls for tent labor in a number of most promising fields. Brother Canright reported he had never found such unity among brethren in any state.

With the exception of the slight defection in Allegan County, he found no place in the state where there was any murmuring or complaining. Brother White reviewed the progress of the work in Michigan, and gave some reasons why the blessing of the Lord lingers still in Michigan.

Brother Harvey spoke for Indiana. Never before has witnessed such a spirit of inquiry as is now abroad there. Never expected to see the way so completely opened as it is now for the spread of the third angel's message.

Brother Goodrich spoke for Maine. Interest on the increase since last camp-meeting. They are seeing some fruit from missionary labor. Some have accepted the truth, and others are interested. Brethren in Norridgewock revived and encouraged, and also in Aroostook County.

Brother Mitchell spoke for Iowa. The work is onward there. Some few features somewhat discouraging, but on the whole the prospect is good. Some of the young are coming up to the work well. Want one camp-meeting the first of June, at Marshalltown, and want help then.

Brother Whitney spoke for the cause in New York. Field is immense, and call for help urgent.

Brother White spoke of the prosperous condition of the publishing work in California.

Adjourned to call of the chair. Called at 9 o'clock a.m.

FOURTH SESSION

Prayer by U. Smith. Remarks by Brother Fulton in reference to the cause among the Swedes in Minnesota. Letter was read from J. E. Norstrom, followed by remarks from Brethren Canright, Sawyer, Lane, and White.

On motion, the Conference invited Elder James White, with such help as he may choose to take with him, to visit Minnesota, to look after the cause among the Swedes there.

On motion, the Conference recommended the immediate publication of a small hymn book for the use of the Swedes.

On motion, the Conference recommended the Trustees of the Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association to donate to Brethren Lane and Corliss a box of books for their use in their new field of labor in Virginia.

On motion, the Conference invited Elder James White to visit Kentucky and Virginia at his earliest convenience.

On motion, VOTED, That this Conference purchase a tent for the use of Brother Osborn in Kentucky.

VOTED, That this Conference do hereby recommend to the Publishing Association to furnish Brother Osborn a quantity of books.

Adjourned to half past one p.m.

FIFTH SESSION

Prayer by Brother White. Letters were read from Petrolia, C. W. [sic], Alabama, Colorado, and Michigan, setting forth the wants of the cause, and the prospects for labor. Calls are everywhere urgent, and prospects most flattering.

Remarks were then made by Brother Canright on the subject of systematic benevolence. Taking certain well ascertained facts as a basis, he showed that if all would come up to the Bible plan of systematic benevolence, the amount of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars yearly, instead of about forty thousand as it now is. The Lord says, "Bring ye all the tithes into the store-house," and until this is done, the Lord will not be "proved," to see whether he will not pour out a blessing so that there shall not be room enough to receive it. Brother White followed with lengthy and stirring remarks on the same subject.

Brother Canright offered the following resolutions on the subject of systematic benevolence, which were unanimously adopted by the Conference and congregation:--

RESOLVED, That we believe it to be the duty of all our brethren and sisters, whether connected with churches or living alone, under ordinary circumstances, to devote one-tenth of all their income from whatever source, to the cause of God. And further,

RESOLVED, That we call the attention of all our ministers to their duty in this important matter to set it plainly and faithfully before all their brethren and urge them to come up to the requirements of the Lord in this thing.

Moved and carried that the chairman appoint a committee of three, himself to be one of that committee, to prepare a tract upon the subject of systematic benevolence. The chair appointed D. M. Canright and U. Smith to act with him as that committee.

The resolution to purchase a large tent 80x120, passed at the last regular session of the General Conference, in August., 1875, was by vote rescinded, and the Conference recommended the Michigan Conference to purchase and own such a tent.

RESOLVED, That this Conference authorize the Trustees of the Seventh-day Adventist Educational Society to draw upon the General Conference Fund to the amount of one thousand dollars, to be appropriated to the purposes and uses of the Educational Aid Fund.

RESOLVED, That the conference committee of each state conference, in connection with the General Conference Committee, shall decide who of those applying are worthy to attend the College free of charge, in whole or in part, from their several Conferences.

Adjourned to Monday morning at 9 a.m.

SIXTH SESSION

Prayer by Elder E. R. Jones.

By vote, the case of Brother and Sister Strong was referred to the Michigan Conference Committee.

Elder White not being able, in view of other urgent duties, to comply with the request of the Conference to visit Minnesota, he was excused by vote of the Conference, and Elder D. M. Canright was appointed to visit Minnesota in his place.

European mission was taken into consideration, and a large part of the time of this session was occupied in considering how best to raise means for this and other enterprises. On motion, the chair was empowered to appoint a committee of three to present resolutions before the Conference on this subject. Brethren Canright, Smith, and Kellogg were appointed as that committee.

The subject of the publication of the Health Reformer and hygienic books was referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Subject of camp-meetings introduced and spoken to by Brother Canright.

SEVENTH SESSION

Prayer by the chairman. Committee on Resolutions reported the following which were adopted:--

WHEREAS, The cause is in pressing need just now of about \$10,000 to establish a press in Europe, therefore

RESOLVED, That we instruct the General Conference Committee to immediately proceed to raise that amount in the manner they may find best.

WHEREAS, So great a degree of success has attended the labors of Brother White in his management of the Hygienic Agency, and

WHEREAS, He has now expressed a desire to be released from the personal supervision of this enterprise,

RESOLVED, That we hereby express our entire satisfaction with the manner in which Brother White has conducted the Hygienic Agency and the disposition which he has made of the proceeds of the same, while it has been in his hands.

RESOLVED, That we request him to still continue its management, for the present, if he can do so consistently with his other duties.

WHEREAS, The increasing importance of the subject of health reform demands that it receive more earnest attention, and

WHEREAS, Our people in general seem to be in great need of being awakened upon this subject, and

WHEREAS, The wants of missionary laborers and the popular demand for hygienic literature is calling loudly for a larger variety of health publications,

RESOLVED, That we receive with pleasure the proposition of Brother White to prepare a volume on the subject of Bible Hygiene, and to contribute to the Health Reformer, and express the hope that he will be enabled to do something in this direction very soon, and

RESOLVED, That we urge the preparation as soon as expedient of such publications as the wants of this branch of the cause demand.

WHEREAS, There is now a debt of about \$10,000 due on the college, and

WHEREAS, There are still unpaid pledges sufficient to cover this debt, therefore,

RESOLVED, That we earnestly solicit those who have made these pledges to pay them immediately as far as possible.

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the school be requested to solicit the immediate payment of unpaid pledges by personal appeals to all who are in arrears.

RESOLVED, That we invite the Conference Committee of each State to select beforehand a proper person who shall attend their camp-meeting and furnish a daily report of it for the secular papers.

WHEREAS, Our camp-meetings furnish an excellent opportunity for missionary work among unbelievers, therefore,

RESOLVED, That we advise each Conference to have on the ground a large assortment of small tracts and papers for free distribution; and that early in the meeting they appoint a certain number of proper persons who will judiciously distribute them.

On motion, the chair appointed a committee of three to arrange camp-meetings the coming season. Brethren Whitney, Harvey, and Mitchell were appointed as said committee. Adjourned.

James White, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

SPECIAL SESSION, MARCH 31, 1876

Private Minutes

During the second session of the Conference, the question was put to Brother Strong, whether he was in union and sympathy with this body. He said he was a member of the church. This evasive answer not being satisfactory, he was pressed upon the point and said that so far as he knew he was in union with this body. At a subsequent meeting, some facts were brought out showing his feelings against Brother White, e.g., letter to Brother King, which he did not satisfactorily clear up.

Closing Session

Held at the Review Office, Editor's Room, 7 p.m., April 4. Prayer by

Brother Goodrich, Michigan Conference Committee, to whom Brother and Sister Strong's case had been referred (see sixth session) reported in the case that they had found out nothing. Brother White questioned them and found that they had taken no steps to discharge the duty laid upon them.

Brother White having made certain remarks on the subject of church order, and the course to be pursued with murmurers and complainers, it was

VOTED, That we endorse the sentiments expressed, and request him to put them into the form of a resolution to be incorporated into the resolutions of the Conference, whereupon he presented the following, which was heartily adopted:--

RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this Conference, that the simple organization of our churches, state conferences, and the General Conference, is good and satisfactory, therefore should be respected by all our people.

RESOLVED, That church and Conference officers should be sustained in the performance of their duty while held in office, and that all persons whether preachers or common members who carelessly or willfully disregard the rules and by-laws of our organizations, become subjects of censure and discipline.

VOTED, That Elder James White and U. Smith be a committee to prepare a Conference Address on the subjects which have come up at this meeting.

RESOLVED, That D. M. Canright be a committee to address Elder M. E. Cornell, now in the State of Texas, and request him to either take immediate measures to give satisfaction to the Michigan Conference Committee that he is a proper person to preach the gospel, or to cease teaching the doctrines held by Seventh-day Adventists.

Adjourned sine die.

James White, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

September 19, 1876

The Conference was opened at Lansing at the hour appointed, September 19, at 2 p.m., by the singing of hymn 16. After opening remarks by Elder James White, prayer was offered by Elder S. H. Lane. The Conference then joined in

singing the hymn, "When faint and weary toiling."

The following-named brethren appeared as delegates from their respective States:--

C. W. Stone, from Vermont; S. N. Haskell, from New England; D. M. Canright, from New York; H. A. St. John, from Ohio; D. H. Lamson, H. M. Kenyon, Franklin Howe, S. Howland, S. Brownsberger, from Michigan; S. H. Lane, from Indiana; J. E. Morin, from the French in Illinois; H. W. Decker, from Wisconsin; J. H. Morrison, from Iowa; E. B. Lane, from Virginia; and James White, from California. A delegate was appointed from the newly organized Conference of Kentucky and Tennessee, but was absent on account of sickness. The Conference was admitted by their request, to the General Conference, and Elder D. M. Canright, having recently visited the State, and assisted in the organization of the Conference, was appointed to be the acting delegate.

The present standing of the Conference is approximately represented by the following figures.

GENERAL CONFERENCE STATISTICS FOR 1876

Name of Conferences	a	b	c	d	e
Maine-----	2	1	13	238	\$ 794.50
Vermont-----	6	2	14	323	1275.00
New England-----	3	1	20	350	2300.00
New York and Pennsylvania-----	8	4	35	591	2799.22
Ohio-----	3	4	13	390	2721.63
Michigan-----	20	14	80	3150	10000.00
Indiana-----	3	4	11	300	900.00
Wisconsin-----	8	8	43	1048	3863.00
Illinois-----	4	6	22	350	1800.00
Minnesota-----	9	6	52	1123	6450.00
Iowa and Nebraska-----	14	9	52	1123	6450.00
Missouri-----	4	2	13	322	907.40
Kansas-----	4	4	16	355	881.29
California-----	3	4	17	511	5925.43
Kentucky-----	2	1	6	93	350.00
Swiss Mission-----	3		8	150	531.00
Total-----	96	70	398	10044	\$43,998.47

aMinisters.

bLicentiates.

cChurches.

dMembers.

eSystematic Benevolence Pledged.

In the foregoing exhibit, the report from Michigan is incomplete, and the

reports from New England, New York, and Illinois, are given as last year with a few known changes that have taken place, the reports from those States for the present season not having yet come in. But imperfect as it is, and none of the figures go beyond the reality, it shows a gain over last year's report, of twenty-seven ministers, fifty-nine churches, two thousand and twelve members, and eleven thousand two hundred and seventy-nine dollars, and eighty-five cents, in systematic benevolence.

Besides these, there are companies organized in Texas, Virginia, and Maryland.

Elder C. W. Whitford, delegate from the Seventh-day Baptists, was introduced by the president, and made appropriate remarks, relative to his position as delegate, and the relation of the two bodies of Sabbath-keepers, the Seventh-day Baptists and the Seventh-day Adventists.

Elder James White followed with an appropriate response, referring to the pleasure and the blessing we have received by interchange of courtesies with the Seventh-day Baptists.

Elder D. M. Canright reported as delegate to the Seventh-day Baptist General Conference of 1875.

Reading of minutes of last session, they being quite lengthy, and having been published in the Review, was waived.

On motion, the chair was empowered to appoint the committees, (1) on Nominations, (2) on Resolutions, (3) on Auditing accounts.

Adjourned to call of the chair.

The committees were subsequently announced as follows:--

On Nominations, C. W. Stone, of Vermont; E. H. Root, of Michigan; J. H. Morrison, of Iowa. On Resolutions, U. Smith, D. M. Canright, S. N. Haskell.

SECOND SESSION

5:30 a.m., September 23. Prayer by D. M. Canright. The Nominating Committee reported as follows:--

For president, James White; secretary, C. W. Stone; treasurer, U. Smith. General Conference Committee, James White, S. N. Haskell, D. M. Canright.

Committee on Resolutions reported the following, which were taken up

singly, and after some remarks, were adopted.

THE HEALTH REFORM

WHEREAS, We see a growing inclination among many of our people to neglect the health reform and to gradually go back to old, unhealthful habits of living, and

WHEREAS, We believe this will work only evil to this people and will displease God by despising the light which he has given, therefore,

RESOLVED, That we again warn our brethren and sisters of their danger in this matter, and that we urge our ministers to practice the reform themselves and to teach it to the people on all suitable occasions.

WANT OF PREACHERS

WHEREAS, There is an increasing need of laborers in this message, and

WHEREAS, God has accepted and greatly blessed the labors of very common humble men in preaching this truth, therefore

RESOLVED, That we believe there are very many more young men and middle-aged men among us who ought to give themselves to teaching the truth and to the work of the ministry, and that we urge them to do this.

THE INCREASING PUBLIC INTEREST IN OUR CAMP-MEETINGS

RESOLVED, That we recognize the opening providence of God in the greatly increased public interest manifested this season in our camp-meetings, and that we make still greater efforts to improve these opportunities to get the present truth before the masses of the people.

REPORTING THE CAMP-MEETINGS

RESOLVED, That we heartily approve the plan carried out by Elder White in obtaining so able a reporter, Miss M. L. Clough, and in securing so extensive publication of these reports in the leading papers of the various States, and that we recommend that the same plan be carried out next season.

THE SOUTH

RESOLVED, That we feel a deep interest in the spread of the present truth of late in the Southern States, and that we will aid this work as fast and as far as our means and men will allow.

SCATTERED SABBATH-KEEPERS

WHEREAS, There are individuals and companies embracing the Sabbath in different parts of the world which have no personal acquaintance with this people, and yet are desirous to co-operate with us,

RESOLVED, That we recommend that special efforts be made to secure their interests in our Tract and Missionary work.

THE SCHOOL

WHEREAS, It is seen from the prosperity which has thus far attended our school, and the influence it is beginning to exert, what a power for good it might be with proper patronage, therefore

RESOLVED, That we commend this institution still to the confidence of our people, as a place to which they would do well to send their children, and we earnestly urge all to contribute liberally to place it upon a good financial basis.

THE EUROPEAN PRESS

RESOLVED, That we hail with joy the appearance of the French paper issued by Brother Andrews in Europe under the direction of the General Conference Committee. And while the publication of this paper marks a new era in the work there, it lays us under renewed obligation to do what is required of us to support that branch of the work.

SYSTEMATIC BENEVOLENCE

RESOLVED, That the gospel does not make the financial obligation of the people of God to the cause of truth any less than it was in previous ages; and we believe that God justly requires of us a tenth of our income; and how can we expect the blessing promised by the Lord through Malachi, till we comply with the condition upon which it is suspended, and bring all our tithes into the storehouse?

UNION

WHEREAS, Notwithstanding our field of operations has within a few past years greatly enlarged, and our work increased, there never was a more wide-spread and cheering state of union among us, therefore

RESOLVED, That we hereby record our gratitude to God for the complete state of harmony and co-operation that exists with this people as a body.

RESOLVED, That we gratefully acknowledge the evident interposition of the Lord in behalf of his servants, Brother and Sister White, in sustaining them so remarkably during the heavy strain of care and labor that has come upon them the present camp-meeting season, and giving them such liberty in preaching the word; and believing it is safe to follow where the blessing of the Lord indicates the way, we pledge them our cordial sympathy and co-operation in their work.

RESOLVED, That we recognize with gratitude the continued and growing feeling of fraternity between the two bodies of Sabbath-keepers, the Seventh-day Baptists and our people, and we extend to their delegate to our present session, President C. W. Whitford, a cordial welcome, and recommend that Elder James White with D. M. Canright alternate, be chosen delegate to the next session of the General Conference of the Seventh-day Baptists.

The case of Elder -----, was taken up, and, on motion, was submitted to a committee of three, appointed by the chair as follows: D. M. Canright, S. N. Haskell, and J. H. Morrison.

Adjourned to call of chair.

THIRD SESSION

5:30 a.m., September 24. Prayer by Elder Haskell. The committee in the case of Elder -----reported by submitting the following resolution:--

WHEREAS, Elder ----- has for several years past been guilty of immoral conduct which has brought irremovable disgrace upon himself and deep reproach upon the precious cause of Christ, and

WHEREAS, He has been repeatedly warned and reproved upon this very subject both by the officers of the General Conference and of State Conferences where he has labored, and also directly through the Testimonies, and

WHEREAS, While he has repeatedly acknowledged the truthfulness of the charges and the justice of the reproofs, yet he has entirely failed to reform his life until we dare trust him no longer, therefore

RESOLVED, That it is but justice to the cause of God and ourselves that we publicly announce that he receives no further countenance from us as a laborer in the cause of God.

Report accepted, and ordered to be published in the Review, with the minutes of the Conference.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. F. H. Sisley in account with the General Conference:

Dr.

August 9, 1875, To cash on hand-----	\$1104.27	
To amount received during the year-----	<u>5089.97</u>	
Total-----		\$6194.09

September 15, 1876, By cash paid out	Cr.	
during the year-----	5414.27	
Balance on hand-----	<u>779.82</u>	
Total-----		\$6194.09

Mrs. F. H. Sisley, Treasurer.

Moved and carried that the chair appoint a committee of three to write an address to the brethren in Texas. Whereupon, Brethren Canright, King, and Haskell were appointed as said committee.

Adjourned sine die.

James White, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

SPECIAL SESSION

THE GENERAL MEETING AT BATTLE CREEK

November 12 and 13, 1876

According to previous appointment, this meeting was held at Battle Creek, November 12 and 13, 1876. There being a sufficient number of brethren present, the General Conference committee called them to unite with themselves in deliberations upon Conference business. The first session was held Sunday morning at 10 o'clock, Elder James White, president, in the chair. Elder S. N. Haskell, one of the General Conference Committee, was present; and Elder U. Smith was appointed by these to supply the place of the third member of the Committee, Elder D. M. Canright, who was absent.

Elder H. W. Decker, president of the Wisconsin Conference, H. A. St. John, president of the Ohio Conference, Elder James Harvey, president of the Indiana Conference, Elder Jerome Fargo, president of the Michigan Conference, Elder O. A. Olsen of the Wisconsin Conference, Elder John Fulton of the Minnesota Conference, I. A. Olmstead, a licentiate of the Michigan Conference, S. Howland, S. H. King, Dr. J. H. Kellogg of the Health Institute, Professor S. Brownsberger, principal of the Seventh-day Adventist College, and James Sawyer, editor of the Swedish Herald, were invited to assist the General Conference Committee in the business of the meeting.

Meeting opened with prayer by Elder Smith.

Elder White read a request from the church at Dallas, Texas, for a faithful preacher to be sent there with a tent. He made some remarks upon the comparative number of preachers in Michigan and Iowa. Michigan has nineteen ordained preachers, twelve of whom are in the State. Iowa has fifteen with twelve in the State. Brother King made remarks upon Texas as a field of labor, closing with the motion, that Elder R. M. Kilgore, of Iowa, be requested by the General Conference to go to Texas, to labor there as a missionary. The motion was carried.

The subject of Systematic Benevolence was taken up. The matter had been carefully studied by the brethren during the two previous days, in special Bible-class sessions, and by themselves. The result of this investigation will very soon be published in pamphlet form by the Committee.

Adjourned to call of chair.

SECOND SESSION, 2 P.M.

Prayer by Elder White.

Elder White introduced the matter of the Swedish Mission, and read a letter from a Swedish brother, A. J. Petterson, of New Sweden, Maine, requesting that Brother James Sawyer go to stay with them a month or more, to teach them English. Remarks were made by Brother Sawyer and Elder Haskell. Elder Haskell moved that Brother Sawyer visit the Swedes in Maine as soon as possible. Carried.

The matter of sending Elder John Matteson to Denmark was mentioned; but for want of information, it was left with the General Conference Committee.

Elder White spoke for a few moments upon the distribution of reading matter and the duty of the Conference to take some measures to accomplish it effectually. Elder Haskell also made some remarks. Elder White mentioned the representation of our publications at the Centennial, the expense of which

would be presented for consideration at the evening session after Dr. Kellogg should report. He then dwelt upon the Signs of the Times and Health Reformer and the number of subscribers that should be obtained in each State.

Moved by Elder Decker, that a committee of five be appointed to apportion to each conference the number of subscribers it should obtain for these publications. Carried. The chair appointed S. N. Haskell, H. A. St. John, Jerome Fargo, U. Smith, and H. W. Decker, as said committee.

The college paper was introduced by Professor Brownsberger, who made some remarks upon the objects of that paper. After a few remarks by Elder White, it was voted to refer the matter to a committee of three, who shall take charge of the publishing of said paper, and appoint its editor. Professor Brownsberger, Dr. Kellogg, and Elder Smith, were appointed as such committee.

Adjourned to call of chair.

THIRD SESSION, 10:10 P.M.

Prayer by Elder White.

The committee on apportioning periodicals reported as follows:--

To circulate 10,000 copies each of the Signs of the Times and the Health Reformer, Maine should circulate 267 copies of each; New England, 400; Vermont, 334; New York, 667; Ohio, 467; Michigan, 3,334; Indiana, 334; Illinois, 400; Wisconsin, 1,200; Minnesota, 800; Iowa, 1,267; Missouri, 334; Kansas, 400; Texas, 67; Virginia, 67.

The report was accepted.

VOTED, That the General Conference recommend to our several Tract and Missionary Societies east of the Rocky Mountains to make an earnest effort to obtain 10,000 subscribers for the Signs, and the same for the Reformer.

MOVED, by Elder Haskell, That we recommend to the several conferences to follow the example of the State of New York by taking a number of almanacs that will compare with their membership as the number New York has taken compares with hers. Carried.

The above apportionment was made upon that basis by the Committee.

Dr. J. H. Kellogg presented his report of the exhibition of our publications at the Centennial as follows:--

DISTRIBUTED

Denominational Tracts-----	7,000
Health and Temperance Tracts-----	7,000
Periodicals-----	1,000
Almanacs-----	2,300
Bird's Eye Views-----	4,000
Catalogues of Health Publications-----	3,000
Number of pp. circulated-----	500,000
Total cost-----	\$291.00

VOTED, That Elder S. N. Haskell be a committee to correspond with the several conferences, or Tract and Missionary Societies, and apportion to each its share of this expense, and invite them to pay it.

Elder White occupied a few minutes in speaking upon the prospects of our College and the advantages it presents to pupils from all parts of the wide field. The duty of our people to come up fully on systematic benevolence, so as to put our institutions on firm footing and keep them there, was plainly and forcibly set forth by the speaker.

VOTED, To recommend to the several conferences to interest themselves in sending pupils to our College at Battle Creek.

A letter was read from Orlando Soule in Tennessee, asking a little help. The Conference voted to assist him in the manner he suggested. It was also voted to send him ten dollars' worth of publications.

VOTED, That the proceedings of this Conference be published in Review.

Adjourned at 11:10 p.m., to call of chair.

FOURTH SESSION, MONDAY, 9 A.M.

Prayer by H. W. Decker.

VOTED, That this Conference recommend that Elder S. N. Haskell make Michigan his headquarters, to labor especially in this State in connection with the Michigan Tract and Missionary Society, and in other States as may be required, to carry out the plans of this Conference. Carried by unanimous vote.

Matters relating to the General Conference Tract and Missionary Society were discussed. On examination of the records, it was found that this Society was organized in 1874, with Elder James White as president, Benn Auten treasurer,

and Elder S. N. Haskell business agent; also it was found that this Society has a credit of \$493.76, at the Review Office.

VOTED, To revive this Society, with Sister M. J. Chapman as treasurer. By virtue of his office, the president appointed Sister Chapman secretary.

After some further discussion as to the amount necessary to be raised in addition to the systematic benevolence in the several conferences, the meeting adjourned to meet at 1:30 p.m.

FIFTH SESSION, 1:30 P.M.

Prayer by Elder White. In connection with this session, a meeting of the trustees of the Publishing Association was held. This board transacted some business relating to accounts between the Association and several of the State Conferences. This was done at this point, that the General Conference might be prepared to decide upon the amount of means necessary to be raised to carry on the proposed missionary work.

The chair then appointed a committee to present a resolution upon that matter at the next session.

Adjourned to meet at 7 p.m.

SIXTH SESSION, 7 P.M.

Prayer by Elder St. John.

The Committee presented the following resolution, which was accepted and adopted:--

WHEREAS, In the raising of means for all such general enterprises as the proposed increase of the circulation of our periodicals and distribution of our publications, or in any move for the support of our institutions, which are laboring for the advancement of the Master's cause, our people should have the privilege of bearing the burden equally, and should regard it a duty to do so; and,

WHEREAS, Such equality may be effected if our people, having first correct systematic benevolence pledges, will donate for such special calls sums in proportion to their systematic benevolence pledges, therefore,

RESOLVED, That this Conference recommend to the several state conferences that each individual raise a sum equal to one-third of his systematic benevolence pledge for the year, to meet the demand for means to be used as far

as necessary in the proposed increase of the circulation of the Signs, the Reformer, and other publications, this offering to be paid, if convenient, the first of January 1877, or, if more favorable, in four installments, the first to be paid January 1; the second, April 1; the third, July 1; and the fourth, October 1, 1877.

Adjourned to call of the chair.

James White, President.
C. W. Stone, Secretary.

RECORDS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS
1877 to 1882

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

September 20, 1877

According to appointment, this meeting was held on the Lansing camp-ground, September 20, at 9 a.m. Elder S. N. Haskell called the meeting to order, stating that as the president of the Conference, Elder James White, was absent, it would be necessary to choose a chairman. The Conference then called to the chair Elder S. N. Haskell, who opened the meeting by prayer. As the secretary, C. W. Stone, was also absent, A. B. Oyen was chosen secretary pro tem.

In response to the call for delegates to the Conference from the several States, the following named brethren appeared as such:--

S. N. Haskell, from New England; E. H. Root, D. H. Lamson, E. R. Jones, John Day, Harvey Kenyon, Ezra Griggs, Francis Nelson, A. B. Oyen, from Michigan; G. W. Colcord, from Illinois; H. W. Decker, from Wisconsin; W. C. White, from California; A. H. Hall, from New York; H. A. St. John, from Ohio.

The following named brethren, who were present, were, by vote of the

Conference, appointed to act as delegates from their respective states: J. O. Corliss, from Virginia; John Fulton, from Canada; A. J. Stover, from Kansas; George Tenney, from Wisconsin.

ON MOTION, All our brethren in good standing in the churches were invited to participate in the deliberations of the Conference.

The present standing of the Conference is shown by the following reports from the state conferences, and general missions:--

Name of Conferences	Ministers	Licentiates	Churches	Members	S.B. Pledges
Maine-----	3	1	13	263	\$ 810.42
Vermont-----	6	2	18	425	1,566.39
New England-----	3	5	21	400	2,500.00
New York & Pennsylvania-	8	5	40	850	3,643.10
Ohio-----	1	3	13	300	1,804.28
Michigan-----	21	15	108	3258	12,000.00
Indiana-----	3	2	13	315	1,000.00
Wisconsin-----	8	8	50	1135	3,863.00
Illinois-----	6	13	22	500	2,384.47
Minnesota-----	12	16	45	871	2,847.54
Iowa and Nebraska-----	12	12	60	1365	5,077.00
Missouri-----	4	2	17	438	1,200.00
Kansas-----	5	4	18	386	1,349.17
California-----	5	6	22	600	5,504.30
Kentucky & Tennessee----	2	3	6	67	426.89
North Pacific Mission---	2		2	43	
Texas Mission-----	1		2	92	550.00
European Mission-----	4		8	300	650.00
Total-----	106	97	478	11,708	\$47,176.56

The secretary's report, being called for, was read and accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dr.

U. Smith in account with the General Conference,	
September 17, 1876, To cash on hand-----	\$ 779.82
To amount received during year-----	<u>3276.09</u>
Total-----	\$4055.91

Cr.

September 19, 1877, By amount paid out	
during year-----	\$2929.01
Balance on hand-----	<u>1126.90</u>
Total-----	\$4055.91

U. Smith, Treasurer.

The chair was empowered, by vote, to appoint the different committees,

1. On Nominations, 2. On Resolutions, 3. On Auditing accounts.

The appointments were afterward made as follows: On nominations, U. Smith, H. W. Decker, W. C. White; on resolutions, U. Smith, S. Brownsberger, A. B. Oyen; on auditing accounts, W. C. White, J. S. Day, F. W. Howe.

Adjourned to call of chair.

SECOND SESSION

Convened September 24, 3:30 p.m. Prayer by Elder D. H. Lamson. The president called Elder U. Smith to the chair. The minutes of last session were read.

The following additional delegates presented their credentials at this session: S. H. Lane, from Indiana; L. McCoy, from Iowa. N. Grant, from Ohio, appeared as alternate for H. A. St. John, who was obliged to leave the ground on account of ill health.

The Nominating Committee reported as follows: For President, Elder James White; Secretary, Elder U. Smith; Treasurer, Mrs. J. H. Chapman; Executive Committee, Elders James White, S. N. Haskell, and D. M. Canright.

The report was accepted, and the committee discharged. The persons nominated were thereupon unanimously elected.

Verbal reports from missionaries and laborers were called for, and remarks were made by Elder John Fulton, for Canada; Elder J. O. Corliss, for Virginia; L. McCoy, for Iowa; Elder S. H. Lane, for Indiana, and Elder D. M. Canright, for New England.

Interesting letters were read from Elder I. D. Van Horn, North Pacific Mission; Elder S. Osborn, Kentucky and Tennessee Conference; J. M. Ellitt, Alabama; Elder R. M. Kilgore, Texas; Elder George I. Butler, Missouri; Timothy Bryant, Maine; Elder J. Ertzenberger, Germany, and Elder D. T. Bourdeau, France.

A request from Elder H. A. St. John for an efficient minister to labor in the Ohio Conference this fall and winter, was also read.

Adjourned to call of chair.

THIRD SESSION

Convened 5:30 p.m., September 27. Prayer by Elder U. Smith. The minutes

of last session were read and approved.

A letter from Elder John G. Matteson, giving the standing of the cause in Denmark, its wants, and its future prospects, was read.

The report of the Committee on Resolutions being called for, they presented the following partial report:--

RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy for the friends of the Sabbath reform, in those portions of Europe where the English language is spoken, and we hope to be able ere long to establish a mission in that field.

RESOLVED, That we hereby express our gratitude to God for the success that has thus far attended our European Mission, and for its present prosperity, and pledge ourselves anew to sustain our beloved brother, Elder J. N. Andrews, and his fellow-laborers in the work there, by sending him additional helpers as soon as in our power.

RESOLVED, That in the starting of a mission in Denmark, the success attending Elder John G. Matteson's labors to establish the truth there, and the many calls for labor in that country, we see the opening and favoring providence of God, and an indicating that the prophecy that the truth shall be preached to many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings, is being fulfilled.

WHEREAS, In view of the many favorable openings for the introduction of the third angel's message among the Swedes, Danes, and Norwegians, not only in this country, but also in Sweden, Denmark, and Norway, and the lack of efficient laborers in these tongues, therefore,

RESOLVED, That we encourage young men of these nationalities, who feel a burden of the work, to prepare themselves for usefulness and engage in spreading the light among their countrymen, and that we pray the Lord of the harvest to send out more laborers into his vineyard.

RESOLVED, That we recommend the president of this Conference to visit immediately the southern field, accompanied by such a laborer, or laborers, as he may choose, or if he cannot go, that some other suitable person be immediately sent.

WHEREAS, The calls for ministerial labor in spreading the truth in all parts of the world are rapidly increasing, and as they are now far beyond the ability of our conferences to meet, and

WHEREAS, The Biblical Institute lately held in California has proved so

instrumental in the preparation of young men for this work, that, by its means, the number of laborers in that State has been almost doubled;

RESOLVED, That Elders James White and U. Smith be requested to continue to hold such Biblical Institutes during the coming year, in such States and at such times as the General Conference Committee may advise.

RESOLVED, That we hereby express our high appreciation of the efficiency of the labors of these brethren, and the skill and thoroughness which characterize their management of these Institutes.

RESOLVED, That this Conference appoint a committee of one or more to draft a better form for church letter, or letter of recommendation, to be used by all our churches.

The above resolutions were unanimously adopted, several of them being discussed at some length by the delegates.

It was moved and seconded that Elder U. Smith draft a church letter in accordance with resolution eight.

Adjourned to call of the chair.

FOURTH SESSION

September 28, 4:30 p.m. Prayer by Elder J. H. Waggoner.

The Committee on Resolutions, presented the following, which were unanimously adopted:--

RESOLVED, That each year's experience in this message confirms our faith that God has chosen Brother and Sister White to fill a leading position in this work; that we never felt the need of their counsel and experienced labors more than now; and that therefore we earnestly pray God to sustain them with strength and wisdom for their arduous labors.

WHEREAS, We see the utmost confusion, division, and lack of harmony, among other bodies of Adventists, crippling their influence, and bringing reproach upon the Advent cause; and

WHEREAS, Such thorough unity, both in doctrine and practice, has always prevailed among Seventh-day Adventists, and does still, though they are of so many different nationalities, creeds, classes, and temperaments; therefore

RESOLVED, That we hereby express our deep gratitude to God for the harmony and power of the Third Angel's Message which has done so much for us. And

WHEREAS, During the experience of a quarter of a century of this work we have invariably seen those persons and parties who have separated themselves from us in opposition to the gift of prophecy which God has placed in the remnant church, go into divisions, confusion, or cease to accomplish anything in the work of the present truth; therefore

RESOLVED, That we hereby express our continued conviction that we are largely indebted to the gift of prophecy, as manifested through Sister White, for the harmony and unity which this people enjoy.

RESOLVED, That we, as a people should cultivate a high and active educational sentiment, and see that all our children secure a good mental training, or, at least, a thorough knowledge of the common branches taught in our schools.

RESOLVED, That we are highly gratified at the prosperity that has attended our efforts in the establishment of an institution of learning, and with joy and humility we would acknowledge the directing hand of God in all these efforts.

RESOLVED, That our ministers should continually keep before our people their duty to support the work of the ministry, according to the plan of systematic benevolence as set forth in the recent tract entitled, "Systematic Benevolence"; and that we recommend that the leader of each company read that tract to the church at the quarterly meeting in January next.

RESOLVED, That we fully approve of the plan partially adopted by our brethren last year, of each individual giving for the support of the tract and missionary cause a sum equal to one-third his systematic benevolence; and that we recommend its universal adoption.

RESOLVED, That we encourage donations on the part of those who are able to make them, to the tract cause and to every other branch of the work where means are needed.

RESOLVED, That Brethren James White, D. M. Canright, and U. Smith be hereby appointed a committee to prepare a systematic benevolence book and a church clerk's book adapted to the present wants of the cause.

Interesting remarks were made by Elder D. M. Canright and others in reference to Resolutions 1, 2 and 3. He heartily approved of and indorsed them, and wished that an expression from the congregation might be taken in regard to them. A rising vote was taken, showing that the people were entirely in harmony and sympathy with the sentiments expressed in the resolutions.

The report of the committee appointed in the annual meeting of the Conference in 1875, to revise the tract on "Leadership," was called for. Elder U. Smith stated that the committee had not had time to devote to this revision, but as certain resolutions touching this question had been prepared to be submitted to this Conference, the committee would beg leave to endorse those resolutions, and present them for their report:--

RESOLVED, That we rescind all that portion of the "Address on Leadership" passed in 1873, which teaches that the leadership of the body is confined to any one man.

RESOLVED, That the highest authority under God among Seventh-day Adventists is found in the will of the body of that people, as expressed in the decisions of the General Conference when acting within its proper jurisdiction; and that such decisions should be submitted to by all without exception, unless they can be shown to conflict with the word of God and the rights of individual conscience.

The Conference accepted the report of the Committee, and unanimously adopted the resolutions.

Elder White spoke of the pleasure of seeing Elder W. H. Littlejohn at this meeting, and of the prospect of his once more being united with our people, and laboring in harmony with us.

Brother Littlejohn thereupon said that the resolutions just passed had cleared away the difficulties that had stood in the way of his active co-operating with the body for the past four years, and he hoped that he soon would have the privilege of engaging actively in the work of spreading the truth again.

Elder White then presented the following resolution:--

RESOLVED, That this Conference invite Brother Littlejohn to join us in the work in fellowship and in labor.

This was unanimously passed by a rising vote of the whole congregation.

Adjourned to call of the president.

James White, President.
A. B. Oyen, Secretary pro tem.

SPECIAL SESSION

at

Battle Creek, Michigan, March 1, 1878

BUSINESS PROCEEDINGS

OF THE THIRD SPECIAL SESSION OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

The Conference met according to appointment, in Battle Creek, March 1, 1878.

The president, Elder James White, being absent, the meeting was called to order by the secretary, and Elder S. N. Haskell was chosen president pro tem. Prayer by Elder D. M. Canright.

The object of the meeting, and a general view of the business to come before it, was presented by the chairman.

Delegates were present as follows: R. F. Andrews and G. W. Colcord, from Illinois; H. A. St. John from Ohio; W. H. Hall, from Minnesota; A. W. Maynard, M. J. Cornell, J. Fargo, A. B. Oyen, W. K. Loughborough, J. S. Day, J. O. Corliss, and E. R. Jones, from Michigan; S. H. Lane and J. D. Shilling, from Indiana; D. M. Canright, from New England; H. W. Decker and George C. Tenney, from Wisconsin; O. A. Olsen, from the Scandinavians of Wisconsin; B. L. Whitney from New York; A. S. Hutchins, from Vermont; S. H. King, from Texas, and W. C. White, from California.

Letters were read from J. N. Ayers, president of the Kansas Conference, George I. Butler, president of the Missouri Conference, and John Fulton, from Ontario.

Remarks were made on the matters introduced in these letters, by Elders S. N. Haskell, D. M. Canright, H. A. St. John, and E. W. Farnsworth.

MOVED, That a committee of three be appointed by the chair, to present a resolution on the time of holding camp-meetings, and on any other subjects to be considered by the Conference. Carried.

The chair thereupon appointed D. M. Canright, A. Swedeberg, and B. L. Whitney, as said committee.

The hour having arrived for the meeting of the Health Institute, the Conference adjourned till 2 p.m.

SECOND SESSION

Met according to adjournment. Prayer by U. Smith. Minutes of last session read and approved.

The reading of letters was resumed. Communications were presented from Elders J. G. Matteson and A. C. Bourdeau. Remarks were made on the Danish Mission by O. A. Olsen and A. B. Oyen, and on the work in Canada by A. S. Hutchins.

Spirited remarks were made by Brethren Canright, Colcord, Farnsworth, Hutchins and Hall, in reference to the wants of their respective States, in the line of camp-meetings.

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of five to arrange the time for camp-meetings, and the distribution of labor the coming season. Carried.

The following brethren were thereupon appointed as said committee: J. Fargo, of Michigan; W. H. Hall, of Minnesota; E. W. Farnsworth, of Iowa; B. L. Whitney, of New York; and A. S. Hutchins, of Vermont.

A letter was presented from E. B. Lane, of Virginia, and the remainder of this session was occupied in remarks upon the mission in that State.

THIRD SESSION

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Prayer by J. H. Waggoner. Minutes read and accepted.

A letter was presented from A. O. Burrill, of Alabama, followed by remarks from the chairman on the southern field. Letters were then read from J. N. Andrews, of Bale, Switzerland, and Dr. Ribton, of Naples, Italy. These called out full remarks upon the European Mission by W. C. White, D. M. Canright, H. W. Decker, and J. H. Waggoner.

A resolution was thereupon offered and adopted, expressing thankfulness for the success of the European Mission, and the openings for a wide-spread work among the nations, and again appealing to the friends of the cause to

donate of their means to sustain the mission, as the General Conference Committee may suggest.

Interesting remarks were then made on the extent of the work, the greatly increased demands upon us, and the more complete facilities now possessed by the offices of publication, and other branches of the cause, for a rapid and extended work.

The committee on camp-meetings reported, suggested that camp-meetings be held as follows:--

Missouri-----May 15-20	Ohio-----Aug. 7-12
Kansas-----May 22-27	Indiana-----Aug. 14-19
Wisconsin (1) May 29-June 3	Michigan-----Aug. 21-26
Wisconsin (2)---Sept. 11-16	Illinois-----Sept. 4-9
New York (1)-----June 5-10	Iowa-----Sept. 18-23
New York (2)-----Sept. 4-9	Nebraska-----Sept. 25-30
Vermont-----June 12-17	New England-----
Minnesota-----June 19-24	Maine-----

They recommended that one or more of the General Conference Committee attend each of the camp-meetings.

The committee to draft a resolution touching the time of holding camp-meetings reported by submitting the following:--

RESOLVED, That we recommend to those conferences which hold two camp-meetings, that the sessions of the State Conference be held in connection with one, and the annual meeting of the Tract and Missionary Society with the other, thus giving a better opportunity for transacting the business of these meetings without interfering with the interests of the camp-meeting. Adopted.

FOURTH SESSION

This session was devoted wholly to a consideration of the Sabbath-school interest, and the result of the session is embodied chiefly in the following resolutions:--

- RESOLVED, 1. That an increase of interest and action in Sabbath-school work is greatly needed among us.
2. That a systematic and uniform method is necessary to greater efficiency in Sabbath-school instruction.
3. That a General Sabbath-school Association should be organized by our people, with State Conference auxiliary associations.

4. That a committee on Sabbath-school interests be appointed by this Conference, with instruction to report at its earliest convenience.

A committee, in accordance with the above, was thereupon appointed, consisting of Brethren W. C. White, G. H. Bell and A. C. Spicer, who reported a form for constitution, which upon consideration was referred back to the committee; and Elders Waggoner and Canright were added to their number.

A committee to nominate officers for the contemplated Sabbath-school organization was thereupon appointed as follows: Brethren Canright, Decker, and Brownsberger.

FIFTH SESSION

Prayer by A. S. Hutchins. The Committee on Resolutions reported the following which, after some discussion, were unanimously adopted:--

OUR COLLEGE

WHEREAS, We behold with the greatest satisfaction and thankfulness to God, the prosperity of our College, as indicated by a greatly increased attendance and by its harmonious workings, and

WHEREAS, We have full confidence in this institution and believe that the Spirit of God is guiding in its management; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we recommend all our Seventh-day Adventist brethren to send their children to this College, believing it will be for their spiritual as well as mental improvement.

QUARTERLY MEETINGS

WHEREAS, The experience of the past year has fully demonstrated the utility of the system of quarterly meetings as proposed by this Conference, and

WHEREAS, It will require faithfulness and perseverance on the part of the officers and members of our churches to maintain the system after it has been adopted; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we again commend this plan to all our churches, and urge those upon whom the responsibility rests to labor earnestly that it may be fully carried out.

RESOLVED, That we also recommend the general adoption of the new books

prepared for the tract and missionary workers, believing that their use will greatly facilitate the work of the tract society.

ELDER JAMES WHITE

RESOLVED, That, while we deeply regret the necessary absence of the president of this Conference, our dear Brother White, by which we are deprived of his experienced counsel at this important point in the work, yet we are thankful to know that his health is improving and that he is able to speak to us through our papers, and we assure him of our continued sympathy, co-operation, and prayers in his behalf.

SYSTEMATIC BENEVOLENCE BOOKS

RESOLVED, That we heartily approve the work of the committee appointed to prepare new systematic benevolence and church record books, and recommend all our churches to supply themselves with these books, that there may be uniformity among us in the keeping of our church records and systematic benevolence accounts.

THE DANISH MISSION

RESOLVED, That we recognize the providence of God in the success which has attended the mission in Denmark, and that in consequence of the increased magnitude of the work there, we show our sympathy with Elder Matteson and our interest in his work by rendering him all the assistance in our power, and by sending him, as soon as arrangements to that effect can be made, an assistant.

RESOLVED, That we recommend him to procure a tent for his use, friends of that mission to assist by their means to this purpose.

THE GENERAL EUROPEAN MISSION

WHEREAS, There is immediate necessity of help for the cause in Italy and other portions of Europe, and

WHEREAS, The demands upon the European Mission have been such, that, under the most careful management, it has overdrawn its funds to the extent of about \$2,000; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we recommend and invite further \$100 donations and smaller sums to aid in this branch of the work.

THE HEALTH REFORM INSTITUTE

RESOLVED, That we are greatly cheered by the improvement in the management at the Health Institute, in the increased proficiency of its physicians and helpers, and in its rapidly growing patronage and influence.

RESOLVED, That we express our confidence that this Institution was established in the providence of God to aid in an important branch of the third angel's message, and hence should be faithfully sustained by God's people.

WHEREAS, That Health Reform Institute, in consequence of extensive building, is just now in the most pressing need of means to meet its obligations and finish the building; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we earnestly recommend our brethren and sisters everywhere to loan to the Institute immediately such sums as is reasonably within their power to raise, the Institute giving ample security for the payment of such loans at such times as may be agreed upon by the parties, with a fair rate of interest.

UNSUCCESSFUL LABORERS

WHEREAS, The cause is rapidly extending on every side, and the number of public laborers is increasing yearly, and the matter of their support is becoming a more and more important question with us each year; and

WHEREAS, Our systematic benevolence fund is depended upon by them for support; and in a considerable number of cases we find ministers who embarrass the Conference by requiring year after year more funds from the treasury than they bring into it; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we recommend the different conferences to be sparing of their means to such ministers, paying them only in proportion to the benefit they have been to the cause in raising up churches, or otherwise.

SIXTH SESSION

Monday, 2:30 p.m. On motion a committee of five was appointed to prepare a small collection of hymns for use in tent meetings and in new fields. The committee consisted of the following-named persons: W. C. White, U. Smith, B. L. Whitney, G. W. Colcord, and C. C. Lewis.

MEETING-HOUSE IN BATTLE CREEK

As a larger house of worship in Battle Creek has become absolutely necessary on account of the increasing numbers called in to this place by the College, Sanitarium, Publishing Office, and the general meetings that must be held here in connection with these institutions, the matter of the erection of a suitable house was freely canvassed by the Conference. As the result, the opinion was unanimously expressed that the cause must suffer loss without such a provision to meet its growing wants. Whereupon it was

MOVED AND CARRIED, That the General Conference Committee, with the presidents of the different State Conferences, be a committee to confer with a building committee to be appointed by the Battle Creek Church, in reference to the erection of such a building as is now demanded.

Adjourned sine die.

S. N. Haskell, Pres. pro tem.
U. Smith, Secretary.

THE SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK

The following action of the General Conference in relation to our Sabbath-school cause, we give in this manner by itself, for more prominence and convenient reference.

Monday evening, March 4, 6 p.m.

Prayer by E. W. Farnsworth. The committee appointed to draft a constitution for the proposed Sabbath-school organization reported a form, which, after some amendments, was adopted. It is as follows:--

CONSTITUTION

For the purpose of awakening a deeper interest in Sabbath-school work, and of securing uniformity of method in our schools, a Sabbath-school Association is hereby organized by Seventh-day Adventists in General Conference assembled, this 4th day of March, A.D. 1878, this Association to be governed by the following Constitution:--

ARTICLE I

This society shall be known as the Seventh-day Adventist Sabbath-school Association; and shall be composed of all the members of the several Sabbath-schools of the Seventh-day Adventists, who shall be represented in business sessions by delegates from the several State Conference Sabbath-school

Associations, chosen upon the same basis and plan as are the delegates to the General Conference.

ARTICLE II

The officers of this Association shall be a President, as many Vice-Presidents as there may be auxiliary Conference Associations, the President of each of which Associations shall be a Vice-President of this. These officers shall be elected annually.

ARTICLE III

The duties of the President shall be to preside at all the meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board, and to call special meetings thereof.

ARTICLE IV

The duties of the Recording Secretary shall be:--

1. To record all the proceedings of the Association, and to present a yearly summary of the same at the annual meeting.
2. To present such other summary reports as may from time to time be ordered.
3. To attend the meetings of the Executive Board, and keep a record of its proceedings.

ARTICLE V

It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary:--

1. To execute all the correspondence ordered by the Association and by the Executive Board.
2. To make to the Recording Secretary an annual report of such correspondence, at least two weeks previous to the annual meeting of this Association.
3. To make reports at such other times as may be ordered.
4. He shall also act as treasurer of the Association, and shall receive and hold all moneys belonging to the Association, giving receipts therefor, and paying out the same as the Association or the Executive Board may direct, through the written order of the Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE VI

The functions of the Executive Board shall be:--

1. To represent this Association when not in session assembled, and to execute all its recommendations and orders.
2. To assist, either personally or by authorized agents, in organizing and conducting Sabbath-schools, Sabbath-school Institutes, and Sabbath-school Associations.
3. To induce those possessing the requisite ability, and having a heart in the work, to write in the interest of Bible study and proper Sabbath-school instruction, and to secure the publication and distribution of needed Sabbath-school literature.
4. To make all necessary provisions for rendering the sessions of the

Association interesting and profitable; and in general, to labor to make our Sabbath-schools efficient in preparing their members to be fruitful workers in the grand mission of the Third Angel's Message.

ARTICLE VII

The funds for defraying the expenses of this Association shall be obtained by contributions and donations.

ARTICLE VIII

This Constitution may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present at any regular meeting.

The Committee on Nominations reported the following names: president, D. M. Canright; recording secretary, G. H. Bell; corresponding secretary, Miss Eva Perkins; Executive Committee, D. M. Canright, S. N. Haskell, and W. C. White. All of these were elected by unanimous vote.

Remarks were made by Brethren Canright, White, Bell, Colcord, Olsen, Jones, and others, expressing their convictions of the necessity and importance of this move.

It was suggested that a song book, and smaller question books be prepared for the children, and that annual meetings for the children be held in connection with the camp-meetings. It was thought necessary to organize state associations.

MOVED, That the chairman appoint a committee of three to draft a constitution for state organizations. Carried.

D. M. Canright, G. H. Bell, and W. C. White were appointed to draw up the constitution for said organizations.

O. A. Olsen remarked that the Danish brethren could not use the question books unless a translation be made. It was thereupon voted that this matter be referred to the committee.

The time having arrived for the Tract and Missionary meeting, the Conference adjourned sine die.

S. N. Haskell, Pres. pro tem.
J. T. Richards, Sec. pro tem.

MEETING OF GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Dr. Kellogg

July, 1878

A special meeting of the General Conference Committee was held at the house of Elder James White, in Battle Creek, Michigan, on the evening of July 2, 1878, at which the following resolutions respecting Dr. J. H. Kellogg were unanimously adopted:--

RESOLVED, That, in our opinion, Dr. J. H. Kellogg should have periods of entire rest of several weeks' duration each, three or four times a year.

RESOLVED, That, in our opinion, he is sinning against God and himself, and committing a wrong against the supporters and patrons of the Sanitarium in depriving himself of less than eight hours in bed in every twenty-four, whether able to sleep or not.

RESOLVED, That he should not be accessible at all hours of the day, but that no one should be permitted to come into his room or his office without permission.

RESOLVED, That he should throw the labor and the responsibilities upon less experienced physicians and helpers as far as possible.

RESOLVED, That we, the General Conference Committee, who have the oversight of the entire work, feel that it is our duty to control this matter, if at any time we shall see Dr. Kellogg violating the laws of health and life, and thus endangering the reputation and financial condition of the Sanitarium, which would result in bringing trial upon our people.

RESOLVED, That a copy of these resolutions be placed in the hands of Dr. Kellogg, and another be preserved among the Conference papers.

James White, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

[Memorandum: According to the last resolution a copy of the foregoing was placed in Dr. Kellogg's hands, July 3, 1878.]

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

October 4, 1878

This meeting convened, as per appointment in Review, on the camp-ground at Battle Creek, Michigan, October 4, at 10:30 a.m.

Prayer by the president, Elder James White.

Delegates responded as follows: J. B. Goodrich, from Maine; B. L. Whitney and S. B. Whitney, from New York; H. A. St. John, from Ohio; J. H. Waggoner, W. H. Littlejohn, J. Fargo, E. H. Root, W. C. White, D. H. Lamson, S. Brownsberger, and S. H. King, from Michigan; S. H. Lane, from Indiana; G. W. Colcord, from Illinois; H. W. Decker and O. A. Olsen, from Wisconsin; J. N. Loughborough, from California.

The following brethren, being present, were invited to act as delegates from their respective localities: J. F. Hanson, from Iowa; R. F. Andrews, from Illinois; J. N. Ayers, from Kansas; S. Osborn, from Kentucky and Tennessee; M. E. Kellogg, from Vermont; and S. N. Haskell, from New England. From missionary fields: Robert Sawyer, from Virginia; L. Caldwell, from Texas; A. O. Burrill, from Alabama; A. C. Bourdeau, from the Province of Quebec; J. N. Andrews, from Switzerland; and D. T. Bourdeau, from France.

Reports presented show the present standing of the Conference to be as follows:--

GENERAL CONFERENCE SUMMARY FOR THE

YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 4, 1878*

Name of Conferences	Ministers	Licentiates	Churches	Members	S.B. Pledges
Maine-----	3	2	16	312	\$ 1,067.84
Vermont-----	7	7	13	525	1,566.39
New England-----	2	3	24	450	3,000.00
New York & Pennsylvania	8	5	40	850	3,643.10
Ohio-----	2	10	14	396	1,570.76
Michigan-----	21	19	108	3258	9,538.56
Indiana-----	4	4	19	380	1,200.00
Wisconsin-----	8	13	47	1156	2,964.88
Illinois-----	9	7	25	700	1,883.63
Minnesota-----	14	21	51	850	3,248.61
Iowa and Nebraska-----	13	17	72	1500	6,000.00
Missouri-----	4	5	14	355	1,200.00
Kansas-----	5	9	26	695	1,356.00
California-----	8	8	29	740	5,899.36
Kentucky & Tennessee--	2	3	6	72	426.89
Oregon-----	3	6	5	215	1,230.00
Texas Mission-----	1	2	4	150	500.00
Gen. Southern Mission-		5	3	68	172.71
European Mission-----	2	5	16	250	600.00
Nevada Mission-----			2	45	508.56
Colorado Mission-----				30	

Danish Mission-----	1	3	5	80	60.00
Total-----	117	154	549	13077	\$47,637.29
As given last year----	106	97	478	11708	47,176.56
Gain during year-----	11	57	71	1369	\$ 460.73

*The figures given in this report are not, in all cases, as large as they should be. For instance, the systematic benevolence figures in some cases are taken from the treasurer's report of money actually received, as published in the Review, no report of the pledge having been sent to the General Conference. But the payments are always below what is pledged, and what can be, and probably will be, in time paid in. Again, we have taken the churches and membership, in some instances, from the report of last year, for although we know there has been an increase, we cannot tell how much. The states from which no report has been received are, Michigan, Missouri, and Vermont.

Secretary.

The reading of the minutes of last session was waived.

On motion the chair appointed the following committees:--

On Nominations: J. N. Andrews, J. N. Loughborough, J. H. Waggoner.

On Resolutions: U. Smith, James White, S. N. Haskell.

On Auditing: W. C. White and H. W. Kellogg.

On Preaching: James White, S. N. Haskell, D. M. Canright.

The following resolution was presented by the president:--

WHEREAS, The impression has gone out from some unknown cause that J. H. Kellogg, M.D., holds infidel sentiments, which does him great injustice, and also endangers his influence as physician-in-chief of the Sanitarium; therefore

RESOLVED, That in our opinion justice to the doctor and the Institute under his medical charge, demand that he should have the privilege of making his sentiments known, and that he be invited to address those assembled on this ground, upon the harmony of science and the Sacred Scriptures.

This resolution was unanimously adopted, after which the Conference adjourned to the call of the chair.

[Note.--In accordance with the foregoing resolution, Dr. Kellogg gave, before a large audience, October 6, an able address on the harmony of science and the Bible, for which the congregation tendered him a vote of thanks.]

SECOND MEETING

The second meeting of the sixteenth annual session of the General Conference was called at 4:30 p.m., October 4. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Harrison Grant presented credentials as delegate from Minnesota. Sister Aurner was received as delegate from Dakota. She spoke in behalf of the people in that territory, and the wants of the cause there. Elder Hanson followed with remarks on the same subject. Seventy-five Scandinavians and twenty-five Americans have embraced the truth there. There are three churches of Scandinavians and one of Americans. Their systematic benevolence amounts to \$300.

Brother Andrews then gave a thrilling account of his work in Europe. The Sabbath approaching, the Conference adjourned to the call of the chair.

THIRD MEETING

Third meeting, Monday, at 10:30 a.m. Prayer by D. M. Canright.

The following additional delegates reported to the Conference: A. R. Henry, from Iowa; C. L. Boyd was received from Nebraska; John Fulton from Ontario; and F. D. Allen from Missouri, Elder G. I. Butler, the appointed delegate, not being present.

Elder N. Wardner, from the Seventh-day Baptist General Conference, was introduced by the president, and favored the Conference with interesting remarks. The congregation, by a rising vote, responded amen to his fraternal words. He was followed in remarks by Elder Waggoner and Elder James White. Elder Wardner was then received as delegate.

U. Smith, having been appointed to revise the constitution, at the session of 1875, reported, presenting the constitution as revised to the present time, and suggesting that there be incorporated into the report the important actions of the Conference since its organization, and directions for organizing churches, and for forming legal societies for holding church property. The report was referred to the publishing committee of the Publishing Association.

U. Smith also reported in response to the action of the last session of the Conference, appointing him a committee to present a better form of church letter. The following recommendation was made: That the letter be not given to the member, but be sent to the church with which the member wishes to unite, in form as follows:--

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

_____, 187

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in _____ to the Seventh-day Adventist Church in _____

Beloved Brethren,--

Whereas, _____ is desirous of uniting with your body, this is to certify that the said _____ is a member of this church in good and regular standing, and that we cordially recommend _____ to your fellowship and care; and when _____ shall have been received by you, and notice of that fact given to us by the return of the accompanying certificate, with the blanks filled, _____ will be no longer considered a member of this church.

This letter is valid for three months from date.

In behalf of the Church.

_____, Clerk.

CERTIFICATE

_____, 187

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in _____ to the Seventh-day Adventist Church in _____, Greeting:--

This is to Certify, That _____ recommended by you to us in a letter dated _____, was, on the _____ day of _____ received as a member of our church. Attest:

_____, Clerk.

It was also suggested that a letter of introduction be furnished to those who have good occasion to go abroad among Sabbath-keepers, reading as follows:--

LETTER OF INTRODUCTION

_____, 187

This is to Certify, That the bearer, _____, is a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in _____ in good and regular standing, and one whom, while absent from us, we can commend to the confidence of Seventh-day Adventists.

This letter is good for three months from date.

In behalf of the Church.

_____, Clerk.

The report was adopted.

The remaining time was occupied by Brother Andrews in giving a further view of the situation in Europe, and in remarks following by Brother and Sister White.

Adjourned to call of chair.

FOURTH MEETING

Fourth meeting at 11 a.m., October 9. Prayer by Elder J. N. Andrews. The following committee recommended the following list of officers for the coming year: for president, Elder James White; secretary, U. Smith; treasurer, M. J. Chapman; Executive Committee, James White, J. H. Kellogg, S. Brownsberger. These persons were unanimously elected to their respective offices.

The North Pacific Conference was received into the General Conference, in accordance with their request, and Elder J. N. Loughborough was received as delegate. A separate conference having been organized in Nebraska, on request of Brother Boyd, the Nebraska Conference was received into the General Conference. On request of J. N. Loughborough, and on their own request, the body of believers in Nevada was taken under the watchcare of the conference.

After remarks by A. C. Bourdeau, James White, and S. N. Haskell, on motion, Canada was taken under the watchcare of the General Conference, as a missionary field.

Brother Hanson spoke in behalf of the Scandinavians in Dakota Territory, and also of the Russian mennonites in that part of the country, and of the need of a new hymn book. Brother Olsen spoke on the same points and the proposed European Danish paper. Brother White spoke on the same subjects, after which the chair was empowered to appoint two other persons to act with himself as a committee to confer with Brethren Hanson and Olsen on this matter.

FIFTH MEETING

Fifth meeting at 6 p.m., October 9. Prayer by U. Smith. Papers were read

by Sister White, and it was voted that they be published in the Review. Brother A. Swedberg was received as delegate to represent the Swedes.

The following resolutions were offered and adopted:--

RESOLVED, That Elders Andrews, White, Haskell, Smith, and Canright be a committee to prepare a work on the Scriptural plan of Systematic Benevolence.

RESOLVED, That Elder L. McCoy, of Sigourney, Iowa, and Brother A. R. Henry, of Indianola, Iowa, be, and hereby are, invited to move, at their earliest convenience, with their families, to Battle Creek, to fill important positions in the work here.

RESOLVED, That Elders J. N. Andrews, J. H. Waggoner, and D. M. Canright be a committee to confer with J. H. Kellogg, M.D., relative to the publication of the able and instructive address which he delivered before the people of Battle Creek and vicinity on the evening of October 6, 1878.

Adjourned to call of the chair.

SIXTH MEETING

Sixth meeting, October 10, at 5:30 p.m. Prayer by S. N. Haskell. Minutes of preceding meetings read and approved. The condition and wants of the cause in California, Kansas, Missouri, Dakota, and Ohio being introduced for consideration, it was

VOTED, That a committee of three be elected to consider what can be done toward supplying their wants, and those of any other portion of the field in like situation, according to their appeals and requests. Elders J. N. Loughborough, S. N. Haskell, and J. H. Waggoner were then, by nomination and vote, elected as such committee.

VOTED, That the General Conference Committee take immediate steps toward the publication of a Manual containing the Constitutions and By-laws of our different organizations,--General Conference, Educational Society, Health Institute, Publishing Associations, and Tract Societies, to which shall be appended a synopsis of the rules of Parliamentary practice applicable to the workings of these organizations.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following, which was adopted unanimously:--

WHEREAS, Our beloved brother, Elder James White, was prevented, by physical infirmity, from taking any part in our meetings at our last camp-

meeting, but has now, by the blessing and good providence of God, been so far raised to health again as to be able to preach to us with his former clearness and power, and to aid by his counsel in all important business matters; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the happy contrast in this respect between our camp-meeting one year ago and our present camp-meeting excites the warmest gratitude of our hearts.

SEVENTH MEETING

Seventh meeting, October 11, at 8:30 a.m. Prayer by J. N. Loughborough. Reading of minutes waived. The committee on the wants of the different conferences reported through S. N. Haskell. The committee suggested that Elder G. I. Butler take the oversight of the Missouri and Kansas Conferences the coming year, which suggestion was adopted. It was then

VOTED, That Elder D. M. Canright take Ohio as his field of labor the coming year, and act as president of that conference.

VOTED, That Brother Hanson take the supervision of the Scandinavian cause in Dakota, Iowa, and Nebraska.

VOTED, That the chair appoint a committee of three to examine the new music book entitled, "The Song Anchor," published by J. E. White, with reference to the propriety of recommending it for adoption by our Sabbath-schools.

Elders S. B. Whitney, B. L. Whitney, and C. W. Stone were appointed as said committee.

Sister White having made instructive remarks on matters pertaining to the Conference work, the Conference tendered her a vote of thanks for her timely suggestions and counsel.

Brethren Brownsberger and Kellogg having declined to act as members of the Executive Committee of the General Conference, on account of other sufficient labors and burdens, they were released from serving, and the subject of nominations to fill the vacancies thus caused referred back to the nominating committee.

Brother Burrill, being called upon, made a statement relative to the cause in the South. At the conclusion of his remarks, it was recommended by vote that as Brother Burrill has labored faithfully, and successfully opened a mission there, he now have the privilege of again laboring in the North, and that Elder J. B. Frisbie take his place in the southern field.

The following resolutions were then adopted:--

RESOLVED, That those who apply for a license to preach the third angel's message, should, before they receive a license, be examined by a competent committee in regard to their doctrinal and educational qualifications.

RESOLVED, That we have a committee of three to suggest a course of study for all our ministers, that committee to report at some future meeting of this session.

The chair being empowered to provide the committee, appointed as such Professor S. Brownsberger, J. H. Kellogg, M.D., and Elder U. Smith.

The following resolutions offered by A. Swedberg were unanimously adopted:--

WHEREAS, Brother James Sawyer has now been laboring for some time in Maine, and

WHEREAS, We believe he could accomplish much more good in Iowa and other Western States, where there is an extensive field of labor among the Swedes; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Conference recommend Brother Sawyer to labor in this western field.

RESOLVED, That we, the Swedish Adventists of Battle Creek, believing that we hereby express the sentiments of all our Swedish brethren, as well as our own, declare ourselves exceedingly thankful to God and to our American brethren for the interest they have taken and are taking in our Swedish Mission, and for the assistance rendered us; and that we show our gratitude by pledging ourselves to do all in our power to advance the Swedish cause, and the cause at large.

Adjourned to call of chair.

EIGHTH MEETING

Eighth meeting, October 11, 1878. Prayer by Elder S. N. Haskell.

Brother L. McCoy was received as delegate from Iowa.

The nominating committee reported the following names to complete the executive board: S. N. Haskell and D. M. Canright. These persons were thereupon elected.

The matter of the Signs of the Times was next considered. After remarks by Brother White, the following resolution was presented by Elder Loughborough:--

RESOLVED, That this Conference recommend that Elder J. H. Waggoner be local editor of the Signs of the Times for the coming year. Carried.

Elder White stated that the price of the paper might be reduced to \$1.20 per copy if there were 10,000 subscribers.

J. E. White having at this point been received as a member of the Conference, the prospect of raising the subscription list of the Signs to the above number, was referred for consideration to the following committee: J. H. Waggoner, J. E. White, and S. N. Haskell.

Adjourned to call of chair.

NINTH MEETING

Ninth meeting, October 14, at 10 a.m.

After prayer by Brother Haskell, Brother S. Maxson, who had just arrived from Oregon, was received as delegate from the North Pacific Conference.

The committee on supplying destitute fields with labor, being called for, reported through S. N. Haskell. Thereupon

Virginia was, by vote, taken under the watchcare of the General Conference.

It was recommended that Elder S. B. Whitney, of New York, make Dakota Territory his field of labor for a while, and that Elder D. M. Canright be transferred from Iowa, where his Conference connection now stands, to Michigan.

The matter of help in Ontario for Brother J. Fulton was referred to the General Conference Committee.

Brother S. H. Lane made an appeal in behalf of Indiana, and Brother G. W. Colcord in behalf of the French in Illinois.

The committee on the circulation of the Signs, being called for, reported, recommending that the Signs be offered as follows:--

Single copy to Sabbath-keepers and old subscribers, \$2.00; single copy, to tract societies only, \$1.50; in clubs of ten to tract societies, at \$1.20 per copy; in smaller clubs, as may be arranged by the tract societies with

their own members; and that churches that will take one hundred copies at \$1.20 each shall have ten extra copies free.

Brother Canright then read a report from Brother C. O. Taylor, in reference to his labors in Georgia.

The following resolution was presented by Brother Haskell, and adopted:--

WHEREAS, The Signs of the Times is a pioneer paper, designed to advocate our views in new fields, therefore

RESOLVED, That we recommend that our brethren pay not less than \$2.00 per year for the paper for themselves; but that the tract societies, ministers, and agents be authorized to offer it to new subscribers at the rate of \$1.50 per year, or four months for 50 cents. And further

RESOLVED, That it be furnished to churches and individuals in clubs of not less than ten, for missionary work, for \$1.20 a copy, smaller clubs being referred to the tract society officers; and that where one hundred copies are taken in clubs, for the above purpose, ten copies extra be furnished free.

The committee appointed to examine the new music book, "The Song Anchor," being called for, reported as follows:--

"Your committee, having performed the work assigned to them as thoroughly as their time would permit, would report that we find the 'Song Anchor' to contain

an excellent selection of music and hymns, which we consider, as a whole, above the ordinary standard of works of this class.

"We are especially pleased to find in it a fair proportion of easy music adapted for use in the ordinary Sabbath-school, as well as a good variety of more difficult pieces for advanced singers in choirs and families.

"One feature of the book especially commendable is freedom from the theological errors so common in books of this class; and as we regard this a matter of vital importance, we recognize in this feature alone a very essential element of a suitable book for our Sabbath-schools.

"Your committee would therefore recommend the 'Song Anchor' as the best work with which we are acquainted for use in our Sabbath-schools; and we also recommend its general adoption by all our schools, believing that it will be of great service in this important department of the work.

B. L. Whitney,
S. B. Whitney,
C. W. Stone,
Committee."

A resolution by Brother Lamson, That the Conference recommend all our ministers to introduce the "Song Anchor," and try to secure its adoption

wherever they may labor, was adopted.

Brother Haskell presented the following:--

WHEREAS, The subject of spiritual gifts is one of importance, and such works as The Spirit of Prophecy, and the Testimonies should be in the hands of all our brethren, therefore

RESOLVED, That we recommend the various tract societies to make a special effort to place them in the library of each church, and in the hands of scattered brethren, and that they encourage the reading of them. And further

RESOLVED, That where these works are used as above stated, we offer them at one-half the retail price, and that the difference between this and the regular wholesale price be paid from the fund raised for circulating these works, said fund to be increased from \$1,000, as at first started, to \$5,000.

MOVED, That this Conference recommend the holding of a camp-meeting in Texas the present autumn, at such time as Brother and Sister White can attend, they to give the appointment. Carried.

MOVED, That the matter of publishing a series of sermons on the principal points of our faith, to be written by Brother White, for the use of readers, colporteurs, visitors, etc., be referred to the General Conference Committee. Carried.

TENTH MEETING

Tenth meeting, October 14, 3 p.m. After prayer by Elder W. H. Littlejohn, Brother J. N. Andrews offered the following resolution:--

RESOLVED, That we request the General Conference Committee to appoint a delegate from this body to the next session of the Seventh-day Baptist General Conference.

This was spoken to by Elder Andrews, who expressed a most kindly feeling toward the Seventh-day Baptists, and a deep interest that this feeling between the two bodies of commandment-keepers should continue and grow deeper. Similar remarks were made by Elders A. C. Spicer and J. H. Waggoner, after which the resolution was adopted.

At this point Elder Andrews read a very interesting letter just received from Dr. Ribton, of Naples, Italy, in which he stated that a man who was a deist, who received the truth from him some time ago, has recently been out laboring in the cause, and that ten persons have embraced the truth under his labors.

The report of the committee on a course of study for ministers, being called for, was presented. After some discussion, it was referred back to the committee, with a grant of further time to perfect it.

The subject of the mission to England being introduced, Elder James White offered the following resolution:--

RESOLVED, That in the opinion of this Conference the time has fully come to open a mission in Great Britain, and

1. That Elder J. N. Loughborough be our missionary to that field.
2. That there should be a committee of three to take the supervision of the entire work in Europe, who should act in harmony with, and under the direction of, the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists of America.
3. That Elder J. N. Andrews, J. N. Loughborough, and a third brother whom these two may appoint, be that committee.

This resolution was unanimously adopted.

Remarks were made by Elder Andrews, Sister White, Elders D. M. Canright, S. N. Haskell, and James White, on the Swiss Mission, the establishment of the press at Bale, and the advisability of recommending W. C. White and wife to go immediately to Switzerland. No action was taken.

The following resolution was offered:--

WHEREAS, Elder White requests the Conference to excuse him from acting as president, therefore

RESOLVED, That we regard it as his privilege to resign at any time he may feel it to be his duty so to do, and that we empower the other two members of the committee to appoint a president to fill the vacancy.

On motion to adopt, the question was put, and the motion was lost.

Adjourned to call of chair.

ELEVENTH MEETING

Eleventh meeting, October 16, 3 p.m. Prayer by Elder J. N. Andrews.

VOTED, That Elder A. O. Burrill accompany Elder D. M. Canright to Ohio to labor there.

VOTED, That D. M. Canright attend the Kentucky Conference.

VOTED, That Brother and Sister White and Brother Haskell attend the two later Kansas camp-meetings.

VOTED, That we recommend Elder Butler to draw two laborers from Iowa to help in Kansas.

VOTED, To recommend Brother E. W. Farnsworth to go to the Pacific Coast to labor.

VOTED, That this Conference recommend Elder D. M. Canright, assisted by C. W. Stone, to hold a tent-meeting in Chicago next tent season.

VOTED, That Elder A. C. Spicer be recommended to labor in the Nebraska Conference.

VOTED, That Brother D. T. Bourdeau be recommended to labor among the French brethren of Illinois.

Adjourned sine die.

James White, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

SPECIAL SESSION, APRIL 17, 1879

BUSINESS PROCEEDINGS

OF THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

The Conference was called to order by the secretary, at the appointed hour, April 17, 1879.

The president, Elder James White, being absent, Elder D. M. Canright was chosen to act as chairman of the meeting.

Elder R. F. Andrews opened the session with prayer.

The list of delegates was as follows:--

Illinois: R. J. Andrews, G. W. Colcord.

Michigan: E. B. Lane, J. Dickey, J. Fargo, A. W. Maynard, Charles Buck, J. S. Day.

Minnesota: W. H. Hall.

Vermont: A. S. Hutchins.

New York and Pennsylvania: B. L. Whitney.
 Indiana: S. H. Lane.
 New England: S. N. Haskell.
 Ohio: D. M. Canright.
 Iowa: L. McCoy.
 Wisconsin: H. W. Decker.
 Europe: J. N. Andrews.

The following were afterward added by vote of the Conference:--

Iowa: E. W. Farnsworth.
 Wisconsin: G. C. Tenney.
 New York: G. Newcome.
 Indiana: S. Rogers.
 Vermont: M. Kellogg.
 Colorado: M. E. Cornell.
 California: W. C. White.
 Europe: D. T. Bourdeau.

All brethren present in good standing were invited to take part in the deliberations of the Conference.

The chair, being empowered to appoint a committee of three on resolutions and a committee of the same number on the subject of camp-meetings, named the following:--

On Resolutions: J. N. Andrews, L. McCoy, G. W. Colcord.
 On Camp-meetings: George I. Butler, B. L. Whitney, H. W. Decker.

Three letters were read from Elder S. B. Whitney, of Dakota, respecting the Russian Sabbath-keepers in that Territory. Upon this subject remarks were made by S. N. Haskell, W. H. Hall, L. McCoy, and D. M. Canright; and, on motion, the matter was referred to the Conference Committee.

Respecting a letter introduced from Elder John Fulton, Ontario, remarks were made by S. N. Haskell, W. H. Hall, D. M. Canright, and J. N. Andrews; and the Committee were instructed by vote to provide a suitable helper for Brother Fulton, if such help can be found.

A letter was read from Elder A. C. Bourdeau, Province of Quebec, upon which remarks were made by A. S. Hutchins, D. M. Canright, and D. T. Bourdeau.

A letter was also read from Elder I. Sanborn, of Virginia, followed by remarks from H. W. Decker, D. M. Canright, and E. B. Lane. By vote, it was recommended that Brother Sanborn, at his earliest convenience, visit the brethren in Maryland.

Adjourned to 3 o'clock p.m.

SECOND MEETING

Prayer by S. N. Haskell. Minutes read and approved.

Augustus Swedberg was invited to represent the Swedish cause, in the Conference.

Brother R. Reed of Douglas, Michigan, presented credentials as delegate from the Michigan Conference. Elder George I. Butler, having arrived since the first meeting, was received as delegate from the Conferences of Missouri and Kansas. Elder C. L. Boyd presented credentials as delegate from Nebraska.

The meeting being open for business, Brother Hutchins presented a request for another laborer, to enable them to run another tent in Vermont the coming summer.

Brother Colcord spoke in reference to plans for Chicago.

Brother Haskell spoke in reference to the cause in New England, suggesting the propriety of holding, in some States, two or three general meetings, instead of a camp-meeting.

The chairman introduced the subject of the cause in Alabama, referring to several letters received from that State calling for help. In view of the situation of the cause there, it was

MOVED, That Elder C. O. Taylor, as he is laboring in Georgia, be hereby requested to visit the brethren in Alabama, and make that for the present a part of his field of labor. Carried.

Appeals from Tennessee for the labors of some one qualified to present the truth, were read by Brother Haskell, one of which contained the names of one hundred and twelve of the citizens of Nashville. Remarks were made by G. I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, and D. M. Canright, on the propriety of presenting the truth, especially in the South, in the cities instead of in the country, as the former are to a much greater extent the centers of the intelligence and wealth of that section.

Reports were received from Elder J. B. Goodrich, Maine, and Elder I. D. Van Horn, Oregon, in reference to their respective conferences. Remarks were made by W. C. White and D. M. Canright respecting the work on the Pacific Coast, and in relation to sending help there as has been suggested through the Review.

MOVED, by R. F. Andrews, That this Conference instruct Elder S. N. Haskell to visit the Pacific Coast, and for a time take charge of the work there.

After some remarks, this was referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

L. McCoy made a strong appeal for Iowa, followed by G. I. Butler. J. Fargo spoke in like manner for Michigan. Both these conferences take some exception to the practice of having their ministers, as soon as they come up to be men of some strength and influence, sent into other fields, leaving the home field to suffer for want of suitable help more, perhaps, than other fields are benefited by the change.

Remarks were then made by different members of the Conference on the importance of caring for churches already raised up rather than neglecting these, and reaching out to raise up new companies. Pointed remarks were made on the evil of this course and the damage which our cause has suffered in consequence in some localities. It was thought that the plan of labor recommended at the last Conference, that ministers take a district and confine their labors principally to that locality for a year, would remedy this somewhat.

The chairman was instructed to arrange for religious meetings for the morrow.

Adjourned to 7:30 p.m., April 17.

THIRD MEETING

After prayer by G. I. Butler, the time was taken up with remarks on various subjects, chief among which was the propriety of making the sessions of the General Conference semi-annual, holding one session in Battle Creek and another with some other Conference, each year. This proposition was spoken to favorably by Brethren Canright, Haskell, Whitney, McCoy, Hall, Decker, Dickey, Lane, and Farnsworth.

Adjourned to call of chair.

FOURTH MEETING, APRIL 18, 9 A.M.

Prayer by C. L. Boyd. M. E. Cornell spoke of the prospects of the cause in Colorado. The brethren there are determined to do what they can to make the cause self-sustaining the present season, and think they will be able to accomplish this object.

G. I. Butler reported the condition of the cause in Missouri. New elements

are coming to the surface, and a great change for the better is taking place in that State.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following:--

1. RESOLVED, That we again urge our ministers not to leave new converts and churches immediately after they have embraced the message; but to visit them often and regularly till they are thoroughly settled in all the truth and organized, and all are gathered in who can be reached.

2. RESOLVED, That we believe it is wisdom to make a special effort to add to small, weak companies, instead of leaving them to die out while raising up similar companies in new fields to in turn be left in like manner.

3. RESOLVED, That in order to save time and traveling expenses, and make each minister responsible for the completion of his own work, we recommend that, as far as practicable, each minister be assigned a definite field in which to labor for at least one year.

On motion to adopt, the first resolution was spoken to by S. N. Haskell, J. N. Andrews, H. W. Decker, G. W. Colcord, A. S. Hutchins, and adopted.

The subject of the tithing system having been made the special order at 9:30, and the hour having arrived, Elder Canright, according to appointment, spoke for thirty minutes on this subject, after which a considerable time was spent in asking and answering questions in reference thereto. G. W. Colcord moved the following:--

WHEREAS, Some fail to pay the Lord's tithe as received, but use it for themselves, hoping to meet the obligation at the close of the quarter, and

WHEREAS, Some fail to pay the Lord's tithe as received, but use it for themselves, hoping to meet the obligation at the close of the quarter, and

WHEREAS, They thus frequently, by inability to pay at the appointed time, cause trial to themselves, burdens to the financial officers, and so far a virtual failure of the plan, therefore

RESOLVED, That all our brethren and sisters should regard it their duty to tithe all their income at the time they receive it.

The special order being disposed of, the question of the adoption of the previous resolutions was resumed.

Resolution 2 was then read and passed. Resolution 3 was read, and while the question of its adoption was pending, the Conference adjourned to 2:30 p.m.

FIFTH MEETING, APRIL 18, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by H. W. Decker. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved. The question before the Conference being the adoption of Resolution 3, it was unanimously adopted without further discussion.

The subject of the European Mission was then introduced by J. N. Andrews. He spoke of the difficulties under which laborers in foreign fields are placed, while the General Conference Committee are so scattered, and are so overburdened with other duties. He proposed that there be an officer selected to fill a place corresponding in some respects to the Secretary of the Missionary Boards of other denominations; and he therefore accordingly--

MOVED, That an officer as above designated be selected, who shall inform himself fully in reference to all the foreign work, and be prepared to respond to the communications of laborers in foreign fields without delay; this action being considered temporary, subject to rejection or confirmation at the next annual session of the Conference. Carried.

A motion being made that the General Conference Committee select a man to act in the capacity indicated in the foregoing motion, the motion was amended by designating W. C. White as said officer, and as amended was then passed.

Elder Andrews also spoke of the slight increase of expense that would be necessary to issue a paper in the German language, and the urgent need already existing for such a paper; and he asked that sometime before the session closed an expression should be made by the Conference with reference to the project of issuing such a paper.

The subject of the Danish Mission was next introduced, and discussed at some length. Whereupon it was

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three to take into consideration the subject of the Danish Mission, and report what action they think can be taken to best sustain the same.

W. C. White, A. B. Oyen, and G. I. Butler were appointed as such committee.

The subject of changing the form of the Tidende, and issuing it semi-monthly, instead of monthly as theretofore, was presented by W. C. White. He reported that the Danish brethren, so far as heard from, are in favor of the change. After being discussed by Brethren Haskell, Decker, Oyen, Butler, and Andrews, all favoring the change suggested, the question was referred to the Committee on the Scandinavian Mission.

SIXTH MEETING, APRIL 21, 9 A.M.

Prayer by S. N. Haskell.

The following resolutions were introduced by Elder Haskell:--

RESOLVED, That this Conference approve of the creation of a "Home and Foreign Educational Fund," to assist worthy young men and women to prepare themselves for missionary work, and we recommend all our people to contribute toward this object; said fund to be under the control of the General Conference Committee.

Elders Haskell, S. H. Lane, Miller, and Butler spoke to this resolution, after which it was adopted.

WHEREAS, The Sabbath-school work and tract and missionary interests in Michigan require more especial attention than can be rendered by the presidents and proper officers of these organizations, therefore

RESOLVED, That this Conference hereby recommend that W. C. White visit the churches, as far as consistent with his other duties, in the interest of the Sabbath-school and missionary work.

This was advocated so forcibly by S. N. Haskell that other brethren added no more; and it was unanimously passed.

WHEREAS, There is a constant immigration of Sabbath-keepers into Battle Creek, some of whom greatly weaken their home church by leaving, and can be of no benefit to the cause here, therefore

RESOLVED, That we entirely disapprove of this course, and recommend that those who contemplate moving to Battle Creek first consult their own State Conference Committee and the elders of the church in Battle Creek.

This was greeted with several motions to adopt, a still greater number of seconds, and the cry of "question" all over the house. It being a recommendation of self-evident propriety, it was unanimously adopted without discussion.

Elder J. N. Andrews offered the following:--

WHEREAS, The ill health of our beloved Brother White has made it impracticable for him to return to this part of the country to be present at this Conference, therefore

RESOLVED, That we express our deep sympathy for him in his affliction, and our great regret that we have been deprived of his counsel in our business, and his assistance at the dedication of our Tabernacle. We hold in grateful

remembrance the faithful labors of Brother and Sister White, and shall never forget the debt of gratitude we owe to them.

This was unanimously and most heartily adopted by a rising vote of the whole congregation.

RESOLVED, That we recognize the hand of God in the advancement of his cause among the Scandinavians, and that we hereby express our gratitude to him, and our sympathy with our missionaries who are laboring in that field; and we pledge ourselves to sustain them by our prayers and with our means.

This was presented by J. N. Andrews, who moved and advocated its adoption, which was sustained.

RESOLVED, That we request the General Conference Committee to select from all parts of the country the most suitable of our young people, to be educated at our College for the missionary work, whether home or foreign. In all cases such young persons should be educated at the expense of their own friends so far as this is possible; but where necessary they should receive assistance, either from our missionary fund or from their own church, or Conference, as the General Conference Committee may advise.

Some time was devoted to remarks upon this resolution by J. N. Andrews, G. I. Butler, D. T. Bourdeau, D. M. Canright, and W. C. White. Adopted.

From the Committee on Resolutions:--

WHEREAS, The spiritual prosperity of our churches depends largely upon the watchcare of their respective Conferences; and

WHEREAS, This watchcare, to a great degree, depends upon a correct understanding of the condition of these churches, therefore

RESOLVED, That the elder or leader of each church be hereby requested to make a report of the spiritual standing of his church to the president of the conference, immediately after each quarterly meeting.

This was spoken to by H. W. Decker, E. B. Lane, J. Fargo, and W. C. White, and adopted.

MOVED, By H. W. Decker, That a committee of three be appointed by the chair to prepare the requisite blanks for such church reports as are called for in the foregoing resolution. Carried.

W. C. White, J. Fargo, and S. N. Haskell were appointed as said committee.

By S. Brownsberger:--

WHEREAS, The influence among the youth in the public schools and colleges of the land tends to corrupt our children, and cause them to lose their interest and confidence in present truth, therefore

RESOLVED, That we endeavor to impress upon our brethren the importance of sending their children to Battle Creek, to receive the educational and moral benefits offered at our College.

After remarks by S. Brownsberger, A. Carpenter, S. H. Lane, J. Dickey, S. N. Haskell, and G. I. Butler, the resolution was adopted.

MOVED, That this Conference hereby invite G. I. Butler to write an article on the subject of the foregoing resolution. Carried.

MOVED, by S. N. Haskell, That the chairman appoint a committee of two to act with himself to prepare a manual of instruction for church officers. Carried.

Brethren Haskell and Butler were appointed as said committee.

By S. H. Lane:--

WHEREAS, The works of Sister White, which of late have been introduced into some of our churches throughout the various state conferences, have already accomplished much good, therefore

RESOLVED, That we earnestly recommend the presidents of our state conferences, and the directors of all our tract and missionary districts, to use every proper effort to introduce these works into all our churches throughout the country.

Discussed by Brethren Haskell, Butler, Farnsworth, Smith, and Andrews, and passed.

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three to act with the General Conference Committee to consider the question of the republication of Experience and Views. Carried.

The committee appointed at the last annual Conference to suggest a course of study for ministers reported through the chairman, Professor Brownsberger, and the meeting adjourned.

SEVENTH MEETING, APRIL 22, 11 A.M.

Prayer by E. W. Farnsworth. The subject of the report of the committee on the course of study for ministers was resumed. After some discussion, the report was referred back to the committee.

A communication from Brother De Vos, a young man who took a position four months ago in the job room of the Review Office, and has since become a full convert to our faith, and who now wishes to prepare himself to translate our works into the Holland language, and thus labor among his own people, was received, and referred to a committee composed of the Michigan Conference Committee, with the addition of W. C. White, U. Smith, and H. W. Decker.

The following resolutions were then introduced and adopted:--

RESOLVED, That the General Conference recommend E. W. Farnsworth to labor in Iowa the remaining part of this Conference year, while Brother McCoy, the president, is employed at the Sanitarium, and further, that Brother Farnsworth (if the remaining members of the Iowa Conference agree) act as president during that time.

RESOLVED, That we express our heartfelt gratitude to God for the prosperity attending the Scandinavian Mission, and the labors of our beloved Brother Matteson in Christiana, Norway; and that we recognize in his success a cheering token of the approach of that time when all the earth will be lightened with the glory of the closing message.

RESOLVED, That we have read with deep interest the earnest appeals for help made by Brother Matteson to his American brethren; and that as we most earnestly desire, in the infancy of the work, to render all the assistance possible consistent with the prosperity of the work in other important fields, we recommend Brother Martin M. Olsen, of Wisconsin, to go to his assistance as a laborer at once, also Sister Anna K. Rasmussen, to assist in the work of printing the paper and other publications.

RESOLVED, That we recommend Brother J. P. Jasperson to arrange his affairs to go to Brother Matteson's assistance as soon as he can consistently leave the important field of Minnesota, and the providence of God shall open the way before him to go.

RESOLVED, That we approve of Brother Matteson's action in starting a paper in Christiana, and recommend that he continue to publish it in such manner as advised by the General Conference Committee.

RESOLVED, That we advise Elder Matteson to purchase the type and material

necessary to the publication of the paper and our smaller tracts.

RESOLVED, That we gladly recognize the hand of Providence in the openings appearing in Sweden for the spread of the truth, and in the conversion of some who promise to be helps to the cause in the future. And in view of the fact that there is no living preacher laboring there, we recommend Brother Matteson to take a special interest in the cause in that country, and by correspondence or personal labor render all the assistance he can consistently with his other duties.

RESOLVED, That we feel the deepest interest in the work in Italy and Egypt, and deeply sympathize with Dr. Ribton in his affliction.

RESOLVED, That we advise Elder Andrews, on his return to Europe, to visit England, Egypt, and Italy, and become acquainted with the progress of the work in these countries; and that as soon as the work in Switzerland will admit of his absence, he should also visit Denmark and Norway.

RESOLVED, That we deem it desirable for Dr. Ribton to labor for a time with Elder Andrews in Switzerland, if there be no plain duty to remain in Egypt; and that we favor the publication of an Italian paper as soon as practicable.

WHEREAS, The duty of paying a tithe of our income to the cause of the Lord has been shown by unanswerable arguments from the Scriptures to be binding upon us, and

WHEREAS, This practice, where it has been adopted, has proved a most gratifying success, resulting in improving the financial condition of our conferences, therefore

RESOLVED, That we earnestly request our brethren everywhere to take their stand fully and heartily upon this system, believing that it will not only improve the financial condition of the cause, but bring a great blessing to themselves personally.

WHEREAS, It appears evident that the labors of Brother Haskell are very much needed at the present time on the Pacific Coast, therefore

RESOLVED, That he visit immediately California, Oregon, and Nevada, to labor as long as in his judgment it may be necessary.

EIGHTH MEETING, APRIL 22, 4:30 P.M.

Prayer by George I. Butler.

The following resolution on temperance was read:--

WHEREAS, We as a people profess to regard the principles of true health and temperance reform in their broadest sense as an important part of the system of truths which we hold and advocate, and whereas we believe that the interests of the general cause will be greatly forwarded by giving greater prominence to the subjects of health and temperance than has been done heretofore, therefore

RESOLVED, That we commend the effort now being made among us to effect a general organization having for its object the promulgation of reformatory ideas on the subject of health and temperance, and encourage our people everywhere to take a hearty interest in the work, giving it their support and co-operation.

This was discussed by Brethren Decker, Bourdeau, W. C. White, Haskell, Hutchins, Dr. Kellogg, Farnsworth, McCoy, Butler, R. F. Andrews, and S. H. Lane, and referred to a committee of three to be appointed by the chair.

Elder J. N. Andrews, Dr. J. H. Kellogg, and Elder E. W. Farnsworth were appointed as said committee.

Elder Butler, as chairman of the committee on the subject of camp-meetings, reported that they had not completed their schedule for the order of camp-meetings.

The subject of unhappy marriages was introduced, and discussed by Brethren S. H. King and B. L. Whitney, with reference to the question as to what can be done to prevent or remedy the evil. This subject was referred to a committee of three, to be appointed by the chair.

Elders W. H. Littlejohn, S. N. Haskell, and G. I. Butler were appointed as such committee.

The subject of tobacco-selling was presented to the Conference, with the question whether the practice of selling tobacco should debar a person from church fellowship, the same as tobacco-using.

This question was referred to the committee on marriages.

MOVED, That this Conference recommend that Brother J. Moore, of Minnesota, go to the assistance of Brother J. Fulton, in Ontario. Carried.

MOVED, That we recommend that immediate steps be taken for the publication of a German paper, either at Bale, or at Battle Creek, as the General Conference Committee may decide. Carried.

NINTH MEETING, APRIL 23, 9 A.M.

Prayer by J. N. Andrews. Minutes of preceding meeting read and approved.

The chair, having appointed a committee on the circulation of the writings of Sister White, according to a motion made in the sixth meeting, said committee reported as follows:--

"Your committee appointed to consider the subject of the republication of the testimonies and the circulation of the writings of Sister White, would recommend that the testimonies be kept always in print. And in consideration of the fact that the best and easiest way to remove prejudice against the writings and special work of Sister White is the free circulation of her books, we further recommend that our brethren everywhere, and the ministers especially, supply themselves with one or more copies of the Life of Christ Library to loan to those who would be benefited by the perusal of those works.

Respectfully submitted,

J. N. Andrews,
U. Smith,
B. L. Whitney,
Committee."

The committee on the temperance organization reported that they had no other plan than that proposed in the previous resolution, but would recommend that the initiation fee now charged for admission into the society should be so modified as not to stand in the way of those joining who would not be prepared at first to contribute to the funds of the society. The question being on the adoption of the previous resolution, after a little further discussion it was adopted.

By Dr. Kellogg:--

WHEREAS, The Sanitarium is recognized by us as a denomination as an important institution, and one which may be the means of much good, and a valuable auxiliary to the carrying forward of our general work, and

WHEREAS, This institution is by recent improvements furnished with facilities for largely increased usefulness, which have been supplied through the incurment of a large debt, therefore

RESOLVED, That we urge our people everywhere, and especially those engaged in tract and missionary work, to do all in their power, consistent with other duties, to extend the influence of the institution and to increase its patronage. Adopted.

Remarks were made by Dr. Hough on the openings for the truth in the Saginaw

Valley. Brother Swedberg spoke for the Swedish cause. W. C. White spoke of the injustice which is done to the Office by those who take advantage of missionary club rates to supply themselves with papers, and who retail books at a discount from Office prices. Elder Andrews spoke of his anxiety that some steps should be taken, if possible, to help Brother A. Vuilleumier, so that without embarrassment to his business he might take the field as a public laborer in the cause. No action was taken upon any of the foregoing points except the latter, upon which it was

MOVED, That H. W. Kellogg, D. M. Canright, and W. C. White be a committee to take into consideration the request of Brother Andrews in reference to Brother Vuilleumier, and if possible devise ways and means by which it may be granted.

The Conference then adjourned sine die. D. M. Canright, Pres. pro tem.
U. Smith, Secretary.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

November 7, 1879

The Conference assembled, according to appointment, in the Tabernacle at Battle Creek, Michigan, at 10:30 a.m., November 7, 1879. The president, Elder James White, announced hymn 164 of Spiritual Songs, after the singing of which the Conference was led in prayer by U. Smith. The hymn, "Nearer My God to Thee," was then sung, and brief opening remarks were made by the president.

Delegates being called for, thirty-three responded, representing sixteen conferences and one mission. Others were afterward added, so that in all twenty conferences and two missions were represented by thirty-nine delegates, as follows:--

Maine: R. S. Webber.

New England: D. A. Robinson, G. F. Haines.

Vermont: C. W. Stone, R. S. Owen.

New York: B. L. Whitney, M. H. Brown, E. S. Lane.

Pennsylvania: D. B. Oviatt, J. G. Saunders.

Ohio: D. M. Canright, G. G. Rupert.

Tennessee: G. K. Owen.

Michigan: W. H. Littlejohn, J. Fargo, William Ostrander, M. B. Miller,
E. R. Jones, W. C. White, E. B. Lane.

Indiana: S. H. Lane, W. W. Sharp.
 Illinois: A. A. John, G. W. Colcord.
 Wisconsin: H. W. Decker, O. A. Olsen.
 Minnesota: Harrison Grant, L. H. Ells, A. Mead.
 Dakota: S. B. Whitney.
 Nebraska: C. L. Boyd. A. J. Cudney.
 Iowa: L. McCoy.
 Missouri: G. I. Butler.
 Kansas: Smith Sharp, W. E. Dawson.
 Texas: G. I. Butler.
 California: S. N. Haskell.
 North Pacific: S. N. Haskell.
 Colorado Mission: A. O. Burrill.
 Ontario Mission: John Fulton.

Minutes of last session read and approved.

The chairman appointed the usual committees, as follows:--

On Nominations: J. Fargo, O. A. Olsen, S. B. Whitney.

On Resolutions: Smith Sharp, H. W. Decker, S. H. Lane, A. O. Burrill, B. L. Whitney.

On Auditing: H. W. Kellogg, Franklin Howe.

Reports of committees appointed at last Conference, being called for, were presented as follows:--

1. The committee having in charge the matter of the Russian Sabbath-keepers in Dakota, requested Elder S. B. Whitney, who had been laboring near them, to report. He said that a brother who speaks their language had visited them, and found them holding fast, and anxious to become identified with us as a people. He thought the prospect good for success in that field.

2. The committee on blanks for church reports reported that the blanks had been printed, and were ready for use.

3. The committee on the question of unhappy marriages and tobacco-selling reported progress in the investigation of these questions, but all the members of the committee not being present, the final report was deferred till they should have opportunity for mutual consultation on the subject.

4. The committee on the question of financial help for Brother A. Vuilleumier to enable him to enter the work of the ministry, reported that some help had been obtained for him in New York.

5. The committee on the preparation of a Church Manual reported that they had not had opportunity for mutual consultation on the subject, but the chairman of the committee had written out the main points of the work, which he was ready to submit to the examination of the Conference in any way they might think

proper.

Adjourned to 2:30 p.m.

SECOND MEETING, NOVEMBER 7, 1879, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by Brother White. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

On motion, a committee of five was appointed by the chairman to have in charge the matter of furnishing reports of the meeting to leading papers in this and adjacent states. This committee was composed of D. M. Canright, S. H. Lane, A. O. Burrill, J. Fargo, and A. A. John.

A report was read from A. C. Bourdeau respecting the work in the Province of Quebec, and one from J. N. Andrews respecting the work in Europe.

Interesting remarks were made by the chairman and W. C. White respecting missionary fields, and particularly the work in Europe.

J. Fulton gave a verbal report of the work in Ontario. He reported a great change for the better within the past two years. It is becoming a very important field. There are two organized churches and about 70 Sabbath-keepers in that Province. He considered the prospect for the spread of the truth there as good as in any other field.

The necessity of the creation of a Missionary Board, to give more especial attention to missions, was spoken upon, but no action was taken.

Adjourned to November 8, at 7:30 p.m.

THIRD MEETING, NOVEMBER 10, 1879, 2:30 P.M.

It having been found advisable to occupy evening after the Sabbath in devotional exercises, the chair called the third meeting of the Conference at 2:30 p.m., November 10. The hymn, "Waiting and Watching," was sung, and prayer was offered by the chairman.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved.

The committee on furnishing papers with an account of the meeting, reported that they had corresponded with various papers, and that reports were being prepared for the same by Sister B. L. Whitney.

The Committee on Nominations presented a report, recommending officers of the Conference for the coming year, as follows:--

For president, Elder James White.

For secretary, Elder U. Smith.

For treasurer, Mrs. M. J. Chapman.

For Executive Committee, Elder James White, Elder S. N. Haskell, Elder George I. Butler.

On motion, these names were acted upon separately, and each nominee was unanimously elected.

The Committee on Resolutions made a partial report, was follows:--

1. WHEREAS, The system of districting States has proved a success in those conferences where it had been introduced, therefore

RESOLVED, That we recommend each State Conference to divide its State into districts, assigning to each minister a district in which to labor, under the direction of the Conference Committee.

This resolution was adopted, after being discussed by S. N. Haskell, D. M. Canright, H. Grant, M. B. Miller, W. C. White, G. W. Colcord, and James White.

2. RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this Conference, that it is the duty of each conference secretary to furnish quarterly to the secretary of the General Conference a statistical and financial report of the churches of his conference.

This was discussed by W. C. White, S. N. Haskell, James White, and B. L. Whitney, and adopted.

3. RESOLVED, That this Conference elect annually a Mission Board of five, who shall have the special oversight of all our foreign missions, under the advice of the General Conference Committee; said Mission Board to report annually to the General Conference.

The motion to adopt was spoken to by S. N. Haskell, W. C. White, James White, and C. L. Boyd; and while the question was pending, the Conference adjourned to the call of the chair.

FOURTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 12, 1879, 3 P.M.

The hymn, "Long for My Saviour I've Been Waiting," was sung, and prayer was offered by Elder H. W. Decker.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

The discussion of the third resolution being resumed, it was referred to a special committee of three to be appointed by the chair.

Elders S. N. Haskell, B. L. Whitney, and Smith Sharp were thereupon appointed as said committee.

4. WHEREAS, The Song Anchor has received universal approbation wherever it has been introduced, and

WHEREAS, Its present popular price is favorable to its general introduction therefore,

RESOLVED, That we not only recommend its use among our people, but that we urge our brethren everywhere to do all in their power to bring the book into use, as far as possible, among those not of our faith.

Adopted without discussion.

5. WHEREAS, The holding of our general semi-annual and State Conferences and our general camp-meetings, necessitates extensive travel on the part of our people, and

WHEREAS, The transportation of our publications constitutes a large and increasing business, involving the outlay of a considerable amount of funds, therefore

RESOLVED, That this Conference appoint a committee of five, whose duty it shall be to have in charge the work of securing such reduction of passenger and freight tariff, as should be obtained.

This was amended by striking out that part of the preamble and resolution that related to freight tariff, and, as amended, it was adopted.

The following-named brethren were then elected by vote of the Conference as the committee called for by the resolution:--

Elders S. N. Haskell, B. L. Whitney, G. W. Colcord, L. McCoy, and George I. Butler.

6. RESOLVED, That it should not be considered that any minister has fully discharged his duty in any new field where a company of Sabbath-keepers has been raised up, until he has fully advocated, in public and in private, the subjects of Health and Temperance and Spiritual Gifts, and organized Systematic Benevolence; and a failure in this shall be considered worthy of censure; and the Auditing Committee should take this into account when settling with him.

Adopted.

Adjourned to call of chair.

FIFTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 13, 1879, 3 P.M.

Prayer by O. A. Olsen. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

The following question was presented to the Conference for answer:--

"What is the position of a leader of a church when there is no elder? What are his duties? and what is his authority?"

This was referred to the Committee on the Church Manual.

A communication was read from Elder S. Osborn, of Kentucky, and one from L. P. Hodges, of North Carolina.

MOVED, That we recommend the General Conference to furnish credentials and licenses to all those laboring in its employ. Carried.

A communication was then read from Elder C. O. Taylor, of Georgia, on consideration of which it was

MOVED, That the chairman appoint a committee of three who shall inquire more particularly into the status of the cause in the entire Southern field, and report to the General Conference Committee. Carried.

7. RESOLVED, That this Conference cordially invite our beloved Brother and Sister, Elder James White and wife, so far as possible, and consistent with their many other duties, to attend one general meeting in each conference annually, that the benefit of their great experience and their verbal testimonies may be enjoyed in all parts of the great field.

Adjourned to call of chair.

SIXTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 20, 1879, 9:30 A.M.

Prayer by Elder George I. Butler.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved. [Note: It was voted that the doings of the four following meetings, as herein recorded, be withheld from publication; to wit:--]

The committee on the subject of unhappy marriages and tobacco-selling, reported through its chairman, W. H. Littlejohn, who, after speaking a few

words in reference to the circumstances which have brought this question up, offered the following resolution:--

WHEREAS, There is at the present time an alarming tendency in the public sentiment toward extremely lax views on the subject of the marriage relation; and

WHEREAS, Legal divorces are now granted by the courts for causes which are in themselves utterly insufficient as the basis of such action; and

WHEREAS, We are anxious, as far as lies in our power, to stay the tide of corruption which is thereby inundating the nation; therefore

RESOLVED, 1. That after mature deliberation, we express it as our conviction that the New Testament plainly teaches the fact that there is in this dispensation but one sufficient cause for divorce; and that it is alone to be found in the commission of the sin of adultery by one or the other of the parties to the marriage contract.

RESOLVED, 2. That we most earnestly recommend that in all things our churches should pursue a course in harmony with the above principles, by refusing to receive into their numbers any persons who have been divorced for any other cause than that of adultery, and have subsequently been married to another person, with whom he or she is living in the relation of husband or wife, during the lifetime of the person from whom such individual was improperly divorced.

RESOLVED, 3. That in all cases where it shall be found that there are members of existing churches who are living together as man and wife in violation of the foregoing principles, such cases should not be dealt with until the advice of the General Conference Committee, or that of the Conference Committee of the State to which the church belongs, shall have been sought and obtained.

These resolutions being taken up for consideration, the first with its preambles was unanimously passed without discussion. On motion to adopt the second, several brethren spoke upon the question, and while the motion was pending, the hour for the Biblical Institute having arrived, the Conference adjourned to the call of the chair.

SEVENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 21, 1879, 10 A.M.

Prayer by George I. Butler. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

The discussion of the second resolution presented by the committee on unhappy marriages was resumed, and the time of this entire meeting was taken up

with this question. It was spoken to by Elders George I. Butler, James White, R. S. Webber, W. H. Littlejohn, C. L. Boyd, and D. M. Canright. The question being one involving such serious consequences, the brethren were averse to coming to a decision upon it till after the most mature deliberation; and the Conference therefore again adjourned to the call of the chair.

EIGHTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 23, 1879, 2 P.M.

Prayer by George I. Butler. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

The discussion of the pending resolution was resumed, and remarks were made by Elders James White, G. I. Butler, Smith Sharp, R. J. Lawrence, D. H. Lamson, C. L. Boyd, R. S. Webber, M. B. Miller, D. M. Canright, W. H. Littlejohn, and Mrs. E. G. White.

The resolution was then laid on the table.

The motion on the first resolution and preambles was then reconsidered, and laid on the table.

The third resolution was then laid on the table.

The committee further reported, presenting the question of tobacco-selling, recommending that the line be drawn between liquor-selling and tobacco-selling. Whereupon it was

MOVED, That the selling of tobacco be not considered a sufficient cause for refusing or withdrawing church fellowship.

This motion was laid on the table.

MOVED, That the question of unhappy marriages and tobacco-selling be presented in an address by the General Conference Committee.

While this question was pending, the Conference adjourned to 7 o'clock, evening.

NINTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 23, 1879, 7 P.M.

Prayer by C. L. Boyd. Minutes approved.

The pending motion was further considered and laid on the table.

MOVED, That the proceedings of the past four meetings be withheld from the publication. Carried.

The Committee on Resolutions were instructed to convey to Sister White the sympathy of the Conference in her work, and also to consider by what means both Brother and Sister White can be provided with better facilities for accomplishing the work they have on hand.

THE CAUSE IN CALIFORNIA

MOVED, That Elder G. I. Butler, W. C. White, H. W. Kellogg, B. L. Whitney, and J. H. Kellogg be a committee before whom Elder S. N. Haskell may lay a full report of the condition of the cause and his work on the Pacific Coast.

A communication from Elder J. H. Waggoner relative to his work in California was referred to the same committee.

The treasurer's report was presented, showing the amount received and expended, and the present condition of the treasury, as follows:--

GENERAL CONFERENCE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 14, 1879

Amount of indebtedness October 1, 1878-----	\$1033.44
Amount paid out during year-----	7556.58
Total-----	<u>\$8590.02</u>
Amount received during the year-----	<u>\$8848.62</u>
Cash in treasury to balance-----	<u>258.60</u>
	<u>\$8848.62</u>

Mrs. M. J. Chapman, Treasurer.

The report was accepted.

MOVED, That G. I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, and B. L. Whitney be a committee to consider the matter of a more extensive circulation of the writings of Mrs. E. G. White. Carried.

TENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 24, 1879, 9:30 A.M.

Prayer by W. E. Dawson. Elder J. O. Corliss was received as an additional delegate from Michigan.

The committee on the circulation of the writings of Sister White reported that they had not yet completed their consideration of the matter; but the chairman of the committee, Elder G. I. Butler, took occasion to set forth some of the reasons why her works should be more widely circulated. Brother and Sister White followed with interesting and instructive remarks upon the same

subject.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following:--

HELP FOR BROTHER AND SISTER WHITE

WHEREAS, This Conference has invited Brother and Sister White to attend the different State meetings held by our people, and

WHEREAS, It is desirable that much of their public teaching should be reported for the press; and

WHEREAS, They have important writings which should be in print as soon as possible, therefore

RESOLVED, That this Conference authorize them to employ reporters, copyists, and such other help as they deem necessary to aid them in this work, at the expense of the General Conference.

This was adopted without discussion, when the committee reported further, as follows:--

THE TABERNACLE DEBT

WHEREAS, There are unpaid pledges on the Tabernacle to the amount of \$7,000, and an unprovided indebtedness of \$3,000, making an entire debt on the Tabernacle of \$10,000, and

WHEREAS, The Publishing Association is in need of this amount, which it has furnished for the completion of the building, therefore

RESOLVED, That we recommend the immediate payment of all the pledges now due, and the raising of such additional funds as may be needed to liquidate the entire debt.

RESOLVED, That the General Conference Committee, together with the presidents of the State Conferences here present, be a committee to apportion the amount yet to be raised, and to recommend the amount each conference should be expected to furnish.

This was discussed by W. C. White, M. B. Miller, James White, B. L. Whitney, and G. I. Butler, and adopted.

ELEVENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 24, 1879, 2 P.M.

Prayer by Elder S. N. Haskell. The Committee on Resolutions continued their report by presenting the following, which were briefly discussed and adopted:--

CHANGING APPOINTMENTS

WHEREAS, The changing of appointments of our general State meetings after the appointment has appeared in print, has worked against the interest of these meetings, therefore

RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this Conference that when an appointment for such a meeting has been published, it should in no case be changed without the consent of the State Conference Committee of the State where such meeting is to be held.

THE HEALTH AND TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION

RESOLVED, That in the opinion of this body it is the duty of all the members of this denomination to become members of the American Health and Temperance Association, and to use their influence in inducing others to unite in this reformatory effort.

RESOLVED, That the officers of the several State societies of the American Health and Temperance Association be requested to take energetic measures for the formation of Health and Temperance clubs in every church where such an organization is expedient, and urge the hearty co-operation of all members of the denomination.

RESOLVED, That the Conference Committee of each conference be requested to encourage proper persons to fit themselves to engage in the Health and Temperance work; and we especially urge all ministers to prepare themselves to present the subject of Health and Temperance in an efficient and practical manner, and make it a part of their work in their various fields of labor.

THE EDUCATIONAL AID FUND

RESOLVED, That we approve of the plan now being adopted by most of our State Conferences of raising an educational aid fund to assist worthy persons to attend our school at Battle Creek. And we recommend those conferences which have not yet adopted this plan, to do so at once.

BATTLE CREEK COLLEGE

RESOLVED, That we again recommend our people everywhere to patronize the Battle Creek College, and encourage others to patronize it.

The subjects of the English Mission, the work in Sweden, Switzerland and other parts of Europe were considered at some length, but no resolution was adopted concerning them.

TWELFTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 24, 1879, 7 P.M.

Prayer by Elder James White. Minutes of previous meeting approved.

Elder G. I. Butler presented the following resolutions:--

ORDINATION

WHEREAS, Certain difficulties in the past in connection with this cause have grown out of the subject of ordination, arising from the question, Who is authorized to baptize and administer the other ordinances of the church? and

WHEREAS, In the rapid growth of this cause, these difficulties will probably increase, as it extends to other people and draws from other denominations ministers and official members, and

WHEREAS, It is very desirable that some uniform plan of action should be adopted by our different conferences and ministers in all parts of the field; and as our work has reached that stage where some action on this subject is eminently desirable, therefore

RESOLVED, That to meet this want we express the opinion as the sense of this Conference, that none but those who are Scripturally ordained are properly qualified to administer baptism and other ordinances.

This was discussed by Elders G. I. Butler, James White, and D. M. Canright, and adopted. The following was also discussed by the brethren last named, and by A. O. Burrill, A. A. John, and E. B. Lane, and adopted:--

WHEREAS, We regard ordination as a solemn and impressive ceremony, sanctioned by the Holy Scriptures and indicating the setting apart, or separation, of the person receiving it from the body of believers with whom he has been associated, to perform the office to which he is ordained, and as suggestive of the conferring of those spiritual blessings which God must impart to properly qualify him for that position; and

WHEREAS, In our age of the world there are many different sets of professing Christians which teach more or less of false doctrine, and whose

practices are in many respects inconsistent with the principles of our faith; and

WHEREAS, Ordination signifies the setting apart, or appointment, of a person to some official position; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we consider it inconsistent for our conferences to grant credentials to individuals to occupy official positions among our people, who have never been ordained or set apart by our people.

MOVED, That G. I. Butler, B. L. Whitney, and W. C. White be a special committee to consider the subject of the proper qualifications of ministers, and report to the next meeting of the Conference. Carried.

THIRTEENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 25, 1879, 9:30 A.M.

Prayer by Elder James White. Minutes of previous meeting approved.

THE MISSIONARY BOARD

The committee to whom was referred the subject of the creation of a Missionary Board, reported by recommending that the following persons constitute such Board for the coming year; namely, W. C. White, Mrs. M. J. Chapman, Elder O. A. Olsen, Miss Maud Sisley, and Elder B. L. Whitney.

An amendment to increase the number of the Board from five to nine by the addition of four more members was carried, and the motion, as amended, prevailed. Miss M. L. Huntley, Secretary of the General Tract and Missionary Society, and Elder U. Smith, were then added, after which it was

MOVED, That the committee by whom the foregoing Board was nominated, be instructed to present a nomination for the two remaining members, at some future meeting. Carried.

Some very stirring remarks on the subject of missionary work were made at this point by Sister White.

CIRCULATION OF MRS. E. G. WHITE'S WRITINGS

The committee on the circulation of the writings of Mrs. E. G. White reported as follows:--

The committee appointed by this Conference to consider the subject of the

circulation of Sister White's writings, would respectfully present the following report:--

WHEREAS, Our past experience has fully proved that our prosperity as a people is always in proportion to the degree of confidence we cherish in the work of the spirit of prophecy in our midst; and

WHEREAS, The most bitter opposition we have to meet is aimed against this work, showing that our enemies realize its importance, whether we do or not; and

WHEREAS, We have found that the most effectual way to meet and disarm this opposition was either to secure the personal labors of the one through whom we believe that the Lord has spoken, or to freely circulate her writings, and

WHEREAS, Great light has shone upon us through this channel, which not only our own people greatly need, but which would be a blessing to the world, remove prejudice, and break the force of the bitter attacks of the enemies of the truth, therefore

RESOLVED, That we urge upon our ministers and tract societies the importance of making earnest efforts to extend the circulation of the volumes of the Spirit of Prophecy and the Testimonies to the Church among our own people, till these shall be in every family of believers.

RESOLVED, That we recommend the Publishing Association to issue in attractive form such of her writings as would be of general interest to the reading public who are not of our faith, to be placed in public libraries, reading rooms, on shipboard, etc., by canvassers and Tract and Missionary workers, where they, as well as our other standard works, may be accessible to the people.

RESOLVED, That we recommend the Publishing Association to issue in as cheap a form as consistent, the matter substantially contained in volume two of Spiritual Gifts, concerning the early life and labors of Sister White, in connection with the rise and progress of this work, for the special use of our ministers in new fields, and among those first becoming acquainted with her connection with this cause. And we further recommend the publication of a small edition of her earliest writings, now out of print, to bring all her writings within reach of those anxious to obtain them.

RESOLVED, That we consider it to be the duty of all our ministers to teach the Scriptural view of the gift of prophecy among our brethren everywhere, and the relation it sustains to the work of God in which we are engaged.

RESOLVED, That we advise that efforts be made to complete the raising of the fund of \$5,000 voted at the last annual session of the Conference for the purpose of increasing the circulation of these writings; said fund to be used in placing them in public libraries, reading-rooms, and other locations where they will be open to the reading public, and in such of the families of the very poor as the officers of the Tract and Missionary Society decide should have them.

These were adopted.

FOURTEENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 25, 1879, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by G. W. Colcord. Minutes of previous meeting approved.

QUALIFICATIONS OF MINISTERS

The committee on the proper qualifications of ministers reported verbally through the chairman, G. I. Butler, recommending, as the mind of the committee, that all candidates for the ministry should be thoroughly examined,--

1. In reference to their knowledge of all points of our faith, on which they should be well informed.

2. In regard to their spiritual qualifications. Evidence should be sought

to determine whether they are really converted men, or whether they hold the truth as a mere theory.

3. In reference to their practical capabilities; namely, whether they can set things in order in the church, give good counsel touching the temporalities of the church, bring up the members to a proper standard in all their practical duties, and thus edify and build up the church.

4. In reference to their general information; and in this direction, a course of study, including different branches, should be systematically pursued.

The report was accepted.

The chairman having made some suggestions in regard to the practical carrying out of this matter, it was

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three, of which he shall be chairman, to take such steps as may be necessary to accomplish this end. Carried.

FAMILY READING

MOVED, That this last committee, with the addition of U. Smith and J. H. Waggoner, be a committee to suggest a course of reading for families. Carried.

It having been ascertained that most of the preachers present could remain till Wednesday, December 3, it was decided that the time till then be largely devoted to instruction in the keeping of Tract and Missionary and Sabbath-school records, organizing churches, keeping church records, etc., the lessons being given by Elder S. N. Haskell and other Tract and Missionary workers.

[From handwritten records:]

The following resolution was then introduced respecting the case of Elder -----:--

WHEREAS, The General Conference in the year 1876 took action relative to the case of Elder -----; therefore,

RESOLVED, That his case be put into the hands of a committee of three, composed of Elders Canright, Butler, and Corliss; they to report at the next meeting of this Conference.

And WHEREAS, Elder O. Soule was ordained by Elder Canright in the State of Tennessee, that he might labor in that State, and

WHEREAS, He has left that field; therefore

RESOLVED, That Elders Canright, Butler, and Fargo be a committee to consider his case and report to the next meeting of this Conference.

The foregoing preambles and resolutions were adopted.

MOVED, That Elders Canright and Butler, and W. C. White be a committee to investigate the labors of Elder A. C. Spicer in Nebraska, the past summer. Carried.

[End of handwritten section.]

A strong appeal having been made for Vermont by C. W. Stone, this led to a consideration, for some time, of the wants of the cause, and the dearth of laborers in important fields, whereupon it was

MOVED, That Elders D. M. Canright, S. N. Haskell, and C. W. Stone be a committee to consider and report what can be done toward sending a laborer to Vermont. Carried.

FIFTEENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 26, 1879, 6 P.M.

Prayer by Elder James White. Minutes of previous meeting approved.

The committees not being prepared to report, Elder spoke of the propriety of making the Missouri Conference a legally-incorporated body, qualified to hold the title to meeting-houses and other church property, so that should a church having a meeting-house cease to exist from removals or any other cause, the property would not be lost to the conference. The chairman raised the inquiry why it would not be well to act upon the same principle in respect to the General Conference, Missionary Society, etc. It was then

MOVED, That this matter be referred to the General Conference Committee. Carried.

Elder Haskell being called to the chair, Elder James White introduced the following preambles and resolutions:--

WHEREAS, The Seventh-day Baptists have for many years observed, taught, and defended the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, and are known to us through their delegates to our General Conference as a body of Christian Sabbath-keepers possessing a good degree of culture, liberality of sentiment, and Christian forbearance, therefore

RESOLVED, That we deem them worthy of our respect and love, and that it is for the interest of the Sabbath cause that the two bodies of Christian commandment-keepers labor to sustain friendly relations to each other; and

WHEREAS, Certain preachers, who professed to be Seventh-day Adventists, at an early date in our brief history, did seek their field of labor in the localities where there were Seventh-day Baptist churches, and did weaken some of their feeble churches, and blot out others, resulting in harm and only harm, to the grief of the Seventh-day Baptists, therefore

RESOLVED, That our Seventh-day Baptist brethren had just cause for complaint, and that it is the sense of this Conference that our preachers are violating the Golden Rule--Do unto others as you would have them do to you--in seeking their fields of labor where Seventh-day Baptist churches are located.

RESOLVED, That while we deplore the spirit of prejudice and unkindness manifested by certain Seventh-day Baptist ministers toward Seventh-day Adventists, we deeply regret the injury done to individuals and to feeble churches, about twenty years since, by those men whom we could not control, and who have since done Seventh-day Adventists tenfold the injury they did the

Seventh-day Baptists, resulting in weakening and grieving both denominations. And while we pledge our influence against such wrongs in the future, we ask not to be held responsible for that which we have no power to control.

These were unanimously adopted.

SIXTEENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 28, 1879, 10:30 A.M.

Prayer by Elder James White. Minutes of previous meeting approved.

The chair, according to a vote passed in the fifth meeting, appointed the committee to inquire into the status of the cause in the southern field, as follows: B. L. Whitney, D. M. Canright, and U. Smith.

The chair, also, according to vote passed in the thirteenth meeting that he should name two others to act with himself as a committee on a course of reading and study for ministers, named U. Smith and S. Brownsberger.

Elder G. I. Butler then introduced the following, which were unanimously adopted:--

WHEREAS, The subjects of health and temperance have been intimately connected with this cause, and are of themselves of the most eminent importance to the well-being of our fellow-men; and

WHEREAS, God has providentially connected with this cause a Sanitarium, where the sick may be treated, and the laws of health and temperance may be taught by those eminently qualified to do so, which has already done great good, and may, if properly appreciated, accomplish much more; and

WHEREAS, In this reading age, when the press wields such a mighty influence, comparatively little can be done to move the minds of the people without its assistance; and every good cause finds it a leading instrumentality with which to accomplish its object; and

WHEREAS, God, in his providence, has connected with our work Good Health, a journal devoted especially to these great and important subjects, a journal ably edited, pure in tone and sentiment, containing a vast amount of information greatly needed by the public everywhere to educate them in these principles so necessary to their well-being here and hereafter; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Sanitarium in the great work it has undertaken depends largely upon the success of Good Health in this work of educating public sentiment and creating an interest in the proper treatment of disease,

and in calling the attention of the suffering to its many facilities for this object; therefore

RESOLVED, That we urge upon our people the importance of making special efforts to extend the circulation of Good Health by all proper means, and also our other health and temperance literature,

RESOLVED, That we deplore the lack of interest which some manifest in the great health and temperance movement, and we urge upon our people everywhere the importance of reading up on these subjects, till they become intelligently familiar with the principles of health and temperance reform.

Elder J. Fulton spoke further in reference to Ontario as a field of labor, and the help needed there at the present time.

[Beginning of handwritten minutes.]

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three to consider certain matters of difference between Elders Lane, Corliss, and Canright. Carried.

Elders B. L. Whitney, S. N. Haskell, and Harrison Grant were appointed as said committee. Adjourned to call of chair.

SEVENTEENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 30, 1879, 3 P.M.

Prayer by Elder James White. Minutes approved.

The committee in the case of Elder Cornell reported that they could not recommend that he receive credentials. The report was adopted.

The committee in the case of Elder O. Soule reported, That while they found nothing against Brother Soule as to character, they would recommend that he be advised to labor with his hands, or to attend school, during the coming year.

This report was also adopted.

The committee in the case of Elder A. C. Spicer reported that they had nothing to present in his case as they could not procure facts necessary for any action.

[End of handwritten minutes section.]

The committee on the matter of procuring a laborer for Vermont reported by presenting the following:--

RESOLVED, That in view of the urgent appeal from the Vermont Conference made at its last session, the General Conference recommend that Elder George I. Butler visit Vermont this winter, and labor there and in the New England and Maine Conferences three months, or more.

On motion to adopt this report, Elder Butler remarked that if the Conference so decided, he would go and do what he could in the time specified; but he asked the Conference to look carefully at the circumstances and consider whether it was appropriate, after he had been elected president of two conferences in the West, which were both in most urgent need of help, to send him to a distant field in another part of the country, which could not possibly be in greater need of labor than the conferences of which he had been put in charge. The motion to adopt was further discussed by s. N. Haskell, James White, and W. C. White, and lost.

Elder C. W. Stone then offered the following:--

RESOLVED, That Elder A. O. Burrill be recommended to go to Vermont to labor for a period of two or three years, or more.

An amendment was offered to substitute the name of J. O. Corliss for that of A. O. Burrill.

Under a suspension of the rules, the following resolution was introduced and adopted:--

RESOLVED, That we deeply sympathize with Elder J. O. Corliss in his sickness which made it necessary for him to leave the encouraging field of labor in Colorado; and we pledge our brotherly care and our prayers for his recovery, that he may return to his field of labor in that State at the opening of the next tent season.

The question of the amendment being resumed, the amendment was lost.

Another amendment was offered, adding the words, "at the opening of next tent season," so that the resolution would read, "RESOLVED, That Elder A. O. Burrill be recommended to go to Vermont, at the opening of next tent season, to labor for a period of two or three years, or more;" which amendment prevailed.

The motion, as amended, was then carried.

The committee to nominate the two remaining members of the Missionary Board, reported by recommending that it be left with the seven members already elected to fill the two remaining vacancies. The report was accepted.

[Beginning of handwritten section.]

The committee in the case of difference between Elders Corliss, Lane, Canright, etc., reported that they had considered the matter, and learned some facts which enlisted their sympathy toward Elders Lane and Corliss; but they were not prepared to present a definite report.

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three to look after the case of Simmons (student from Texas) and prevent his leaving Battle Creek in an improper state of mind. Carried. (Note. Being partially deranged, he was intent on returning to Texas on that condition.)

S. B. Whitney, E. R. Jones, and C. W. Stone, were appointed as said committee.

[End of handwritten section.]

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee to assist Brother White in procuring necessary help. Carried.

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three to examine all our blanks, Sabbath-school and Tract and Missionary books, and suggest such improvements therein as they may deem necessary; and also to suggest a form for a systematic benevolence book. Carried.

The question of the publication of a paper in England, and the shipment of a quantity of reading matter for distribution in Sweden, was taken up and discussed at some length. The subject was finally referred by motion to the General Conference Committee.

A motion to recommend leading brethren who have the principal part to act in the transaction of business matters to be on the ground at the time of camp-meetings three or four days before the regular meetings commence, in order to prepare business and make the camp-meetings more interesting, was withdrawn after being discussed by B. L. Whitney, G. I. Butler, H. Grant, J. G. Saunders, Smith Sharp, and W. C. White; and the following was offered in its place:--

MOVED, That a committee of five be appointed by the chair to suggest such improvements in the manner of holding our camp-meetings as shall make them most profitable, and to report through the Review. Carried.

EIGHTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 1, 1879, 9:30 A.M.

Prayer by Elder S. N. Haskell. Minutes of previous meeting approved.

MOVED, That Elder James White and wife be hereby appointed as delegates

from the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists to the next General Conference of Seventh-day Baptists. Carried.

MOVED, That we recommend the Michigan Conference to take under its supervision, as a part of its territory, the province of Ontario. Carried.

The committee to be appointed by the chair on revision of blanks, etc., was named as follows: B. L. Whitney, M. H. Brown, and Smith Sharp.

The time for which Elder J. H. Waggoner was sent by the Conference to the Pacific Coast to take charge of The Signs of the Times, having expired, it was

MOVED, That the matter of Elder Waggoner's further continuance with the Signs be referred to the General Conference Committee. Carried.

W. C. White stated that he had been requested at an informal meeting of the brethren to appoint a committee of five to prepare leaflets for distribution at camp-meetings, and he would appoint D. M. Canright, C. W. Stone, U. Smith, S. H. Lane, and W. C. Gage. Thereupon it was

MOVED, That this action, subject to revision, be sanctioned by the General Conference. Carried.

It was then

MOVED, To revise the appointment by substituting the name of W. C. White for that of W. C. Gage. Carried.

The committee on camp-meetings, to be appointed by the chair, was named as follows: B. L. Whitney, J. Fargo, W. C. White, H. Grant, and H. W. Decker.

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three to consider the following questions: 1. How long it is desirable for church elders, deacons, and clerks to hold their office without a re-election; 2. What the duties are which pertain to each office; 3. What majority should be considered necessary to elect officers, expel members, etc. Carried.

Elders George I. Butler, H. W. Decker, and J. Fargo were appointed as said committee.

The following resolutions were introduced by Elder B. L. Whitney:--

RESOLVED, That we recommend that our ministers furnish quarterly reports of their labor, expenses, and receipts, to the secretary of the conference to which they belong.

RESOLVED, That we instruct the committee on the revision of blanks to prepare blanks for quarterly and annual reports of ministers.

After some discussion these were adopted.

The following resolution, passed at a ministers' meeting, was introduced and adopted as an act of the Conference:--

WHEREAS, God has again most mercifully and graciously spoken to us as ministers, in words of admonition and reproof through the gift of the spirit of prophecy; and

WHEREAS, These instructions are just and timely, and of the utmost importance in their relation to our future labors and usefulness; therefore

RESOLVED, That we hereby express our sincere and devout thanksgiving to God that he has not left us in our blindness, as he might justly have done, but has given us another opportunity to overcome, by faithfully pointing out our sins and errors, and teaching us how we may please God and become useful in his cause.

RESOLVED, That, while it is right and proper that we express our thankfulness to God and his servants in this manner, yet the best manner of expressing our gratitude is to faithfully heed the testimony that has been borne to us; and we hereby pledge ourselves to make a most earnest effort to reform on those points wherein we have been shown to be deficient, and to be obedient to the will of God thus graciously made known to us.

Adjourned sine die.

James White, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

GENERAL CONFERENCE SUMMARY
For the year ending November 7, 1879

Names of Conferences	Ministers	Licentiates	Churches	Members	Funds Pledged
Maine-----	3	3	18	326	\$ 1,135.79
Vermont-----	8	6	13	392	1,636.77
New England-----	3	6	24	503	2,898.69
New York-----	11	10	33	655	2,959.25
Pennsylvania-----	3		12	300	1,331.29
Ohio-----	8	12	23	674	2,762.44
Michigan-----	22	15	94	3175	8,280.48
Indiana-----	4	5	21	422	1,835.74

Wisconsin-----	12	10	52	1107	3,904.88
Illinois-----	9	11	34	676	3,084.24
Minnesota-----	17	20	53	968	3,875.65
Iowa-----	13	8	55	1202	3,954.11
Nebraska-----	3	6	23	298	1,340.00
Dakota Conference-----	1	3	10	200	
Missouri-----	2	5	14	398	894.71
Kansas-----	5	10	34	700	2,256.00
California-----	7	4	31	*740	*5,899.36
Kentucky-----	1	1	3	76	272.46
Tennessee-----	1	3	5	54	133.00
Oregon-----	3	8	9	225	1,129.49
Texas-----	1	1	*4	250	*500.00
General Southern Mission-			*3	*68	*172.00
Nevada Mission-----			2	45	*508.00
European Mission-----	2		16	223	442.70
Danish Mission in Europe-	2	1	6	141	17.33
Ontario Mission-----	1		2	70	
Province of Quebec Mission	1		3	73	250.00
Colorado Mission-----			2	55	250.00
Virginia Mission-----	1	3		55	
Wyoming-----				70	
Total-----	144	151	599	14,141	\$51,714.38
As given last year-----	117	154	549	13,077	\$47,637.79
Gain during the year-	27	^3	50	1,064	\$ 4,076.59

*Figures taken from last year's report.

^Loss.

[Handwritten notation: "English Mission 50, making total increase of membership 1,114."]

SPECIAL SESSION

BUSINESS PROCEEDINGS

OF THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

March 11-15, 1880

The special session of the General Conference called for March 11, 1880, convened, according to appointment, in the Tabernacle at Battle Creek.

Meeting was opened by singing and prayer. The call for delegates brought to the front the following brethren: C. W. Stone, from Vermont; H. A. St. John, from Ohio; E. B. Lane, F. Howe, H. M. Kenyon, A. O. Burrill, H. W. Kellogg, E. R. Jones, William Ostrander, and S. Howland, from Michigan.

The reasons for the calling of this special session of the General Conference were then stated by the chair, who also mentioned the many circumstances favoring such a gathering just at this time. Among these were the facts that brethren qualified to act as delegates from quite a large number of States were already on the ground; that consequently the Conference could convene at less expense than at any other time; and that important enterprises to be entered upon at once, especially the new campaign in the tract and missionary work, rendered it very proper that there should be a council of brethren, so far as they could be easily assembled, at this important epoch in our work.

New delegates were then received into the Conference as follows:--

Fred B. Goodrich, from Maine; H. W. Pierce, additional delegate from Vermont; W. C. Gage, from New England; B. L. Whitney, from New York; G. K. Owen, from Tennessee; S. H. Lane and W. W. Sharp, from Indiana; R. F. Andrews and G. W. Colcord, from Illinois; H. W. Decker and G. C. Tenney, from Wisconsin; S. Fulton, from Minnesota; L. McCoy, from Iowa; and J. O. Corliss, from Colorado.

The reading of the minutes of the last meeting was waived, they having already appeared in the Review.

MOVED, That a committee of three be appointed by the chair on each of the following subjects: 1. Resolutions; 2. Tract and Missionary Institutes; 3. Camp-meetings; 4. Tent-meetings. Carried.

SECOND MEETING, 2:30 P.M.

Brother W. D. Sharpe was received as an additional delegate from Ohio. The chair appointed the following committees, according to the foregoing motion: Committee on Resolutions, B. L. Whitney, C. W. Stone, George I. Butler; on Tract and Missionary Institutes, H. W. Decker, S. H. Lane, Samuel Fulton; on Camp-meetings, George I. Butler, B. L. Whitney, A. O. Burrill; on Tent-meetings; George I. butler, J. O. Corliss, H. A. St. John.

The Conference then listened to reports from delegates. Elders E. R. Jones, E. B. Lane, and H. M. Kenyon spoke of the condition and wants of the cause in Michigan. B. L. Whitney spoke for New York, S. H. Lane for Indiana, R. F.

Andrews for Illinois, H. W. Decker for Wisconsin, S. Fulton for Minnesota, L. McCoy for Iowa, C. W. Stone for Vermont, J. O. Corliss for Colorado, G. K. Owen for Tennessee, and Elder White for the whole field. The great feature brought out in all the remarks was the almost numberless appeals for help coming up from every quarter, and the painful scarcity of laborers to meet these calls.

At this point Elders D. T. Fero and George I. Butler, having arrived, were received as delegates to the Conference, the former to represent Pennsylvania, and the latter to represent Missouri, and as additional delegate from Iowa.

THIRD MEETING, MARCH 12, 1880, 9:30 A.M.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

MOVED, That a committee of three be appointed by the chair to consider the proper qualifications of ministers. Carried.

Elders Butler, Whitney, and Smith were appointed as said committee.

MOVED, That the committee appointed at the last Conference on the length of time church elders and deacons should hold their office without a re-election, be requested to report at this meeting. Carried.

FOURTH MEETING, 2:30 P.M.

Minutes of last meeting read, and, with one correction, approved.

MOVED, That the duties devolving on the committee on qualifications and examination of ministers, appointed at the last session of the Conference, be transferred to the committee appointed at the preceding meeting of this session.

This motion, after remarks by Elders Corliss, Whitney, and White, prevailed.

The Committee on Tract and Missionary Institutes reported as follows:--

"Your Committee on Tract and Missionary Work would respectfully submit the following report:--

"WHEREAS, Our experience as a people is demonstrating more and more the vast importance of the tract and missionary work; and

"WHEREAS, The light recently given us through the spirit of prophecy most

forcibly presents the importance of this great branch of the work, and the duty of our people everywhere to become earnest workers therein; therefore

"RESOLVED, That we urge our conferences, churches, and membership in all parts of the world, to become more deeply engaged in this part of the work. In order to do this, our people should all become members of the society, and do their utmost to carry out the noble purpose of its organization, by giving their means, and learning how to labor successfully in creating an interest in our reading matter, and in bringing souls to the truth. And our ministers should make it a prominent point in their labor among our people to impress upon them the importance of becoming earnest workers in this society, and teaching them how to work. This instruction should commence as soon as they receive the truth. Our churches and conferences should ever make this branch

of the cause prominent by giving it the place which our past experience and the light which the Lord has given show that it should occupy.

"Your committee would also recommend

"1. That one or more general Tract and Missionary Institutes be held in each conference, as the circumstances may seem to demand, and that especial efforts be made to secure the attendance of all ministers and tract and missionary officers.

"2. That in each conference one or more persons be qualified to conduct similar classes, and thus extend the system to every local society.

"3. That as many Institutes be held the present spring as practicable without interfering with tent-labor.

"4. That as Elder B. L. Whitney, of New York, has successfully taught several Institutes, introducing an efficient system of tract and missionary accounts and labor, we recommend the adoption of these methods, and that, as far as possible, his services as teacher be secured by those conferences where Tract and Missionary Institutes may be held.

"5. That a manual of instruction be published, embodying the system of instruction relative to the tract and missionary work.

"6. That, in order to secure system throughout the entire field, we recommend that no person organize local societies, who is neither qualified nor authorized to teach the approved system of tract and missionary work.

H. W. Decker,
S. H. Lane,
Samuel Fulton,
Committee."

The report of this committee was adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions then introduced the following:--

"RESOLVED, That it is the opinion of the General Conference that there should be one general camp-meeting in each State Conference, at which all the members throughout the conference should be urged to be present, and during

which the annual session of the conference and of the various societies should be held.

"RESOLVED, That this Conference recommend that those who conduct camp-meetings, acting with the State Conference Committees, prepare a programme of business at the opening of the meeting, in order to expedite the transaction of business; also that they divide the camp into sections, and appoint laborers to hold meetings in those sections and work for the spiritual interests of the people."

These resolutions, after being discussed by Brethren Tenney, Pierce, Andrews, Fero, and Jones, were adopted.

FIFTH MEETING, MARCH 14, 1880, 7 A.M.

Elder H. Grant, having arrived from Minnesota, was received as an additional delegate from that State.

The report of the Committee on Camp-meetings being called for, the committee responded by saying that they would adopt a their report the resolutions on the subject of camp-meetings already presented by the Committee on Resolutions. It was then

MOVED, That the Committee on Camp-meetings be continued through the entire session of the Conference. Carried.

The Committee on Resolutions further reported as follows:--

"WHEREAS, The spirit of prophecy has spoken directly upon the value of systematic and efficient efforts to spread the truth by the circulation of our publications, therefore

"1. RESOLVED, That our ministers should thoroughly acquaint themselves with the practical workings of the Tract and Missionary Society, that they may be able to instruct the members on every point, and labor unitedly to raise the interest in this great work among our people by teaching them how to labor; and

"WHEREAS, It is necessary, in order that our ministry should exert a proper influence n favor of this important branch of the work, that they should set the example of disinterested and self-sacrificing effort in the interests of the society, and

"WHEREAS, In view of the great field before our Tract and Missionary societies, involving the outlay of a large amount of means in the accomplishment of its work, it becomes necessary that the financial policy of the society be such as shall make it, as far as possible, self-sustaining, therefore

"2. RESOLVED, That we recommend that our ministers act as agents for the Tract and Missionary Society in the sale of publications, the society

furnishing the publications, and receiving the profits thereon.

"3. RESOLVED, That we recommend the employment of judicious persons by our state conferences to act as colporters, who shall receive a license from the state conference committees to labor in that capacity; and all such persons will be expected to give quarterly reports of their labors to the conference; and we recommend further that the auditing committees be empowered to consider such cases; and when, in their judgment, such labor has benefited the cause, to give a reasonable remuneration for the same."

On motion to adopt, these preambles and resolutions were discussed by Brethren Whitney, Colcord, Butler, McCoy, Lane (E. B.) and James White, when it was moved and carried to amend the motion by dividing, and considering the resolutions separately. The first preamble and resolution were then adopted.

On the preamble and resolution No. 2 an amendment was offered to insert before the word publication, "books and all," so that it should read "books and all publications." An additional amendment was offered, by which the words should be transposed, so that it should read, "all books and publications."

After discussion by Elders McCoy, Whitney, Ostrander, Butler, Corliss, Stone, Jones, white, and Lane, the question was by vote postponed to the next meeting.

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three on the subject of tithing. Carried. George I. Butler, B. L. Whitney, and U. Smith were appointed as such committee.

SIXTH MEETING, MARCH 14, 1880, 9:30 A.M.

The question postponed being taken up, the vote was taken on the amendment to the amendment on resolution No. 2, which was carried.

The question then recurring on the amendment as amended, it was discussed by Elders Corliss, Jones, white, Butler, Lane (S. H.), Lane (E. B.), Whitney, Stone, and Andrews, and laid on the table.

Resolution 3 was then adopted.

Further regular business of the Conference was then postponed to 2:30 p.m., and the meeting resolved itself into a Bible-class, conducted by Brother White, on the subject of tithes. A season was then spent in a profitable and interesting investigation of that question.

SEVENTH MEETING, MARCH 14, 1880, 2:30 P.M.

The Committee on Tent-labor presented the following report:--

"Your Committee on Tent-labor would present the following as their report:--

"WHEREAS, Our past experience has shown that many of our churches have suffered greatly for want of ministerial labor, till they have become enfeebled, and some are threatened with extinction; and

"WHEREAS, In many of these places judicious labor would save to the cause those who are in danger of giving up the truth, and bring in others to unite with them, and thus build up such churches; therefore

"RESOLVED, That we recommend to our state conference committees, and ministers throughout the field, that these weak churches be looked after; that ministers of experience labor among them where there are reasonable prospects of success; and that efforts be made with tents and otherwise to strengthen the things which remain by the preaching of practical godliness, and to bring others to the truth.

"RESOLVED, That we consider it important that our tents which go forth into the harvest field should be properly manned with efficient help, such as will

correctly represent this important work; that under ordinary circumstances, in places of moderate size, two laborers well mated, using a forty or fifty-foot tent, would not need a tent-master; but when one laborer is strong enough to do all the preaching, he should have an efficient tent-master, who will assist him in visiting, singing, and active labor for souls.

"RESOLVED, That in the matter of music, while it may be advisable in large places, under special circumstances, to obtain an organ, and be at some expense to furnish music to attract the people, we would not, under ordinary circumstances, recommend our tent companies to be to any expense in this direction.

"RESOLVED, That we earnestly recommend to all who labor with tents that they thoroughly develop every interest they raise, and that they do not leave the place of their labor until those who have listened shall have come to a full decision, and till those who have taken a stand for the truth shall have been fully instructed, not only in the theory of the truth, but in the great principles of practical religion taught by our blessed Saviour."

These resolutions, after remarks by Elders Butler, White, Corliss, Burrill, Tenney, and Andrews, were adopted.

[Beginning of handwritten section.]

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three to consider the cause in the South, and report at the next meeting. Carried.

Elders L. McCoy, B. L. Whitney, and G. I. Butler were appointed as said committee.

EIGHTH MEETING, MARCH 14, 1880, 7 P.M.

The committee on labor in the South reported verbally recommending that no public action be taken, but that the Conference confer with those who have labored there in regard to their future labors, either North or South.

[End of handwritten section.]

The question laid upon the table in the morning session, was taken up. The question being on the pending amendment, namely, that ministers should act as agents of the Tract and Missionary Society in the sale of "all books and publications," the amendment was adopted.

The resolution, as amended, was then adopted without further debate.

The following resolution was then introduced by Elder B. L. Whitney:--

"RESOLVED, That in consideration of the foregoing action (that ministers be agents for the Tract and Missionary societies), we would also recommend to the tract societies to furnish our ministers with such tracts as they may need for judicious distribution." Adopted.

The following, relative to the situation in Battle Creek, was then submitted to the Conference and adopted:--

"WHEREAS, Battle Creek is an important center of our work, where our public institutions are located, creating the necessity of large gatherings, and thus bringing heavy burdens upon the church, therefore

"RESOLVED, That this Conference considers it the duty of the several state conferences to prevent, as far as possible, the poor from among them, and the unconsecrated, from moving to Battle Creek, and that it is the duty of the state conferences to either induce their poor to move from Battle Creek, or to support them where they are."

NINTH MEETING, MARCH 15, 1880, 10 A.M.

The committee on church elders and deacons were called upon for a report; but as they had not had opportunity to prepare a report, at their request the subject was informally discussed by the Conference. Some time having been spent in this manner, the following resolution was presented and adopted:--

"RESOLVED, That the local elders and deacons in our churches should be elected annually, such election to occur in each church at a time set by each state conference, except in churches where dissatisfaction with the incumbent

has been expressed by at least a respectable minority of the church. In such cases it shall be the duty of the church clerk to notify the conference committee of such fact; and elections in such churches shall be deferred till proper help is provided by the committee."

The following on the compensation of the ministry was also adopted:--

"WHEREAS, We recognize the propriety as well as the duty of the Christian ministry to be an example to the flock in liberality and self-sacrifice, as well as in all other good works; and

"WHEREAS, The Scriptures plainly teach that the laborer is worthy of his hire, and that the faithful minister is entitled to a liberal and generous support at the hands of his brethren; therefore

"RESOLVED, That it be hereby expressed as the sense of this Conference, that faithful and efficient ministers should receive a liberal compensation for their labor, that they may be fully sustained in their work, and have the means wherewith to donate to the cause, as their sense of duty thereto may dictate.

"RESOLVED, That we recommend to the auditing committees of our conferences to make a plain distinction between those who are thorough and efficient in their labor, and those who manifest no proper burden of responsibility in the work, and who, either from lack of consecration or devotion to the cause, fail to show such fruit of their labor as ought to be expected, and to make their award accordingly."

In reference to desirable places in which to labor without incurring unnecessary expense, the following was adopted as the sense of the Conference:--

"WHEREAS, The calls for labor and the offer of suitable places in which to hold meetings, and to board ministers free are numerous in most of the states, therefore

"RESOLVED, That it is the opinion of this Conference that in those States, where these offers are made, our ministers should not labor in fields where they will have to hire places for meetings, or pay for their board, only on the recommendation of the Conference Committee."

TENTH MEETING, MARCH 15, 1880, 2:30 P.M.

The only new subject for action introduced at this meeting was embodied in the following motion, which was unanimously carried.

MOVED, That the matter of distribution of labor with respect to the Pacific Coast States and territories be left in the hands of the General Conference Committee, to be acted upon at their pleasure.

ELEVENTH MEETING, MARCH 15, 1880, 7 P.M.

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three on the subject of lessons for Sabbath-schools and Bible-classes, the proper subjects to be presented, and the time that should be devoted to each subject, and present, through the Review, an address on this question. Carried.

C. W. Stone, S. Brownsberger, and W. C. Gage were thereupon appointed as said committee.

MOVED, That the vote passed at the last session of the General Conference recommending that Elder A. O. Burrill labor in Vermont, commencing with the next tent season, be hereby rescinded, on account of the pressing need of his labors in Michigan. Carried.

This action not arising from any lack of interest for the cause in Vermont, or any indifference to the propriety of claims for help from a State which has furnished so many men for important fields and posts of labor, it was further

MOVED, That the matter of the wants of Vermont in respect to laborers be left with the General Conference Committee, to be supplied as soon and as fully as practicable. Carried.

Adjourned sine die.

All the meetings were opened by singing and prayer. At each meeting the minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved. Subjects were more freely discussed, pro and con, than at any previous Conference, yet with the utmost cordiality of feeling, and with unanimity of action at the last in every case. It was throughout a most pleasant as well as important and profitable meeting.

James White, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

NINETEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

October 6, 1880

The Conference assembled, according to appointment, on the camp-ground at Battle Creek, at 4 p.m., October 6, 1880, the president, Elder James White in the chair. After singing, and prayer by Elder S. N. Haskell, the delegates

handed in their credentials to the number of twenty. Eighteen were afterward chosen by vote as additional delegates from brethren present from other States and missions, making thirty-eight in all, representing twenty-one conferences and five missions, as follows:--

Maine was represented by J. B. Goodrich.
 New England, G. H. Murphy, S. N. Haskell.
 Vermont, C. W. Stone.
 New York, B. L. Whitney, M. H. Brown.
 Pennsylvania, B. L. Whitney.
 Ohio, R. A. Underwood, W. J. Stone.
 Tennessee, G. K. Owen.
 Michigan, E. B. Lane, M. B. Miller, E. H. Root, H. M. Kenyon, D. A. Wellman, J. O. Corliss, J. Fargo, Isaac Gilbert, H. W. Kellogg.
 Indiana, S. H. Lane, J. M. Rees.
 Illinois, R. F. Andrews, T. M. Steward.
 Wisconsin, H. W. Decker, O. A. Olsen, C. W. Olds.
 Minnesota, W. H. Hall.
 Dakota, S. B. Whitney.
 Nebraska, C. L. Boyd.
 Iowa, H. Nicola.
 Missouri, G. I. Butler.
 Kansas, Smith Sharp, J. H. Cook.
 California, North Pacific, Upper Columbia Conferences, and the Nevada Mission, Elder S. N. Haskell.
 Province of Quebec, Elder James White.
 Virginia Mission, R. D. Hottel.
 Southern Mission, C. O. Taylor.
 Colorado Mission, E. R. Jones.
 Norwegian European Mission, J. G. Matteson.

Reading of minutes waived. The chairman, under vote of the Conference, appointed the following committees:--

On Nominations: B. L. Whitney, H. W. Decker, J. B. Goodrich.
 On Resolutions: C. W. Stone, J. O. Corliss, E. R. Jones.
 On Auditing: W. H. Hall, G. H. Murphy.

Elder George I. Butler spoke for the cause in Missouri, and presented the following paper:--

"The following resolution was passed by the Missouri Conference, October 4, 1880, and indorsed by the congregation by a rising vote:--

"RESOLVED, That the General Conference be requested to send an active and efficient minister to labor in this conference, and we as a conference pledge ourselves to raise funds sufficient to support him, as well as the other ministers now with us."

Brother Haskell spoke for Nevada, and Brethren Jones and Corliss for Colorado. The openings for labor are numerous; the calls for help, urgent; and the promises for support, ample.

The Conference then adjourned to the call of the chair.

SECOND MEETING, OCTOBER 11, 1880, 9 A.M.

Prayer by the chairman. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following, which were unanimously adopted:--

1. WHEREAS, There is a growing tendency among our members to indulge in expensive dress, jewelry, and superfluous trimmings, therefore,

RESOLVED, That the General Conference recommend a return to that simplicity of dress taught in the New Testament, believing that the blessing of God will attend such a reform; and that our ministers labor in all the churches to bring it about.

2. WHEREAS, In the providence of God, under the labors of our missionaries, the cause of present truth has gained some ground in the Old World, therefore

RESOLVED, 1. That we express our gratitude to God for the good results thus far reached. And

RESOLVED, 2. That while we are cheered by the words of Christian greeting, thanks, and love, brought to us by Elder J. G. Matteson, from the new friends of the cause in Norway, Denmark and Sweden, we extend to him, and through him to them, heartfelt expressions of Christian fellowship and love, believing that out of the nations who hear the world-wide, closing messages of truth there will be

called a people whose hearts shall beat as one in the unity of the faith. And

RESOLVED, 3. That we tender Christian sympathy to our beloved absent missionaries, Elder J. N. Andrews in Switzerland, Elder J. N. Loughborough in England, and Elder Ertzenberger in Germany; and that we earnestly desire of God that he will restore Elder Andrews to health, and bless the labors of those men and their co-laborers, while we pledge our support in every place where it is needed and possible. And

RESOLVED, 4. That we recommend a council in reference to foreign work, to be held by the General Conference Committee, Elder J. G. Matteson, and other leading brethren, as soon as the General Conference Committee may appoint.

3. RESOLVED, That while we are gratified at the manner in which our people have responded to the Bible plan of supporting the gospel, we would recommend that our ministers everywhere labor to bring every member up to the

Bible rule in this matter, both that there may be meat in the Lord's house and that his blessing may rest upon us as a people. See Malachi 3.

4. RESOLVED, That no church should devote any portion of its tithe to the erection or repairing of its church, without the free consent of the State Conference Committee.

5. RESOLVED, That the work on the Pacific Coast and in the States of Virginia, Alabama, and North Carolina, be considered by the members of the General Conference Committee and Brother and Sister White, for the purpose of suggesting such measures as shall, in their judgment, be deemed advisable.

6. RESOLVED, That this Conference recommend the publication of a work to be prepared for the press by Elder White, on the subject of redemption through Christ.

7. RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this Conference, that a work should be published embracing the writings of Mrs. E. G. White on the Life of Christ, and that all laudable and proper means be used to get it before the public.

8. RESOLVED, That the General Conference recommend Elder E. R. Jones to labor in the State of Colorado the coming year.

9. RESOLVED, That we recommend, that Elder J. H. Waggoner labor in connection with the Signs of the Times, the coming year.

The Committee on Nominations gave a partial report, nominating the following officers:--

For president, George I. Butler.

For secretary, U. Smith.

For treasurer, Mrs. M. J. Chapman.

For Conference Committee, George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell.

The committee retired to complete their work, and the intervening time was occupied by Elder S. B. Whitney in a strong appeal for the Scandinavians and German Russians in Dakota.

The Committee on Nominations, having returned, completed their report by recommending that H. W. Kellogg be the remaining member of the General Conference Committee. The nominees were then unanimously elected.

THIRD MEETING, OCTOBER 12, 1880

After prayer by the chairman, the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following, which was adopted:--

WHEREAS, Heavy financial burdens have for some time rested on our institutions at Battle Creek, thereby crippling their power for good; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we recommend to our ministers of the several State Conferences, that in all their labors they bear in mind the wants of these branches of the work, and present before all our people, especially those who have recently come to the faith, the importance of paying the indebtedness on our College, Tabernacle, and tract societies, that the Publishing Association may be relieved of the heavy burden of carrying these debts, which greatly cripples its usefulness. And we further recommend that our people everywhere take stock in these institutions according to their ability, especially those who have never done so.

Elder C. O. Taylor spoke of the condition and wants of the cause in Alabama and North Carolina, and introduced the question of licensing some five individuals in those States whom he thought qualified to publicly present the truth.

Elder J. O. Corliss spoke in a similar manner of the cause in Virginia, and some who have embraced the truth there.

After a time occupied in an informal consideration of the question, the matter of sending a man into the southern field to labor, and to ascertain what help could be advantageously employed, was, by vote, referred to the General Conference Committee.

Elder J. G. Matteson spoke of the prosperity of the work in Denmark, giving an interesting account of the recent organization of a conference in that country, and presenting their request to unite with the General Conference.

MOVED, by O. A. Olsen, That the conference in Denmark be received into the General Conference. Unanimously carried.

Brother Batteson also gave an encouraging statement of what had been done to the present time in the way of issuing publications and periodicals in Norway.

Elder Underwood presented a request from the brethren in Ohio, that Elder E. B. Lane and wife return to labor in Ohio; which request was referred to the General Conference Committee.

The following resolutions were then presented and adopted:--

RESOLVED, That this Conference should select a minister to visit Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and the South generally, to labor for the general interests of the cause, and to encourage such men as should be engaged in active labor to enter the field.

WHEREAS, Testimony to the Church, No. 29, pp. 10, 11, takes up the subject

of canvassing for our publications, and mentions such matter as is found in the volumes of the Spirit of Prophecy; therefore,

RESOLVED, That young men and young women among our people should be encouraged to engage in the work of canvassing for the anticipated works, The Life of Christ, by Mrs. E. G. White, and Redemption Through Christ, by Elder James White.

MOVED, That Elder James White and Mrs. E. G. White be requested to visit the Southern field, taking with them such help as they need. Carried.

After another appeal by Brother Butler in behalf of Missouri, the Conference adjourned to 7 p.m.

FOURTH MEETING, OCTOBER 12, 1880, 7 P.M.

Prayer having been offered, the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

A report from Elder J. N. Andrews was read, and remarks were made by Elders George I. Butler and S. N. Haskell, urging that some action be taken in response thereto. [An extract from this report will be found in another column.--Sec.]

MOVED, That Elder J. O. Corliss be recommended to attend the camp-meeting in Kentucky, and work in the South according to the resolution already adopted on that subject, provided Elder James White and wife are not able to comply with the request of the Conference in this respect. Carried.

MOVED, by G. I. Butler, That this Conference recommend our brethren to raise sufficient means to send one thousand copies of the Signs of the Times to England. Carried.

MOVED, by B. L. Whitney, That the General Conference Committee, with Elder James White, apportion to each State the sum proper for it to raise for this object, in proportion to its tithe. Carried.

Adjourned sine die.

James White, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

GENERAL CONFERENCE STATISTICS, 1880

From reports brought to our late General Conference, and from other authentic sources, we are able to compile quite full statistics showing the standing of the Conference, as presented in the following table:--

GENERAL CONFERENCE SUMMARY, OCTOBER 11, 1880

Names of Conferences	Ministers	Licentiates	Churches	Members	Amount paid during year
Maine-----	3	0	20	336	\$ 1218.74
Vermont-----	6	3	13	392	1680.36
New England-----	3	2	24	475	3002.99
New York-----	12	8	31	672	3449.80
Pennsylvania-----	4	5	16	419	766.02
Ohio-----	8	6	30	781	4302.98
Michigan-----	24	17	98	3264	11838.35
Indiana-----	5	5	24	522	1924.50
Wisconsin-----	13	8	52	1107	5087.25
Illinois-----	10	8	40	760	3116.76
Minnesota-----	16	12	55	1272	4833.95
Iowa-----	11	8	58	1202	4762.03
Nebraska-----	3	6	23	298	1800.00
Dakota-----	1	3	9	195	511.86
Missouri-----	2	7	13	331	1540.85
Kansas-----	5	8	37	815	3018.82
California-----	5	4	33	1020	5163.83
North Pacific-----	2	4	5	102	45.21
Upper Columbia-----	2	0	4	119	138.45
Kentucky-----	1	1	4	80	156.63
Tennessee-----	1		5	54	133.00
Texas-----	1	1	4	250	500.00
Province of Quebec---			3	132	186.40
Denmark-----	1		7	150	75.00

Missions

General Southern-----	1		3	68	172.00
Virginia-----	1		5	110	200.00
Wyoming-----				70	
Colorado-----			4	93	1500.00
Nevada-----			2	45	208.00
Central European-----	2		16	223	442.70
Northern European-----	1		2	138	80.40
English-----				75	
Total-----	144	116	640	15570	\$61856.88
As given last yr.	144	151	599	14141	51714.38
Gain-----	0	^35	41	1429	\$10142.50
^Loss.					

From the foregoing table, as compared with last year's report it will be seen that three new conferences have been added; namely, Upper Columbia, Province of Quebec, and Denmark.

The number of ministers stands the same, although nine have been ordained the past season. This arises from an error in last year's report. It appears that in some instances ministers who belonged to one conference, and were laboring in another conference or in some mission, were inadvertently reported from both. Thus the number of ministers given last year was too large by nine. A correct report as between the two years would show an increase of nine the present year.

The number of licentiates is thirty-five less. The reason of this is that the conferences have granted licenses heretofore to persons who have made no use of them. This year they concluded to reduce the number to those who will actually spend a portion, if not all, of their time in the field. Thus the working force in this division will be no less than formerly, through the figures are smaller.

The churches show a gain of forty-one. This increase has been in the following-named conferences: Maine, two; Pennsylvania, four; Ohio, seven; Michigan, four; Indiana, three; Illinois, six; Minnesota, two; Iowa, three; Kansas, seven; California, two; Kentucky, one; Denmark, three; Quebec, one; Colorado, two. Total, forty-seven. But New York reports two less, and Dakota and Missouri, one each less, while the two in Ontario are reckoned with Michigan, to which Ontario was united last year, making a net gain of forty-one.

In membership there is a gratifying increase of one thousand four hundred and twenty-nine. This is the largest increase of membership yet reported in any single year. The same may be said of

The Financial Report. This shows an increase of ten thousand one hundred and forty-two dollars and fifty cents. The figures in this department are taken chiefly from the reports of the treasurers of the various conferences, and hence show only the amounts paid to the treasurers, not including that portion of the funds which the churches retain for their own use.

Thus, in some respects the past year shows a good degree of prosperity. We should be glad to see, each year, a large increase of laborers; for the crying want of the cause is for men to enter the openings Providence is everywhere placing before us, and to answer the Macedonian calls arising on every side, "Come over and help us." In these closing years of time--time of such thrilling importance, of such infinite value--it is to be exceedingly regretted that the time and talents of some of our young men of promise, who could be workers for the truth, should be diverted into mere business channels. We have reason to pray that all to whom God has given ability to labor in his cause may devote it to this all-important work, and that the Lord will send forth more reapers; "for the harvest time is near."

GENERAL CONFERENCE DIRECTORY

President: George I. Butler, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.

Secretary: Uriah Smith, Battle Creek, Michigan.

Treasurer: Mrs. M. J. Chapman, Battle Creek, Michigan.

General Conference Committee: George I. Butler, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.

S. N. Haskell, South Lancaster,

Massachusetts.

H. W. Kellogg, Battle Creek,

Michigan.

U. Smith, Gen. Conf. Secy.

TWENTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

December 1, 1881

The Conference assembled according to appointment, in the Tabernacle at Battle Creek, Michigan, December 1, 1881. The president, Elder George I. Butler, being detained from the meeting by ill health, Elder S. N. Haskell was chosen chairman pro tem.

Prayer was then offered by Elder W. H. Littlejohn.

The Conference was organized by the presentation of credentials by delegates, as follows:--

Michigan: J. Fargo, W. H. Littlejohn, D. M. Canright, J. O. Corliss, A. O. Burrill, M. B. Miller, H. M. Kenyon, E. H. Root, and D. H. Lamson.

Vermont: A. S. Hutchins.

Ohio: H. A. St. John, G. G. Rupert.

Minnesota: H. Grant, J. Fulton, G. M. Dimmick.

Iowa: A. R. Henry, H. Nicola.

Pennsylvania: J. W. Raymond, D. B. Oviatt.

New York: B. L. Whitney, M. H. Brown.

California: S. N. Haskell, W. C. White, William Saunders.

Kansas: Smith Sharp, J. H. Cook.

Wisconsin: H. W. Decker, G. C. Tenney.

Texas: R. M. Kilgore.

Illinois: R. F. Andrews.

Indiana: S. H. Lane.

By invitation of the Conference, expressed by vote, the following-named brethren were invited to represent the states and fields named below:--

Province of Quebec: A. C. Bourdeau.
 Iowa: L. McCoy.
 New England: D. A. Robinson, J. C. Tucker.
 Scandinavians in the West: J. Hanson.
 Colorado Mission: E. R. Jones.
 Kentucky and Tennessee: J. O. Corliss.

Upon inquiry concerning communications received for the consideration of the Conference, reports were read from Elder J. N. Andrews, in reference to the work in Switzerland; Elder J. G. Matteson, of Norway; Elder G. W. Colcord, of the Upper Columbia Conference, Washington Territory; Elder William L. Raymond, of Oregon; Elder I. D. Van Horn, of California; C. M. Kenney and J. W. Allen, of Nevada; Elder L. P. Hodges, of North Carolina; Elder C. O. Taylor, of Alabama; and A. C. Neff, of Virginia.

Elder J. O. Corliss spoke concerning the communication from North Carolina, and Elder S. N. Haskell spoke in reference to the wants of the cause in some of the other fields mentioned in the communications.

MOVED, by Elder B. L. Whitney, That the chair appoint a committee of five to consider the wants of destitute fields, and recommend some action to be taken by this Conference. Carried.

The following-named persons were subsequently appointed as said committee: B. L. Whitney, J. O. Corliss, W. C. White, R. M. Kilgore, and U. Smith.

The chair being empowered by vote to appoint the usual committees, names the following:--

On Nominations: J. Fargo, M. H. Brown, and L. McCoy.
 On Resolutions: W. H. Littlejohn, B. L. Whitney, and U. Smith.
 On Auditing Accounts: W. C. White and W. H. Hall.

MOVED, That a committee of three be elected to arrange for preaching during the Conference. Carried.

U. Smith, J. Fargo, and S. H. Lane were thereupon chosen as said committee.

Adjourned to 2:30 p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2:30 P.M.

Met as per adjournment. Elder D. M. Canright led the Conference in prayer, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The chairman calling for reports from the delegates in reference to the wants of the fields which they came to represent, Elder R. M. Kilgore reported a visit to Arkansas, and the work in Texas. Elder E. R. Jones reported his labors in Colorado, and his desire to return to that field at the wish of the churches there. W. C. White expressed the wish, in behalf of the brethren in California, that Elder J. H. Waggoner continue his labors in California. Elder J. O. Corliss spoke for the cause in Tennessee. Brother Bahler spoke for more help in Texas. Elder A. S. Hutchins presented the wants of Vermont. Elder A. C. Bourdeau spoke for the Province of Quebec. Elder L. McCoy mentioned the fact that Iowa is an immense state, and has room for many more ministers than are now at work in that field.

The chair then introduced the matter of furnishing statistics of our churches, as called for by the Census Department. Some of the delegates reported what had been done in their conferences in this matter. To this point remarks were made by S. H. Lane, of Indiana, A. R. Henry and L. McCoy of Iowa, B. L. Whitney of New York, and W. C. White of California.

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of two, to act with himself in preparing blanks to be filled out and reported to the Census Department.

This motion was spoken to by D. M. Canright, L. McCoy, B. L. Whitney, E. R. Jones, S. H. Lane, A. R. Henry, and W. C. White. Carried.

Elders D. M. Canright and L. McCoy were appointed as said committee.

Adjourned to call of chair.

The following day, December 2, was named as the time for the next meeting.

THIRD MEETING, DECEMBER 2, 1881, 10 A.M.

Met as per call of the chair. Elder A. Stone offered the opening prayer, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Elder Hutchins stated that Vermont was entitled to another delegate, and moved that Elder A. Stone act as such delegate from Vermont, which motion prevailed.

Nebraska being entitled to two delegates, it was voted that Elder A. J. Cudney act with Elder C. L. Boyd as an additional delegate from Nebraska.

The Committee on Resolutions reported the following:--

RESOLVED, That we express it as the opinion of this Conference that no person should presume to go to any of the European missions, with a view to connecting themselves with these missions as laborers, until they have first received from the General Conference Committee credentials which will show

to the brethren to whom they are accredited that they are worthy of their confidence and support. Adopted.

WHEREAS, The recommendation of this Conference concerning the annual election of church officers has in some instances, through misapprehension of the design of this recommendation, resulted in changes which have proved detrimental to the interests of our churches; therefore--

RESOLVED, That while we recognize the importance of this arrangement as a means of relieving the churches of such officers as are not serving them to the best advantage, we most earnestly recommend that such changes be made only in cases where there exists an evident necessity for such change, and then only with the advice and counsel of the Conference Committee. Adopted.

RESOLVED, That in the selection of new officers great care should be exercised that those chosen to these responsible positions be sound in the faith, and in all points in harmony with the spirit of our work. Adopted.

S. N. Haskell, Pres. pro tem.
U. Smith, Secretary.

We resume the record of the business proceedings of the Conference by continuing the report of the Committee on Resolutions:--

WHEREAS, In the providence of God, Elder James White has during the past Conference year, been removed by death from the labors and responsibilities which have devolved upon him for so many years; therefore--

RESOLVED, That while we feel that words are inadequate to express the sense of loss which we feel at his death; and while we are deeply conscious that there is no one among us who can fill as he did the position of counselor and laborer in the work of the Third Angel's Message, we will nevertheless earnestly pray that the same God who helped him to devise and execute the plans which have contributed so much to the prosperity of the cause of present truth, may permit the mantle of his faithfulness and power to fall upon others, whose devotion to the cause of God shall be characterized by the same spirit of self-sacrifice and be crowned with the same marked success as that which distinguished his life and labors.

RESOLVED, That we hereby express to our afflicted sister, Ellen G. White, and the other members of her family, our sincere and heartfelt sympathy in this great bereavement which has fallen upon them; and that we assure them of our earnest prayers that our Heavenly Father will graciously sustain them under the deep affliction and great loss which they have experienced.

This and the preceding resolution were adopted, not by the Conference only,

but by a rising vote unanimously given by the whole congregation.

RESOLVED, That we renew the expressions of our confidence in the spirit of prophecy, which has acted so prominent a part thus far in directing the efforts of our people in giving the last message of mercy to the world; and that we will earnestly pray that God in his infinite mercy may remember the humble instrument he has employed in connection with the same, and impart to her in her present enfeebled condition the strength necessary to enable her to visit the different parts of the field, and actively participate in such general gatherings as may be held from time to time. Adopted.

Many tender and touching remarks were made by the brethren on these resolutions, and by W. C. White, acknowledging the appreciation by Sister White and the family of the sympathy expressed toward them by this people.

WHEREAS, The College at Battle Creek was founded for the especial purpose of fitting young men and women for usefulness either in the ministry or in fields of missionary labor, and--

WHEREAS, In our judgment, the children's department, which is at the present time connected with the College, interferes materially with the success of the institution in that direction; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we most respectfully recommend the Educational Society to take into consideration the propriety of making such provisions that the children's department shall be either wholly separated from the College, or so conducted that it will not interfere with the usefulness of the same in the accomplishment of its specific work.

This resolution, after being discussed by D. M. Canright, E. R. Jones, J. O. Corliss, W. C. White, M. B. Miller, A. R. Henry, R. M. Kilgore, and W. H. Littlejohn, was referred back to the committee.

RESOLVED, That we express it as our conviction that the College at Battle Creek could greatly advance the interests of the cause of God by preparing young men and women to act as teachers, and that we earnestly recommend the faculty of that institution to spare no pains to secure that end, by giving particular attention to the interest of that department of the school which is devoted to the instruction and drill of those who design to act in that capacity.

While the motion to adopt this resolution was pending, the Conference adjourned to 2:30 p.m.

Met as per adjournment at 2:30 p.m., December 2. Prayer by the secretary. Minutes read and approved.

The resolution the adoption of which was pending at the adjournment of the preceding meeting, was again read, and adopted.

The report of the Committee on Resolutions was continued, as follows:--

RESOLVED, 1. That we recommend the establishment, in states where the same can be done to advantage, of schools where students can pursue such branches of study as it will be necessary for them to master before entering the College at Battle Creek; 2. That these preparatory schools be established in such places, and conducted on such principles as the General Conference may recommend. Adopted.

The resolution on the separation of the primary department from the College, which was referred back to the Committee, was again presented, and postponed till after the meeting of the Educational Society, December 4.

WHEREAS, It is in the highest degree important that our churches should enjoy, as far as possible, the labor and watchcare of our ministers, and--

WHEREAS, The church in Battle Creek cannot be materially aided by the presence of ministers other than those who are connected with the institutions located there; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend our brethren in the ministry to find homes in the vicinity of churches which have need of their labor and oversight.

This resolution, after being discussed by A. S. Hutchins, E. R. Jones, D. M. Canright, J. O. Corliss, S. H. Lane, A. O. Burrill, and M. B. Miller, was laid upon the table; and the Conference adjourned to the call of the chair.

S. H. Haskell, Pres. pro tem.
U. Smith, Secretary.

FIFTH MEETING, DECEMBER 5, 1881, 10 A.M.

Prayer by Elder Loughborough. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Brother J. N. Loughborough was cordially welcomed as a delegate from England.

The resolution touching the separation of the primary department from the College proper, which had been postponed till after the meeting of the Educational Society, was now called up, and adopted.

The question in reference to ministers' moving to Battle Creek was taken from the table, and after being discussed by A. O. Burrill, W. H. Littlejohn, and J. O. Corliss, was referred back to the Committee on Resolutions.

RESOLVED, That the chair be requested to appoint a committee of five brethren, whose duty it shall be to arrange a systematic course of reading for the ministers of our denomination. Adopted.

The following-named brethren were thereupon appointed as said committee: J. N. Loughborough, W. H. Littlejohn, D. M. Canright, S. H. Lane, and E. R. Jones.

RESOLVED, That all candidates for license and ordination should be examined with reference to their intellectual and spiritual fitness for the successful discharge of the duties which will devolve upon them as licentiates and ordained ministers.

This was spoken to by D. M. Canright, D. H. Lamson, W. H. Littlejohn, S. H. Lane, G. C. Tenney, E. R. Jones, W. C. White, A. S. Hutchins, and R. M. Kilgore, and adopted.

RESOLVED, That females possessing the necessary qualifications to fill that position, may, with perfect propriety, be set apart by ordination to the work of the Christian ministry.

This was discussed by J. O. Corliss, A. C. Bourdeau, E. R. Jones, D. H. Lamson, W. H. Littlejohn, A. S. Hutchins, D. M. Canright, and J. N. Loughborough, and referred to the General Conference Committee.

RESOLVED, That we deeply sympathize with our beloved brother, Elder J. N. Andrews, in his present condition of physical prostration, and that we will continue to pray most earnestly that the God of all grace may restore him to perfect health.

This resolution received the hearty indorsement of those present, as expressed by a unanimous vote.

WHEREAS, We recognize the manifestation of spiritual gifts, especially the spirit of prophecy, as one of the distinguishing features of the work of the third angel's message, and--

WHEREAS, We fully believe that the neglect of these gifts and of the special instruction given us through them, will surely result in a decline of spirituality and true godliness among us as a people; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we urgently recommend to all our ministers that they

frequently present before our brethren, in our older churches as well as among those more recently brought to the faith, the plain teaching of the Scriptures concerning the perpetuity of these gifts, and the great importance of carefully heeding the precious instruction given us through this agency. Adopted.

Adjourned to call of chair.

SIXTH MEETING, DECEMBER 7, 1881, 10 A.M.

Prayer by Elder A. S. Hutchins. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The committee on a course of reading for ministers presented a report, recommending a course to extend over a period of six years. [This report, on account of its length, is not inserted in this record of proceedings, but is given by itself in another column (of the Review)--Secretary.]

MOVED, That we adopt the report, by considering the course prescribed for the first year's course of reading, after some discussion, an amendment was offered that Geike's Life of Christ be placed in the first year's course. This was spoken to by a number of brethren, and adopted. The motion, as amended, was then adopted.

The question now recurring on the adoption of the second year's course, an amendment was offered that the volume of Gibbon to be used should be the student's edition; this amendment was lost. The motion was then adopted.

The courses of the remaining years were voted on favorably, when the preamble and report as a whole were adopted.

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three to still have this matter under advisement with a view to suggesting revisions of the various courses, if in their judgment any should be made. Carried.

The resolution referred back to the committee relative to ministers' moving to Battle Creek was presented in the following modified form:--

WHEREAS, It is in the highest degree important that our churches should enjoy the labor and watchcare of our ministers, and

WHEREAS, The wants of the church in Battle Creek in that direction can be provided for by those ministers who are connected with the institutions which have been planted in that place; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend those of our brethren who are actively engaged in the work of the ministry to find homes in the vicinity of churches which have need of their labor and oversight, unless their connection with the

cause shall, in the judgment of the General Conference Committee, render it desirable that they should reside in Battle Creek. Adopted.

WHEREAS, The labors and responsibilities of the president of the General Conference are, from the necessity of the case, very great, and wearing in their character; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we express it as the sense of this body that the person occupying that position should not be encumbered by his brethren with the additional cares and duties which attend the presidency of state conferences, or other offices which are merely local in their character. Adopted.

Adjourned to 2 p.m.

SEVENTH MEETING

Met as per adjournment. Prayer by D. M. Canright. Minutes read and approved.

The report of the committee on destitute fields being called for, they presented a partial report, recommending that Elder C. L. Boyd of Nebraska labor in Oregon, and that Elder Samuel Fulton of Minnesota labor in Tennessee.

This report was adopted.

MOVED, That the 1000 copies of the Signs now sent to England be continued.

After some discussion, and a request from Brother Loughborough that action be deferred till he had opportunity to lay the situation more fully before the Conference, the motion was laid on the table.

MOVED, That the question of renewing the credentials of laborers in the South, and granting licenses to new applicants, be referred to the General Conference Committee, with instructions to confer with those who are acquainted with that field. Carried.

Brother Loughborough was requested by vote to make a full statement of the condition and prospects of the English Mission, Sabbath, December 10, at 10:30 a.m. [With this request he complied, as noticed in general remarks on "The Conference" in last week's Review.--Secretary.]

The Committee on Nominations reported as follows:--

For president, George I. Butler; secretary, A. B. Oyen; treasurer, M. J. Chapman; Executive Committee, George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, U. Smith. These persons were thereupon elected to the offices named.

The committee on census blanks reported that they had prepared blanks, and that they were ready for use.

Adjourned to call of chair.

EIGHTH MEETING, DECEMBER 9, 1881, 2 P.M.

Prayer by Elder A. Stone.

The following preamble and resolution were introduced, discussed, and adopted:--

WHEREAS, Many calls for ministerial labor among our churches come in from every part of the field; and--

WHEREAS, In the past our method of labor has failed to meet the wants of many churches, on account of the unsystematic bestowal of said labor; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend that all our conferences so distribute the labor in their respective states as to give each ordained minister, at least, a certain portion of territory to which his labors may be confined for a stated period, with instructions to labor for the spiritual advancement of each church and company in his respective territory, and thus hold together and build up the work already started with so much expense and labor, before entering new fields.

MOVED, That it be considered the rule that state conferences pay their tithe to the General Conference quarterly. Carried.

MOVED, That the constitution of the General Conference, as revised by the committee appointed in 1875, be printed. Carried.

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three to examine the form of constitution for State Conferences, with a view to suggesting such revision as may be necessary to adapt it to present wants, and to report at this session if possible. Carried.

Brethren W. H. Littlejohn, J. N. Loughborough, and U. Smith were appointed as said committee.

The Conference then listened to an interesting report from Brother Loughborough concerning his visit to Bale, Switzerland, after which they adjourned to the call of the chair.

S. N. Haskell, Pres. pro tem.
U. Smith, Secretary.

NINTH MEETING, DECEMBER 12, 1881, 10 A.M.

The meeting opened with prayer by Elder J. N. Loughborough. It was

MOVED, That the date of the adjournment of this Conference be Monday noon, December 19. Carried.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following:--

RESOLVED, That the General Conference Committee act as trustees for all funds which have been heretofore, or may hereafter be, raised for any missionary or other enterprise, in all cases where no other person or persons have been specified to act as trustees for the same.

This was spoken to by W. C. White and Elder J. N. Loughborough, and adopted.

RESOLVED, That we heartily approve the steps heretofore taken for the creation of a fund for the treatment of the worthy poor at the Sanitarium, and that in our judgment it is desirable that such a fund should be continued, and that our brethren should sustain the same by their liberalities. Carried.

WHEREAS, Our publishing house and our Sanitarium are somewhat burdened by the debts which rest upon them, and--

WHEREAS, The lack of means in other branches of the work renders it impossible to meet the many urgent calls for light and help which are coming to us constantly from nearly every portion of the civilized world; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recognize in this state of things the unmistakable voice of God calling upon those who love his cause to contribute liberally of their substance to relieve the same from the present indebtedness and to furnish the necessary means for more extended missionary effort.

This was discussed by J. N. Loughborough, J. O. Corliss, W. C. White, S. H. Lane, L. McCoy, and A. O. Burrill, and adopted.

WHEREAS, It frequently occurs that the design of those who make bequests to our institutions, is defeated, either in whole or in part, by the contesting of their wills; therefore--

RESOLVED, That the only safe course to be pursued is that of donating, during one's life time, those amounts which he wishes to contribute to the cause of God.

This was spoken to by W. C. White, A. S. Hutchins, B. L. Whitney, H. W. Kellogg, S. H. Lane, and W. H. Littlejohn, and adopted.

The chair being empowered to appoint a committee of two to act with himself in taking into consideration the matter of loans and wills, the following were appointed: U. Smith and G. I. Butler.

WHEREAS, It is very important that the present indebtedness of our College should be liquidated as quickly as possible; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend all our ministers to make special efforts to raise, by donations, the sum of \$10,000 for that purpose, and to forward the same to the Review and Herald Office.

This was amended to read, "By donations and sale of stock," and adopted.

WHEREAS, It is, according to the light which God has given us, very necessary that men, qualified by experience and education to engage in the work of colporters, should be employed in large numbers in various parts of the field; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we call the attention of the tract societies, and of our brethren everywhere, to this subject, and that we exhort them to take steps immediately in the direction of carrying out the duty enjoined.

This resolution, after being spoken to by Elder Loughborough, W. C. White, and S. N. Haskell, was approved.

Adjourned to call of chair.

TENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 12, 1881, 2 P.M.

Prayer by Elder Boyd. Minutes of the last meeting read and approved. The following resolutions were then acted upon:--

WHEREAS, It has become evident that it is difficult for canvassers to dispose of our publications in sufficient numbers to secure a livelihood while thus employed, unless the publications which they handle shall be prepared in a more presentable form than that which characterizes our cheaper works; and--

WHEREAS, An edition of the volume entitled, Thoughts on the Books of Daniel and Revelation has been prepared in such a way as to render it quite attractive, in order to adapt it to the wants of those who wish to engage in the work of canvassing; therefore--

RESOLVED, That in our judgment proper persons should immediately be

employed in the different parts of the field in the work of canvassing for this publication, and others which are in process of preparation.

This was spoken to by S. N. Haskell, C. L. Boyd, and G. G. Rupert, and adopted.

WHEREAS, The Scandinavian population of our country is already large, and is steadily increasing by a large immigration from Europe, and--

WHEREAS, Our Scandinavian churches have regularly and liberally contributed for the support of the cause, they, nevertheless, during the past two or three years, in some states, receiving little or no ministerial labor; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we earnestly recommend that all our Scandinavian ministers and licentiates in the different conferences devote themselves to their own nationality, laboring to strengthen and upbuild the already existing churches, introducing the Scandinavian publications, and extending the circulation of the periodicals in that language, especially Advent Tidende and Advent Harolden, and entering new fields as fast as consistent.

This was discussed by O. A. Olsen, W. C. White, R. M. Kilgore, A. J. Cudney, J. N. Loughborough, H. C. Nicola, and A. C. Bourdeau, and adopted.

WHEREAS, The experience of the past in various localities has demonstrated the great utility of missionary labor, especially the judicious circulation of the Signs of the Times, in preparing fields of labor for the living preacher; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend to our conferences where consistent, to adopt this plan of missionary work, and that we recommend for use in this work the special edition of the Signs prepared for this purpose. Adopted.

RESOLVED, That in our judgment, it is very important that ministers holding meetings in country places, should personally visit every family residing in the vicinity of the place where the meetings are held, except in those cases where there may be good reasons why this course should not be pursued.

This was unanimously adopted.

The Committee on Destitute Fields reported as follows:--

"Your Committee appointed to consider the question of providing labor for Destitute Fields having carefully considered the matters referred to them, respectfully present the following further report:--

"We recommend that Elder E. W. Farnsworth, of Iowa, labor in Nevada; Elder

A. O. Johnson, of Wisconsin, among the Scandinavians in Nebraska in connection with Brother Clausen; Elder E. W. Whitney, of New York, in Texas; and Edward Olsen, among the Scandinavians in Iowa. We also recommend that Elder S. N. Haskell visit the Eastern Southern field at his earliest convenience; that the work in Arkansas be placed under the watchcare of the Kansas Conference, and that the appeal for labor from Vermont and Missouri be referred to the General Conference Committee. And we further recommend that the question of selection of laborers for the English Mission be referred to a committee composed of the General Conference Committee and Elders J. N. Loughborough and J. N. Andrews. All of which is respectfully submitted.

B. L. Whitney,
U. Smith,
W. C. White,
R. M. Kilgore,
J. O. Corliss,
Committee."

After some discussion by several present, on the different items of this report, the meeting adjourned to the call of the chair.

ELEVENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 14, 1881, 7:30 P.M.

Elder W. H. Littlejohn offered prayer. Reading of minutes waived. The report of the Committee on Destitute Fields was again taken up, and Vermont's appeal for help, with the matter of placing the work in Arkansas under the watchcare of the Kansas Conference, was referred back to the committee. On motion, the chair appointed U. Smith, D. A. Robinson, and M. L. Huntley as a committee to consider the matter of putting in convenient form the reports of the proceedings of the several organizations which have held meetings in connection with this General Conference session.

Adjourned to call of chair.

TWELFTH MEETING, DECEMBER 16, 1881, 10 A.M.

Prayer was offered by Elder A. S. Hutchins. The minutes of the last meeting were read, and after slight corrections, were approved.

The Committee on Destitute fields again presented the Arkansas question, recommending that the work there be placed under the watchcare of the Kansas Conference, the General Conference furnishing publications to that new field to the amount of \$100, and a tent, should it be deemed advisable that one be used in that field the coming season. This was spoken to by Elders Sharp, Lane, Corliss, Burrill, Boyd, Whitney, and Cook, when it was moved to amend so as to read, "Whenever it shall be deemed necessary." The amendment was lost, and the original motion was adopted. The committee then presented the following

resolutions:--

RESOLVED, That we hereby express our sympathy for those laboring in the European missions, and that we acknowledge with gratitude the opening providence of God before the work in these countries.

WHEREAS, Different points in Great Britain furnish extensive fields for ministerial labor and for ship missionary work, and

WHEREAS, Those laboring in their field are so few that the removal of any one to other fields of labor would cripple the mission; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend the General Conference Committee, with the assistance of Elder Loughborough, to procure such assistance as is needed in both of these fields of labor, that they may be gaining an experience with those now working in the mission.

WHEREAS, The nature of the work connected with our European missions, and the difficulties and wants of those who are laboring therein are but partially understood by our people in this country, which has prevented their giving all that assistance to those missions which the circumstances demanded, and

WHEREAS, No one would be qualified to set before the brethren in various states the necessities of that branch of the work, unless he had visited those countries and learned the peculiarities of the situation by personal observation; and our missionaries cannot remain away from their work to set these matters before our people generally; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend Elder Haskell to visit those missions at his earliest convenience, for the purpose of acquainting himself with the situation, that he may aid and encourage the missionaries there, and be able to set forth more fully to our people in this country their duty in relation to them.

The first of these was spoken to by Elders Loughborough, Whitney, Corliss, Bourdeau, and Haskell, and adopted.

An interesting letter was read from Elder J. G. Matteson, of Norway, concerning the work there.

Adjourned to call of chair.

THIRTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 16, 1881, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by D. A. Robinson. The second and third resolutions of the previous meeting were spoken to at considerable length by several of the brethren and

adopted.

Adjourned to call of chair.

FOURTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 17, 1881, 5 P.M.

Elder M. B. Miller offered prayer. Minutes of the last meeting read and approved. The Committee on Resolutions then presented the following, which were adopted, Numbers 1 and 3 by a rising vote of nearly all present.

WHEREAS, The Holy Spirit has emphatically condemned the adorning of the person with "gold or pearls, or costly array" (1 Tim. 2:9; 1 Pet. 3:3); therefore--

RESOLVED, 1. That we re-iterate the former exhortations of this body to plainness of dress on the part of our people, and that we express it as our solemn conviction that no person can disregard the positive injunctions of Scripture upon this point, without exposing himself or herself to the frown of Heaven.

RESOLVED, 2. That we commend to the careful and prayerful attention of our people the remarks which are made upon this subject in Testimony No. 30, pp. 151-178.

RESOLVED, That we express it as the judgment of this body that attendance upon circuses, theaters, trotting matches, humorous lectures, and entertainments of like character cannot be reconciled with the plain teachings of the word of God, and the faith which we as a people hold respecting the near coming of Christ, and the session of the Judgment.

WHEREAS, Elder George I. Butler, though in feeble health, has been elected president of the Publishing Association, and re-elected by us to the position of president of the General Conference; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we owe it to him and to the cause which we represent to make his case the subject of earnest prayer, to the end that God may impart to him strength and wisdom sufficient to enable him to bear up under the arduous labors, and to meet the weighty responsibilities, which will devolve upon him for the year to come.

WHEREAS, There are brethren and sisters in different churches who do not for weeks attend religious meetings, and allow quarter after quarter to pass without being present at the ordinances; therefore--

RESOLVED, That the chair be empowered to appoint a committee of two to write an article to be published in the Review, setting forth the wrong of such course of action.

Elders W. H. Littlejohn and U. Smith were appointed said committee.

A motion was made by Elder A. O. Burrill to amend the Constitution of the General conference in reference to the Auditing Committee, by substituting for the words "two laymen," "six delegates who have not been in the employ of the General Conference the preceding year."

Adjourned to call of chair.

FIFTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 18, 1881, 5 P.M.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Elder A. S. Hutchins. The question of amending the Constitution was again considered, and discussed by A. O. Burrill, J. N. Loughborough, J. O. Corliss, R. F. Andrews, A. C. Bourdeau, W. C. White, and B. L. Whitney, when it was moved to amend by appointing a committee of three, of whom the president of the General Conference shall be one, the other two to be appointed by him, this committee to report at the next annual session. This amendment was adopted.

The Committee on Destitute Fields made further report, verbally, recommending that the province of Ontario, now connected with the Michigan Conference, be united to the Quebec Conference, under the name of the Conference of Canada, and that Elder D. T. Bourdeau assist his brother in that field. This was spoken to by A. C. Bourdeau and J. Fargo, and adopted.

They further recommended that Elder M. B. Miller go to Vermont, providing this meets his mind, and the Michigan and Vermont Conferences can so arrange. Spoken to by Elders A. S. Hutchins, J. Fargo, and M. B. Miller, and adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions again reported by presenting the following:--

WHEREAS, There are many thousand Swedes in this country, and a goodly number of brethren among whom there has been little or no ministerial labor for several years; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend our Swedish laborers to devote themselves to the work among that people as far as possible, and that we request our Danish preachers to encourage the Swedish cause whenever they have opportunity, and that we desire to encourage young men of that tongue to fit themselves for labor in the field.

WHEREAS, We believe our Sabbath-school work might be greatly benefited by

the labors of Brother Bell; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend that he devote his time to this branch of the work in preparing lessons farther in advance than at present, and in visiting different parts of the field as the way may open before him.

RESOLVED, That we tender a vote of thanks to the Battle Creek Church for the generous hospitality which they have extended to the members of this body during this, one of the longest sessions ever held by the General Conference.

The above resolutions were adopted.

MOVED, by W. C. White, That the chair appoint a committee of three, who shall take into consideration the question of building meeting-houses so they will be adapted to the Sabbath-school work, ths committee to give instructions in the matter in an article or pamphlet which they shall prepare. Carried.

Adjourned to call of chair.

SIXTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 18, 1881, 9:30 P.M.

Prayer was offered by Elder E. R. Jones. Reading of the minutes of last meeting waived.

The following resolution was presented, and after some discussion was unanimously adopted:--

RESOLVED, That we express it as the judgment of this body that the use of domestic wines as a beverage, or the manufactures of the same, in order that they may be employed for that purpose, should be discountenanced at all times by members of our denomination, as being contrary to the plain teachings of Scripture, and the highest interests of society.

Adjourned to call of chair.

SEVENTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 19, 1881, 10 A.M.

Elder J. N. Loughborough offered prayer. The Committee on Resolutions reported again, recommending that we extend our sympathy to Brother C. O. Taylor in his work in the South.

This was amended to read, "And we pledge our co-operation to all our brethren throughout the Southern field."

The resolution as amended was adopted.

MOVED, and carried, That Elder U. Smith be requested to revise his work, Biblical Institute, and prepare it for a question book to meet the wants of those just embracing the truth.

The Treasurer's report was read as follows:--

TREASURER'S REPORT

M. J. Chapman in account with the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

To cash on hand, November 1, 1880-----	\$2730.25
To cash received to November 30, 1881-----	6918.88
Total-----	\$9649.13
By cash paid out from November 1, 1880, to November 30, 1881-----	\$4540.63
Balance in Treasury-----	5108.50
Total-----	\$9649.13

Adjourned sine die.

S. N. Haskell, Chairman pro tem.
U. Smith, Secretary.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST STATISTICS, 1881

The reports brought to our late General Conference show the present standing of the denomination in respect to ministers, licentiates, number of churches, membership, and finances, to be as follows:--

Names of Conferences	Ministers	Licentiates	Churches	Members	Funds raised during year
Maine-----	3	1	20	353	\$ 1321.27
Vermont-----	5	2	12	369	1352.22
New England*-----	3	3	23	505	4800.00
New York-----	11	4	31	783	3257.36
Pennsylvania-----	4	3	17	439	2374.58
Ohio-----	5	9	30	759	3255.86
Michigan-----	30	15	112	3351	9355.89
Indiana-----	7	6	23	570	2268.82
Wisconsin-----	13	9	47	1609	4530.78
Illinois-----	8	9	34	687	5001.67
Minnesota-----	13	8	57	1304	4893.46
Iowa-----	10	9	50	1300	7339.05
Nebraska-----	5	4	21	498	2070.00
Dakota-----	1	4	9	206	626.00
Missouri-----	2	8	14	370	1509.00
Kansas-----	3	11	31	1013	2900.76

California-----	6	10	35	1064	9494.17
North Pacific-----	1	2	5	123	516.81
Upper Columbia-----	2	1	4	156	1133.75
Kentucky-----	2	1	5	73	335.05
Tennessee-----			5	54	133.00
Texas-----	1	2	7	206	1829.36
Province of Quebec----	1		4	151	236.80
Denmark-----	1		7	101	75.00

Missions--

General Southern-----	4	3	3	107	100.00
Virginia-----	2	1	7	135	250.00
Colorado-----	1		3	125	1400.00
Nevada-----			2	35	500.00
Central European-----	2		16	223	442.70
Northern European-----	1	1	3	172	459.44
English-----	1		3	75	422.75
Total-----	148	126	640	16916	\$74185.55
As given last year---	144	116	649	15570	61856.88
Gain-----	4	10		1346	\$12328.67

*Comprising churches in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

December 7, 1882

Pursuant to appointment, the Conference assembled at the Seventh-day Adventist house of worship in Rome, New York, December 7, 1882, at 9 a.m., Elder Butler, president, in the chair. After singing a hymn, prayer was offered by Elder J. H. Waggoner.

The organization of the Conference was effected by the presentation of credentials by delegates, as follows:--

California: J. H. Waggoner, I. D. Van Horn, W. C. White.

Colorado: Uriah Smith.

Dakota: O. A. Olsen.

Illinois: R. F. Andrews.

Indiana: S. H. Lane.

Iowa: George I. Butler, C. A. Washburn, J. T. Mitchell, A. R. Henry.

Kansas: J. H. Cook, John Gibbs.
 Maine: J. B. Goodrich.
 Michigan: U. Smith, J. Fargo, J. O. Corliss, W. H. Littlejohn, M. B. Miller, H. M. Kenyon, E. S. Griggs.
 Minnesota: Harrison Grant, John Fulton, H. W. Norton.
 Nebraska: George B. Starr.
 New York: B. L. Whitney, M. H. Brown, M. C. Wilcox.
 Ohio: H. A. St. John, R. A. Underwood.
 Pennsylvania: D. B. Oviatt, J. W. Raymond, F. Peabody.
 Province of Quebec: A. C. Bourdeau.
 Texas: R. M. Kilgore.
 Upper Columbia: J. H. Waggoner.
 Vermont: A. S. Hutchins.
 Wisconsin: H. W. Decker.

By vote, Brother A. C. Neff was received as a representative from Virginia, and Elder T. M. Steward as a delegate from Illinois in place of C. H. Bliss, who was not present, and J. O. Corliss as a representative of the General Southern Mission.

Elder U. Smith stated that a conference had been organized in Colorado, that wishes to be received as a member of the General Conference. The conference has three churches with 164 members, and has a full corps of officers. It appointed him as delegate to the General Conference, provided it should be received.

It was then moved that the Colorado Conference be received as a member of the General Conference. Carried.

Elder Haskell called the attention of the brethren to the fact that the Sabbath-keepers in Sweden had been organized into a conference, with officers and a membership of about 150, and that it was anxious to become a part of the General Conference; whereupon it was moved, that the Conference in Sweden be admitted into the sisterhood of Conferences.

Pending the action of the assembly on this question, the fact was mentioned that a European Conference had been organized, embracing the different missionary fields in Europe, including Sweden, and the question presented itself as to what relation the Conference in Sweden would sustain to that Conference, if it were admitted into the General Conference, and also what relation the European Conference sustains to the General Conference.

After remarks by Elders Waggoner, Butler, Lane, Haskell, and St. John in reference to the question, it was moved that this matter be referred to a committee of three, to be appointed by the chair. Carried.

Elders Haskell, Waggoner, and Fargo were designated as said committee.

On account of their great length, it was moved to waive the reading of the minutes of the last annual session.

On motion, the chair was authorized to appoint the standing committees. It was further moved, that a Committee on Credentials and Licenses be considered as a standing committee. Carried.

Committee on Nominations: J. Fargo, Harrison Grant, J. B. Goodrich.

Committee on Resolutions: U. Smith, J. H. Waggoner, W. H. Littlejohn.

Committee on Auditing: A. R. Henry and E. S. Griggs, to act with the Executive Committee.

Committee on Licenses and Credentials: W. C. White, J. O. Corliss, O. A. Olsen.

Reports from missionaries being called for, Elder Corliss spoke for Virginia and North Carolina. They are greatly in need of help. In order to have the wants of the different missionary fields considered, it was moved that the chair appoint a committee of four to act with himself in considering the wants of missionary fields. Carried.

S. N. Haskell, B. L. Whitney, R. M. Kilgore, and O. A. Olsen were requested to act in this capacity.

Elder J. H. Waggoner introduced the following:

RESOLVED, That Article 2 of the Constitution of this Conference be amended by substituting the word "five" for the word "three," making the Executive Committee a committee of five instead of three, as at present.

This was spoken to by Elders Hutchins, Waggoner, Andrews, Underwood, Littlejohn, Steward, Lane, Bourdeau, St. John, and Brother W. C. White, and in order to give more time for its consideration, it was by vote laid upon the table.

Following this, Elder Smith read a report from Elder J. N. Andrews in reference to the work in Switzerland, and Elder Haskell related some very interesting experiences with Sabbath-keepers in Europe.

H. W. Decker and A. S. Hutchins were requested to act with the chair as a committee to consider the question of enlarging the Auditing Committee, which was left over from the last session.

On motion, the chair announced the following persons as a committee on

preaching: B. L. Whitney, R. A. Underwood, D. B. Oviatt.

By vote, the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

SECOND MEETING, 2 P.M.

Prayer by Elder I. D. Van Horn. After roll-call, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

A considerable part of this meeting was occupied in listening to calls for labor from different delegates. Elders Andrews, Steward, Olsen, and Waggoner spoke for Chicago, requesting the Conference to send the brethren there some efficient help. This brought up the subject of the proper division of conferences, when it was moved that the chair appoint a committee of four to act with the General Conference Committee to consider the matter of boundary lines between conferences. Carried.

H. A. St. John, J. O. Corliss, R. M. Kilgore, and I. D. Van Horn were announced as this committee.

The committee appointed at the previous meeting, to consider the matter of enlarging the Auditing Committee, reported as follows:--

"Your Committee would respectfully report that we recommend that the Constitution be changed by substituting for the words 'two laymen' 'four delegates who have not been in the employ of the Conference the preceding year.'

George I. Butler,
H. W. Decker,
A. S. Hutchins,
Committee."

MOVED, To accept this report. After being spoken to, it was moved to amend by substituting "six" instead of "four." Carried.

The question recurring on the original motion, it was passed.

MOVED, That the chair appoint the additional four members of the Auditing Committee. Carried.

They were appointed as follows: S. H. Lane, W. C. White, J. Fargo, H. W. Decker.

Elders E. W. Farnsworth and J. M. Rees having arrived, they took their seats as delegates, the former representing Missouri and Nevada, and the latter Indiana.

MOVED, That all brethren in good standing be invited to participate in the deliberations of the Conference. Carried.

A letter from Charles P. Whitford of Jacksonville, Florida, was read. There is a company of Sabbath-keepers there who desire help.

Brother A. C. Neff made known the wants of Virginia, Elder E. W. Farnsworth spoke for Nevada, and Elder George I. Butler for Missouri.

Adjourned to call of chair.

THIRD MEETING, DECEMBER 8, 1882, 10 A.M.

Prayer was offered by Elder Haskell.

Elder D. A. Robinson and Brother C. W. Comings took their seats at this meeting, as delegates from New England.

Elder Haskell proceeded to give an extended statement in regard to the European missions, especially the work in Switzerland, showing that a great work is being accomplished in Europe, and that there are a great many good openings for the introduction of the truth. But there is such a feeling there against anything that is American, that papers published in America and sent over to Europe cannot accomplish the good that those published in European countries can. There is great need of a German paper in Europe. The French paper has accomplished a great deal of good in removing prejudice and bringing the truth before the people. But Elder Andrews is very feeble, and has not the help in the management of matters that he should have; neither can he visit the Sabbath-keepers in different parts and look after the various openings for labor. Somebody is needed to do this, and something must be done soon to supply this want.

Following these remarks, the Committee on Resolutions introduced the following:--

WHEREAS, We have listened with deep interest to the report given by Elder Haskell of the European missions, showing the importance of the work, the necessity of maintaining it, and the need of further assistance in this direction; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend that Elder B. L. Whitney and family go, at their earliest convenience, to the assistance of Elder Andrews, by connecting themselves especially with the work in Switzerland, laboring also to help other missions as opportunity may offer.

This was spoken to by Elders Haskell, Butler, Waggoner, Oviatt, Bourdeau, Cottrell, Whitney, and W. C. White, and pending action the Conference adjourned till 2:30 p.m.

FOURTH MEETING, 2:30 P.M.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Elder S. H. Lane.

The resolution under consideration at the previous meeting when adjournment took place, was taken up, and after being spoken to by Elders Brown, Wilcox, and Brother H. W. Norton, it was passed unanimously.

The Committee on Resolutions introduced the following:--

RESOLVED, That we recognize the necessity of publishing a German paper in Europe, and we hereby recommend the Conference Committee to arrange for such publication at the earliest possible opportunity.

This was discussed by Elders Haskell, Butler, and Kilgore, and Brother W. C. White, and passed.

A communication from Elder J. N. Loughborough in reference to the condition and wants of the English Mission was read, after which the meeting adjourned to call of chair.

FIFTH AND SIXTH MEETINGS, DECEMBER 10, 1882

H. W. Kellogg, additional delegate from Michigan, presented his credentials at this time.

These meetings were entirely occupied in listening to some very interesting remarks from Brother G. H. Bell, in regard to education in general, and the manner of conducting the Seventh-day Adventist school at South Lancaster, Massachusetts, in particular. The speaker proceeded to show that the popular method of filling the student's mind with that which is not practical, and hurrying him through a certain course in order that he may obtain a diploma, is not true education. True education begins on the inside, at the core, with that which is practical. It builds up and strengthens a symmetry of character that by and by, in after life, will show itself in some grand, good, and noble work for the world. The school at South Lancaster seeks to attain to this ideal. The teachers at this school have experienced that study and physical labor must be intermingled, in order to make a good school. Hence the time of the students there is divided into labor, study, and recitation hours; and the best of results are seen, both as to physical health, mental discipline, and progress in study.

Many interesting details in regard to the school were given, after which the meeting adjourned to call of chair.

SEVENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 11, 1882, 10 A.M.

Prayer was offered by Elder J. H. Cook.

The subject of education and the establishment of schools in different sections of the country, drew forth many interesting remarks from Elders Haskell, Butler, Waggoner, M. B. Miller, and Brethren W. C. White and G. H. Bell, during this meeting. Plans for the future of the South Lancaster school were mentioned, and also some brief explanations were given in regard to the closing of the Battle Creek College, showing what difficulties are to be met in the establishment and management of schools, and upon what principles schools should be conducted to meet the mind of God and forward his work. An account was also given of the establishment of the college at Healdsburg, California.

EIGHTH MEETING, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by Elder J. O. Corliss. A. H. Hall, delegate from New York, took his seat at this meeting.

The reports of special committees being in order, the following was presented by the committee appointed to consider the wants of missionary fields:

"Your Committee recommended that the Executive Committee issue special credentials to those in the direct employ of the General Conference, showing the relation of each to the Conference; also the issue of local credentials and licenses to those laboring in fields outside of organized conferences; these credentials and licenses to be continued from time to time by the General Conference, or at the discretion of the Conference Committee.

"We also recommend that the California Conference supply Nevada with such help as it can consistently give; that an experienced laborer be sent to the Southern Atlantic States, to develop and build up the interest already existing, instruct those laboring there who are deficient in experience, and have a supervision of the work, with the object of bringing up the cause in all its branches. And we further recommend, in view of the fact that Elder J. O. Corliss has already some acquaintance with that field, has felt a deep interest in it, and has a burden to go there to labor at the present time, that this field be assigned him till the providence of God shall indicate that his duty lies in a different direction."

These recommendations being discussed at some length by the Conference, they were adopted as the sense of the body.

Another special committee submitted the following report, which was also adopted:--

"Your committee appointed to consider the relation of the organizations in Europe to the General Conference would report as follows:--

"We find that Denmark and Sweden have regular Conferences organized, which have adopted our State Constitution, or Constitutions similar thereto; but the recent organization called the "European Conference" would more properly be called a "European Council," as that appears to be the object for which it was organized. We recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:--

"RESOLVED, That the Swedish Conference be admitted to the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, according to their request.

"RESOLVED, That while we indorse the organization of the European Conference, we recommend that its name be changed to that of a 'European Council of Seventh-day Adventist Missions,' according to the object stated in its Constitution.

"RESOLVED, That we highly approve of the action of the European Council in the fifth article of its Constitution, as follows: 'When any important enterprise involving a considerable expenditure of money or affecting the general interests of the cause is to be entered upon by any mission, it shall be the duty of those conducting that mission to consult the Executive Committee of this Conference' [Council]. And the General Conference cannot hold itself responsible to aid n any such enterprise without such consultation having been held."

The matter of boundary lines between conferences was made the subject of a special report, the committee appointed for that purpose making the following recommendations:--

"WHEREAS, The organization of churches by ministers of one Conference in the territory of another State has raised the question of the proper boundary of Conferences; therefore--

"RESOLVED, 1. That the boundary lines of a State should in all cases be the boundary lines of the Conference bearing the name of said State, except in cases where good reasons shall exist for varying this rule.

"2. That where differences arise on this point, appeal shall be made to the General Conference, and through their supervision the lines shall be established.

"3. That before any steps are taken to organize a church by the ministers of one Conference in the territory of another, the full consent of the latter Conference should be obtained.

"4. That when a church is so located that the members usually attending the meetings of said church are partly in one State and partly in another,

a majority of such church shall decide to which Conference they will belong, but the individual members may, if they choose, pay their tithes to the Conference in which they live.

"5. That where churches are transferred to another Conference by the establishment of boundary lines as herein recommended, there should be a consideration of the expense incurred in raising up and caring for said churches, and when the matter cannot be amicably arranged by the conferences concerned, it shall be referred to the General Conference for settlement. Ministers located in the districts transferred may choose to which conference they will belong.

"6. That we recommend that for the present the Scandinavian Church of Chicago be permitted to remain with the Wisconsin Conference.

"7. That the cases of New York and Pennsylvania, and New England and New Jersey, where an understanding already exists, be exceptions for the present to the foregoing resolutions.

H. A. St. John
J. O. Corliss
R. M. Kilgore
I. D. Van Horn

George I. Butler
S. N. Haskell
U. Smith."

It was moved and seconded that the preamble and resolution be adopted. This motion was quite fully discussed, but pending action the meeting adjourned to call of chair.

NINTH MEETING, DECEMBER 12, 1882, 10 A.M.

Prayer was offered by Elder John Fulton.

The discussion of the recommendations of the committee on boundary lines of conferences was continued at some length, after which they were all adopted.

As these recommendations especially affect the Minnesota and Wisconsin Conferences, Elder George I. Butler offered the following, which it was moved and seconded to adopt as a part of the foregoing report:--

"WHEREAS, The first resolution in this report places the boundary lines of Conferences in harmony with the boundary lines of the states in which they are located, thus allotting to the Conference of Wisconsin certain churches which have belonged to the Minnesota Conference; therefore--

"RESOLVED, That we advise these churches to present themselves to the Wisconsin Conference at its next session, and apply for reception. But in case any of them should not feel willing to drop their connection with the Minnesota Conference, we advise that they remain for the present a part of that Conference."

This was spoken to by the delegations from both states, and also by others; but the resolution was finally laid upon the table.

The committee appointed to consider the wants of missionary fields then presented the following resolutions, which were adopted:--

RESOLVED, That ministers laboring outside their own conferences, should after an absence of one year or more, be considered members of the conference in which they labor, and should receive credentials therefrom; and ministers laboring in missionary fields should receive credentials from the General Conference.

RESOLVED, That the above resolution shall not prevent any conference from issuing credentials to its members who are laboring in the general interests of the cause.

WHEREAS, Some ministers find it necessary to change their field of labor from one conference to another, and confusion is liable to arise; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend that before such changes are made there should be an understanding between the conferences concerned or the change should be made in accordance with instructions from the General Conference.

The Committee on Resolutions reported still further at this meeting, as follows:--

WHEREAS, The establishment of such schools as those recently created by our people in Massachusetts and California is necessarily attended with many perplexities, and will cost much more than would be imagined by one who has had no experience in such matters; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend to our brethren in different conferences that they proceed in the organization of schools with great caution; and that before doing so they counsel with the General Conference Committee.

On motion, this was adopted.

WHEREAS, Confusion is liable to occur in the accounts of our systematic benevolence treasurers, resulting in the loss of funds, unless all pecuniary transactions are conducted according to careful business principles; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend that all persons paying tithes require from the treasurer a receipt for all moneys paid him, and that the treasurer be required to present quarterly to the church, or to an auditing committee appointed by the church, an itemized report of all money received, and all that is paid by him into the conference, showing the receipts of the state treasurer as vouchers therefor.

After some discussion, the above was adopted.

WHEREAS, The usefulness of our publishing house in California was seriously imperiled by the threatened enforcement of the Sunday laws of that state; and--

WHEREAS, By a mysterious Providence the very party which passed that law originally, arrayed themselves against the same in the last political contest in that state, so that their triumph rendered its repeal certain; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recognize in this result the hand of God so shaping and directing the affairs of men as to render possible the full and free proclamation of his truth, until such time as the world shall have been thoroughly warned in regard to their duty to observe the Sabbath of the Lord, and to prepare for the advent of his Son.

The above resolution drew forth interesting remarks from Elders Littlejohn and Waggoner, showing how the Lord had worked for his people during the Sunday excitement in California, after which it was unanimously adopted.

On motion the resolution introduced in the first meeting in regard to increasing the General Conference Committee to five members, was taken from the table; but after some further discussion, the motion to adopt was lost, the balloting showing 24 yeas and 18 nays, a three-fourths vote being required to amend the Constitution.

The treasurer's report, showing the financial standing of the Conference, was then read, as follows:--

TREASURER'S REPORT

M. J. Chapman in account with the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

	Dr.	
To cash on hand November 30, 1881-----	\$5108.50	
To cash received to October 31, 1882-----	<u>7632.78</u>	
Total-----		\$12741.28
By cash paid out from November 30, 1881, to October 31, 1882-----	\$4702.86	
Balance in Treasury-----	<u>8038.42</u>	
Total-----		\$12741.28

The time for closing having arrived, the meeting adjourned, subject to the call of the chair.

TENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 17, 1882, 9 A.M.

Prayer was offered by Elder George I. Butler.

On motion, the chair was empowered to appoint a committee of three, including himself, to consider the matter of remuneration for the churches to be transferred from the Minnesota Conference, according to the action of the Conference in the previous meeting. The chair afterward named J. Fargo and S. N. Haskell as the additional members of this committee.

The following resolutions were then presented, and unanimously adopted:--

RESOLVED, That our ministers be instructed to pay more attention to the subject of health reform; to study it in the light of the Bible and to enforce it in our churches as an element of Christian character; and to counteract in a careful and judicious manner the prevailing tendency among our people to backsliding in regard to this important grace.

WHEREAS, Counsel has been given to us as a people that it is the duty of Elder Uriah Smith to labor in the cause at large, and especially in holding Biblical Institutes, and not to confine his labors to Battle Creek; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we hereby request our Executive Committee to assign to Elder Smith such labor as will give the various conferences the benefit of his ability and experience, as indicated above.

On motion, the meeting adjourned to call of chair.

ELEVENTH MEETING, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by Elder W. H. Littlejohn.

The Committee on Resolutions introduced the following:--

RESOLVED, That the ordinances of the Lord's supper and feet-washing are important, and should never be separated in their administration, except in cases where such separation shall be absolutely necessary.

WHEREAS, Many of our ministers have found it a very difficult matter to carry out our system of quarterly meetings successfully, so as to derive from them the benefits contemplated, and in many cases are obliged to set them aside or appoint them on another day than the one assigned; therefore--

RESOLVED, That the chair be authorized to appoint a committee of three to consider this subject with its various bearings, and report, making such recommendations as they may deem proper.

The above were adopted, and the chair named J. H. Cook, R. F. Andrews, B. L. Whitney, as the committee provided for in the latter resolution.

RESOLVED, That we recommend that the General Conference Committee prepare, or cause to be prepared, instructions to church officers, to be printed in the Review and Herald or in tract form, as they may deem the better way.

On motion, the chair appointed W. H. Littlejohn, J. O. Corliss, H. A. St. John, as a committee to take this matter into consideration, and report at the next annual session of the Conference.

RESOLVED, That we recommend that our churches purchase copies of the General Conference proceedings, and make themselves intelligent in reference to the business matters connected with our annual meetings.

RESOLVED, That another section be added to Article II of the Constitution, to read as follows:--

"Section 2.--The Executive Committee shall have power to fill any vacancies that may occur in their number by death, resignation, or otherwise."

WHEREAS, The English Mission is now organized so that colporters and other persons distributing our literature can keep i operation the work now being done in Southampton and elsewhere; therefore--

RESOLVED, That in view of the wants of the cause in America, our Executive Committee be instructed to make such changes in the English work as shall secure, as soon as consistent, the services of Elder Loughborough in the United States.

WHEREAS, It is the judgment of those who understand the condition of the cause that a paper will sometime be needed in England, and it is also judged that the time for publishing it is not yet come; therefore--

RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this Conference that persons should be selected and educated for that work, to whom the duty of conducting the paper can be entrusted at the proper time.

These resolutions were adopted, after being spoken to by different members of the Conference.

The Committee on Nominations then presented the following names for officers of the Conference for the coming year: For president, George I. Butler; secretary, A. B. Oyen; treasurer, Mrs. M. J. Chapman; Executive Committee, G. I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, J. Fargo. These persons were elected to their respective offices.

The Committee on Credentials and Licenses suggested that credentials be granted to Elders J. N. Andrews, J. G. Matteson, J. N. Loughborough, A. A. John, B. L. Whitney, George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, J. Fargo, J. O. Corliss; and that local credentials be given to Elders C. O. Taylor of Alabama, William F. Killen of Georgia, L. P. Hodges of North Carolina, H. A. Rife of Virginia; also that a Ship Missionary License be granted to George R. Drew of England.

They further recommended the following:--

"In order that the Conference may move understandingly in the matter of granting licenses in the Southern States, we recommend that action be deferred until a laborer from the General Conference shall enter that field, and ascertain the minds of the brethren living in the several localities relative to the proper persons to receive licenses. But in the cases of those who have heretofore received licenses, we recommend that they continue to labor as formerly, until the visit of the laborer herein mentioned."

This report was then adopted.

The following resolution was introduced and unanimously adopted:--

RESOLVED, That this General Conference indorse the action of the Board of Trustees of the Educational Society in closing the College, under the circumstances, and we indorse the resolutions passed at an informal meeting of the Educational Society in this place.

The meeting then adjourned to call of chair.

TWELFTH MEETING, DECEMBER 18, 1882, 9 A.M.

Prayer by Elder S. H. Lane.

Elder S. N. Haskell gave an account of his visit to the Scandinavian countries the past summer, showing that an encouraging work is being done there, there now being about four hundred Sabbath-keepers in the three countries.

Particulars were also given in regard to the publishing work in Norway.

On motion, the chair was empowered to appoint a committee of five, including himself and Elder S. N. Haskell, to consider and recommend action concerning the Scandinavian and other missions. They were named, as follows: W. C. White, O. A. Olsen, B. L. Whitney.

MOVED, That the General Conference Committee be requested to prepare a report of all foreign missions, and an appeal to be read in the churches at some quarterly meeting, together with an address encouraging donations to the mission funds. Carried.

Elder O. A. Olsen gave a brief history of the Scandinavian work in America, showing that the cause among the Scandinavians is in a thriving condition. He also spoke of the great need of having some of Sister White's works issued in the Danish-Norwegian language, and asked that something of the description be published. It was thereupon

RESOLVED, That it be the expressed sense of this Conference, that a book containing selections from the writings of Sister White be published in the Danish-Norwegian language.

The above was unanimously adopted.

On motion, the meeting adjourned to call of chair.

THIRTEENTH MEETING, 4 P.M.

Prayer by Elder J. Fargo.

The following resolutions were introduced, considered, and adopted at this meeting:--

RESOLVED, That Elder E. W. Farnsworth be recommended to labor a part of the year, as the way may open, in the Missouri Conference.

RESOLVED, That we consider the tract and missionary work, in its different phases, one of great importance, and we recommend that special efforts be put forth for the increased circulation of all our periodicals.

RESOLVED, That it is the judgment of this General Conference that the blessing of God attends the canvassing work; and we think that an experience in this work is an excellent preparation to efficiency in other departments of the cause.

RESOLVED, That we request the president of the General Conference to arrange with the Publishing Committee of the Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association to publish a book to be entitled, The Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook, which shall contain such portions of the proceedings of the General Conference, and such other matters as the Committee may think best to insert therein.

WHEREAS, This General Conference has voted to send Brother B. L. Whitney,

president of the New York Conference, to Switzerland, leaving that conference, for the time being, without a president; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we request our Executive Committee to do all that may appear to them practicable to furnish aid to the New York Conference for the remainder of the current conference year.

RESOLVED, That we request the General Conference Committee to take such steps as they may think advisable for the purpose of securing to the College a loan, without interest, of a sufficient amount of funds to replace the money upon which it is paying interest at the present time.

The subject of organizing local schools in different sections of the country was then introduced by the chair. Statements were made by Elders R. M. Kilgore of Texas, H. Grant of Minnesota, and G. B. Starr of Nebraska, to the effect that there is a great desire on the part of the brethren in their respective conferences to have schools organized as soon as practicable. But they wish to move cautiously, and to conform as far as possible to the recommendations of this Conference in regard to this matter.

FOURTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 19, 1882, 3:30 P.M.

Prayer by Elder J. H. Waggoner.

The committee on church quarterly meetings reported as follows:--

"Your committee recommend that the church quarterly meetings be held the first Sabbath and first-day in December, March, June, and September, and that one of the members of the Executive Committee of each State Conference hold a general meeting in each district within the bounds of their respective conferences as often as once in three months if possible, this new arrangement to take effect March 1, 1883."

This was amended by inserting the expression, "or some minister whom they may appoint," after the words "State Conference," and finally laid upon the table.

The committee appointed to consider the wants of the Scandinavian Mission, presented the following report, which was unanimously adopted:--

WHEREAS, Considerable sums of money have been sent by our Scandinavian brethren to men who were strangers, and in some cases to unworthy persons; and--

WHEREAS, The General Conference Committee exercises a watchful care for

the wants and necessities of all the missions, receiving authentic information from our experienced missionaries, and is thus prepared to judge of the importance of private appeals; therefore--

RESOLVED, That it is the safe and wiser plan for all persons wishing to aid the European missions to forward their donations to the authorized treasurers of the mission funds.

WHEREAS, The building in Christiana, Norway, used at present for printing and holding meetings, is larger than is necessary, and will require a large amount of means to provide for interest and future payments; and--

WHEREAS, Another building can be erected, better suited for their work, at less cost; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we approve of their effort to sell, and make other arrangements.

The following resolutions were then presented by the Committee on Resolutions, and adopted:--

RESOLVED, That we express our unabated confidence in the Testimonies which have been so graciously given to this people, which have guided our ways and corrected our errors, from the rise of the Third Angel's Message to the present time; and that we especially express our gratitude for Testimony No. 31, which we accept as a token of the care of God over us,--an evidence that he has not forsaken us, notwithstanding our many backslidings.

RESOLVED, That we hereby tender to the brethren of the New York and Pennsylvania Conferences, and especially to the church at Rome, New York, our sincere thanks for the cordial reception extended by them to this Conference, and for their generous hospitality while we have been with them.

A vote of thanks was also extended to the railroads that granted the delegates favors in coming to the Conference.

Elder R. F. Andrews invited the General Conference to hold its next annual session in Illinois, and Elders H. A. St. John of Ohio and C. F. Washburn of Iowa extended the same invitation, offering the Conference the hospitalities of their respective states.

On motion, the Conference adjourned.

George I. Butler, President.
A. B. Oyen, Secretary.

Names of Conferences	Ministers	Licentiates	Churches	Members	during year
California-----	8	5	30	1029	\$10887.15
Canada-----	1	1	4	155	182.00
Colorado-----	1		4	164	1169.05
Dakota-----	3	2	12	270	900.26
Denmark-----	2	2	8	150	75.00
Illinois-----	9	8	30	600	5670.80
Indiana-----	5	10	27	623	2734.45
Iowa-----	10	10	44	1450	6734.01
Kansas-----	5	8	30	1000	2566.12
Kentucky-----	2	2	5	84	230.95
Maine-----	3	2	22	374	1341.00
Michigan-----	29	20	123	3400	11078.37
Minnesota-----	13	11	61	1306	5068.36
Missouri-----	2	9	18	400	1101.00
Nebraska-----	6	2	26	553	3699.62
New England-----	3	5	23	507	4823.53
New York-----	11	8	31	783	5496.98
North Pacific-----	4		5	123	1030.06
Ohio-----	7	7	33	746	4104.92
Pennsylvania-----	6	2	17	445	3265.95
Sweden-----	1	1	3	88	
Tennessee-----	1	3	5	54	420.46
Texas-----	1	2	7	262	1152.30
Upper Columbia-----	2	2	5	181	1130.70
Vermont-----	5	4	13	375	1800.00
Virginia-----	1	2	2	55	1800.00
Wisconsin-----	13	4	47	1500	5600.00
MISSIONS--					
Central European-----	2		16	223	442.70
English-----	2		2	60	379.13
General Southern-----	3	2	4	71	152.00
Nevada-----			2	38	329.85
Norway-----	1		1	100	*459.44
Totals-----	167	134	660	17169	\$84261.36
As given last year----	148	126	640	16916	\$74185.55
Gain-----	19	8	20	253	\$10075.81

*These are the figures as given last year for Norway and Sweden together.

NOTE.--We have succeeded this year in obtaining reports from all the conferences and missions, with a few exceptions. Yet the reports are in many instances very incomplete, so that the totals hardly represent our standing correctly. The figures are, however, in most cases, too small rather than too large, with an exception, perhaps, in the number of ministers, where some may have been counted twice.

A. B. Oyen, Secretary.

RECORDS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

1883 to 1885

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

November 8, 1883

The Conference assembled according to appointment, at the Tabernacle in Battle Creek, Michigan, November 8, 1883, at 9 a.m., the president, Elder George I. Butler, in the chair. Prayer was offered by Elder S. N. Haskell.

Proceeding to an organization, the following-mentioned names were received as delegates, upon presentation of credentials from their respective conferences: California, S. N. Haskell, W. C. White, J. D. Rice; Colorado, E. R. Jones; Dakota, A. D. Olsen; Illinois, R. F. Andrews, T. M. Steward; Indiana, S. H. Lane, William Covert; Iowa, E. W. Farnsworth, H. Nicola, A. R. Henry; Kansas, J. H. Cook, Oscar Hill; Kentucky, M. B. Miller; Maine, J. B. Goodrich; Michigan, U. Smith, J. Fargo, I. D. Van Horn, E. H. Root, M. B. Miller, W. H. Littlejohn, H. M. Kenyon, William Ostrander; Minnesota, O. A. Olsen, H. Grant, J. Fulton; Missouri, D. T. Jones, J. G. Wood; Nebraska, A. J. Cudney, O. A. Johnson; New England, D. A. Robinson, C. W. Comings; New York, M. H. Brown, E. W. Whitney; Ohio, H. A. St. John, E. H. Gates, R. A. Underwood; Pennsylvania, D. B. Oviatt, F. Peabody; Tennessee, S. Fulton; Texas, R. M. Kilgore; Vermont, A. S. Hutchins; Wisconsin, H. W. Decker, E. E. Olive; English Mission, J. N. Loughborough; South Atlantic Mission, J. O. Corliss.

The following were by vote delegated to represent their different fields, some of the conferences named not having chosen their full quota: Canada, R. S. Owen; Denmark and Sweden, J. P. Rosqvist; Indiana, J. P. Henderson; Kansas, George Smith; Nebraska, George B. Starr; New York, George W. Bliss; North Pacific and Upper Columbia, W. C. White; Vermont, H. W. Pierce; Wisconsin, J. F. Hanson.

On motion of Elder J. O. Corliss the Virginia Conference, which was fully organized last March, with a membership of eighty-six, was received as a member of the General Conference, and Elder A. C. Neff was admitted as its delegate

upon presentation of his credentials.

The organization of the Conference being effected, the president then delivered the opening address, giving a retrospective view of the condition and wants of the cause in the different fields of labor. A rising interest is felt among our people in our foreign missions and the general work, which has been shown by the liberality of the brethren in pledging the past season for the support of the European, English, and Scandinavian missions, and the International Tract and Missionary Society. Elders B. L. Whitney and D. T. Bourdeau, with their families, have gone to Europe to assist in the European Mission; and although the recent death of Elder J. N. Andrews is a sad blow to the work, yet encouraging reports are being received of the condition of the cause there. A German paper is greatly needed, and also a paper in England. The Italian brethren are also calling for a paper, even if not more than a quarterly. The matter of enlarging the printing operations in Switzerland must be considered at this meeting, also the question of furnishing Brother Matteson the proper help in his work. A mission should also be established in Australia, and we should be turning our attention to the islands of the Pacific, so that the truth may engirdle the whole earth.

The question of establishing missions in the large cities of our own country should be considered still further at this Conference. One has been established in New York, another in San Francisco, and others should be opened at other large places.

Calls for labor are coming in from different parts. There are many good openings, but where are the men who in the fear of God, and with the salvation of souls in view, will answer these calls for help?

The camp-meetings of the past season show a rising interest among the people all through the field, and a willingness to help in the work. The bitter opposition waged against us this year is another source of encouragement. The opposition on the subject of spiritual gifts has created a great interest on that subject, and we should be preparing, by the publication of suitable works, to meet a still greater opposition in this direction in the near future.

On motion, the reading of the minutes of the last session was waived. The chair being empowered by vote to appoint the standing committees, they were announced as follows: On Nominations, H. W. Decker, A. J. Cudney, D. A. Robinson; on Resolutions, U. Smith, J. N. Loughborough, E. W. Farnsworth, W. C. White, O. A. Olsen; on Credentials and Licenses, J. N. Loughborough, J. O. Corliss, I. D. Van Horn; on Auditing accounts, J. B. Goodrich, A. R. Henry, C. W. Comings, W. C. White, S. H. Lane, R. M. Kilgore.

VOTED, That the chair appoint a committee of three to act with the General Conference Committee in considering the wants of destitute fields. The chair appointed the following as this committee: W. H. Littlejohn, A. S. Hutchins, D. B. Oviatt.

VOTED, That the chair appoint a committee on arrangements, to consist of three persons. J. Fargo, W. C. White, and J. O. Corliss were announced as this committee.

Reports from missionaries being called for, Elder J. O. Corliss gave a statement of the condition and wants of the South Atlantic Mission. There are in this mission two hundred and sixty-seven white Sabbath-keepers and twenty colored. One or two laborers are needed there to forward the work.

On motion, the Conference adjourned to six o'clock the same evening.

SECOND MEETING, NOVEMBER 8, 1883, 6 P.M.

Prayer by U. Smith. Dr. W. D. Stillman, delegate from Wisconsin, and Elder A. O. Burrill, delegate from Michigan, presented their credentials at this meeting. It was voted that W. J. Boynton represent the New York Mission, A. W. Bartlett the work in Florida, R. Conradi the German work, and that M. C. Wilcox be chosen as the fourth member of the New York delegation.

Several of the presidents of the state conferences have prepared maps of their respective conferences, showing by the use of red and blue dots where the organized and unorganized bodies of Seventh-day Adventists are situated. Some of these maps were hung up before the Conference, and interesting facts and figures were given, showing the standing of the conferences, the amount of territory occupied, and the vast amount of work yet to be done before all shall have heard the message of truth. Truly, "the harvest is great, and the laborers are few."

The meeting then adjourned till 9 a.m., November 9.

THIRD MEETING, NOVEMBER 9, 1883, 9 A.M.

Prayer was offered by A. S. Hutchins. The fourth delegate from Iowa, Elder C. A. Washburn, took his seat in the Conference at this meeting.

The subject of foreign missions being introduced, Elder J. N. Loughborough, lately returned from England, spoke of the condition and wants of the English Mission, and gave many interesting details in regard to the obstacles the work there has had to meet, the methods of labor employed, and the results obtained in different parts. After this, Elder J. P. Rosqvist, a Swedish brother, who

has recently arrived from Sweden, gave an account of the rise, progress, and present condition of the work in Sweden, showing how the Lord oftentimes uses the opposition and hatred of the evil one to advance the cause of truth. There are many openings in this country for preaching the truth, but laborers and help are greatly needed.

After some responsive remarks from the president, the meeting adjourned to call of chair.

FOURTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 9, 1883, 3 P.M.

After prayer by Elder H. W. Decker, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. At the last annual session of the Conference, it was recommended that a manual of instructions to church officers be prepared, and a committee was appointed to consider the matter and report at this session. W. H. Littlejohn, the chairman of the committee, reported at this meeting that the committee had prepared a series of articles, containing instructions to church officers, which have been printed in the Review under the title, "The Church Manual." It was thought best to print them in the Review first, in order to give opportunity for examination and criticism before the matter should come up for final action at this session. After further remarks upon the subject by Elders S. N. Haskell, George I. Butler, H. A. St. John, and Brother W. C. White, it was--

VOTED, That the chair appoint a committee of ten to act with the General Conference Committee in the examination and consideration of "The Church Manual." This committee was announced as follows: W. C. White, H. Nicola, J. H. Cook, S. H. Lane, O. A. Olsen, M. H. Brown, R. F. Andrews, J. B. Goodrich, A. S. Hutchins, H. W. Decker.

The Committee on Resolutions then made a partial report, of which the following resolutions, after being discussed and amended as given below, were adopted:--

1. WHEREAS, Our beloved brother and faithful missionary, Elder J. N. Andrews, was removed by death in Bale, Switzerland, October 21, 1883; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we hereby express our appreciation of his earnest, faithful and self-sacrificing labors. And while our hearts are bowed in grief, and we deeply feel the loss this cause sustains in being deprived of his counsel, his painstaking and careful research (which has resulted in the production of such invaluable works as History of the Sabbath), and the benefits of his literary ability, we would not murmur at this painful dispensation of Providence, believing that of him it can be especially said, that he rests from his labors and his works do follow him. And we hereby tender our warmest sympathy to his

aged mother, to Charles, his only surviving child, and to his co-laborers in the European Mission.

2. RESOLVED, That we recognize the necessity of publishing in Europe, papers in the English, German, Italian and Swedish languages; and we hereby recommend the Conference Committee to arrange for such publication at the earliest possible opportunity.

3. WHEREAS, The Yearbook of 1883 has been received with general favor, and has seemed to satisfactorily meet the object of its publication; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend the publication of such a work each year, and that, in addition to such matter as appeared in the first number, it also contain a full list of the names of all our ministers, with their post-office addresses, and a brief history of the rise and progress of our work, especially noticing the operations and progress of the current year.

The first resolution was also adopted by a rising vote of the congregation. With reference to the third resolution it was--

VOTED, That the matter of preparing the Yearbook for 1884 be assigned to a committee of three, to be appointed by the chair. The chair named W. H. Littlejohn, H. A. St. John, and M. C. Wilcox as this committee.

Adjourned to call of chair.

FIFTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 11, 1883, 3 P.M.

The report of the Committee on Resolutions was considered still further at the meeting, and the remainder of the resolutions were adopted, as given below:--

4. WHEREAS, There has been great call for the publication in pamphlet form of the articles written by Brother Andrews some years ago, on the "Order of Events in the Judgment"; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend that the same be revised by Brother U. Smith, and published as requested.

5. WHEREAS, There is a prevailing desire among our people to know more of the facts connected with the history of the manifestation of the spirit of prophecy in our midst; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend that this Conference select a suitable person, or persons, to prepare a work setting forth such facts for the use of our own people and the information of the public generally.

6. WHEREAS, The experience of the past year has demonstrated more fully than ever before the utility and importance of the canvassing work; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend to all our conferences to use all legitimate means to keep the ranks of the canvassers well filled with earnest and

energetic laborers.

The necessity of not only having such a work as is provided for in the fifth resolution, but of issuing a 32-page tract, embodying the main features of the large work, in abridged form, was discussed with enthusiasm and interest at some length, when it was finally--

VOTED, That a tract of suitable size be published, containing the most pointed arguments on the perpetuity of spiritual gifts, and some of the clearest evidences of personal experience, referring to the larger work for more complete evidence.

VOTED, That the matter of the preparation of the books to be issued on the subject of spiritual gifts, be referred to the General Conference Committee, they to secure such assistance as they may deem best.

The chair mentioned that Elder R. S. Owen had requested an opportunity to lay before the Conference certain views on the subject of the seven trumpets, in order to get their counsel and advice on the subject. After remarks by several, it was--

VOTED, That the chair appoint a committee of ten to consider the views in question. The chair named U. Smith, I. D. Van Horn, W. H. Littlejohn, J. N. Loughborough, E. W. Farnsworth, T. M. Steward, William Covert, J. O. Corliss, H. A. St. John, and C. A. Washburn, as this committee.

The chair introduced the question of the propriety of transferring laborers from one field to another for the general good of the cause; but pending discussion of how the changes could best be arranged and effected, the meeting adjourned to call of chair.

SIXTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 12, 1883, 10 A.M.

Prayer by Elder O. A. Olsen. The matter of transferring laborers to other fields, which was under discussion when the last meeting adjourned, was the subject of extended remarks from Sister White at this time. It was shown that such changes would benefit both the ministers and people, and that disaster to the cause would be averted if this plan were followed out.

Following these remarks, Elder E. R. Jones made a statement of the standing of the Colorado Conference, urging upon the brethren the need of having another English and one Scandinavian laborer sent to that field.

Elder J. O. Corliss then made an earnest plea that ministerial help should

be sent to West Virginia and North Carolina, asking that the wants of these two states and of Florida, Maryland, and the city of Washington [District of Columbia], be taken into consideration by the committee on destitute fields. It was then--

VOTED, That the matter of making changes in laborers, be referred to the committee on destitute fields, they to consult with the presidents of the different conferences and others concerned.

A communication from Elder B. L. Whitney of Switzerland was read, giving the present standing of the Swiss Conference, and the publishing work in Bale, the progress during the past year, and the immediate wants of the mission. A set of resolutions passed at the recent meeting of the Swiss Conference, was also read.

The meeting then adjourned to call of chair.

SEVENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 12, 1883, 3 P.M.

A communication from Elder A. C. Bourdeau was read, presenting the wants of the Canada Conference; also one from J. G. Matteson, setting forth the needs of the work in northern Europe.

The committee appointed to consider the matter of the Church Manual, made in substance the following report:--

It is the unanimous judgment of the committee, that it would not be advisable to have a Church Manual. We consider it unnecessary because we have already surmounted the greatest difficulties connected with church organization without one; and perfect harmony exists among us on this subject. It would seem to many like a step toward the formation of a creed, or a discipline, other than the Bible, something we have always been opposed to as a denomination. If we had one, we fear many, especially those commencing to preach, would study it to obtain guidance in religious matters, rather than to seek for it in the Bible, and from the leadings of the Spirit of God, which would tend to their hindrance in genuine religious experience and in knowledge of the mind of the Spirit. It was in taking similar steps that other bodies of Christians first began to lose their simplicity and become formal and spiritually lifeless. Why should we imitate them? The committee feel, in short, that our tendency should be in the direction of simplicity and close conformity to the Bible, rather than in elaborately defining every point in church management and church ordinances.

On motion, this report with reference to the church manual was accepted. It was then also--

VOTED, That the president of the General Conference be requested to write an article for the Review, explaining the action of the Conference on the subject of the manual.

The Committee on Resolutions then presented another partial report, the following resolutions being adopted after a very enthusiastic and earnest discussion:--

7. WHEREAS, The progress of the cause indicates that our leading denominational books will soon be needed in the languages of the countries where we have successful missions; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we prepare for the more rapid advancement of the message in the various nations by having these works immediately translated, that they may be published as soon as called for.

8. WHEREAS, The book lately published in the Danish-Norwegian language, containing a sketch of the life of Sister White, and various extracts from her writings, is being well received among the Scandinavian people, and is meeting a want long felt; and--

WHEREAS, That people call for other of Sister White's writings in their language; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend that the request above referred to, be granted, and immediate steps be taken to publish Sister White's Life of Christ in the Danish-Norwegian language.

9. RESOLVED, That we recommend that such works of Sister White's as are alluded to in the foregoing resolution, be published also in the French, German, and Swedish languages.

10. RESOLVED, That we recommend that the work, Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation, be issued in the German, Danish, and Swedish languages.

Following this, it was moved and seconded that the following be adopted:--

11. RESOLVED, That article 2 of the Constitution be amended by substituting the word "five" for the word "three," making the Executive Committee, a committee of five, instead of three, as at present.

After considerable discussion and consideration, it was moved to amend the resolution by substituting "seven" instead of "five;" but on being put to vote, the amendment was lost. The question then recurring on the original motion, the amendment to the constitution was adopted by a unanimous vote.

The meeting then adjourned to call of chair.

EIGHTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 13, 1883, 3 P.M.

Prayer was offered by Elder M. B. Miller. Pennsylvania being entitled to

three delegates to the Conference, and only two being present, it was--

VOTED, That J. E. Robinson be received as the third delegate from that conference.

The Committee on Resolutions then presented the following recommendation:--

12. WHEREAS, The present situation in our foreign missions is such as to demand the presence and counsel of the president of the General Conference, and other help; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend that Elder G. I. Butler as soon as consistent with other duties, visit the missions in England, Norway, and on the continent of Europe.

13. WHEREAS, It has already been decided to translate various works on the present truth into the Danish-Norwegian language, and such translations can evidently best be made in Europe, where the help of the best scholars and criticisms of Brother J. G. Matteson can be obtained; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend that A. B. Oyen go at his earliest convenience to Europe to engage in this work.

After a lengthy discussion, the above resolution was then presented:--

14. WHEREAS, It is evident that it will soon be necessary to take advance steps in the way of establishing publishing interests in Europe; and--

WHEREAS, Brother W. C. White has had experience in this branch of the work; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend that the said W. C. White so arrange his business, the coming year, as to be at liberty to render the requisite assistance another season.

On motion, the above was referred to the General Conference Committee.

Elder S. N. Haskell then introduced the question of having proper reports of our general meetings prepared and inserted in prominent papers. This had been done one season several years ago, with good success, and it would be well if a similar movement could be made again, and continued. After remarks upon this subject from several, the following resolution was presented and adopted:--

15. RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this body, that faithful reports of all our general gatherings should be made for the leading papers, and that the services of good reporters, selected from our people, should be secured for this purpose at the commencement of the meetings.

A communication from Elder J. H. Waggoner was then read, reporting the progress made in revising and publishing certain tracts and books, and referring to other matter of interests to the Conference.

Adjourned to call of chair.

NINTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 14, 1883, 3 P.M.

William Hill was chosen to fill a vacancy in the Indiana delegation, and E. S. Griggs to fill one in the Michigan list of delegates.

The following resolution was then presented and adopted:--

16. RESOLVED, That the chair be authorized to appoint a committee of five to take into consideration our present system of church and district quarterly meetings, to suggest such changes as they may think best, and report at their earliest convenience, so that action may be taken at this session of the Conference.

J. H. Cook, D. T. Jones, John Fulton, H. M. Kenyon, and E. H. Gates were named as this committee.

Following, a discussion as to the advantages to be gained by obtaining a secretary for the General Conference, who could devote all his time to the work, a resolution was introduced, as follows:--

17. WHEREAS, More thorough work can be accomplished in the various branches of our cause by faithful correspondence on the part of secretaries, therefore--

RESOLVED, That the secretary of the General Conference be a person who can devote his entire time to the work of the secretaryship.

Pending action on the above, the following substitute was presented:--

18. RESOLVED, That Article II, Section 1, of the Constitution be amended so as to read: "The officers of this Conference shall be a President, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of five, of whom the President shall be one."

A discussion ensued, resulting in the adoption of the substitute, after which the amendment was passed by a unanimous vote.

A resolution was also introduced, recommending that the International Tract and Missionary Society and the General Sabbath-school Association elect such secretaries as can devote their time to the work, but the propriety of acting upon this matter in the General conference, was questioned. The subject was finally referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Meeting adjourned to call of chair.

TENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 16, 1883, 10 A.M.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following for the consideration of the Conference:--

19. WHEREAS, Elder J. N. Loughborough has been called from the English Mission to labor in this country, therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Conference Committee engage two suitable persons, as soon as they can decide upon the proper individuals, to enter upon the work in that mission.

20. RESOLVED, That it is our judgment, considering all the circumstances, that the time has not yet come for the erection of a building for the use of the mission in Bale, Switzerland.

21. RESOLVED, That it is our judgment that Elder B. L. Whitney for the present take editorial charge of Les Signes des Temps and all other papers that may be published at Bale, employing such assistance as may seem to him to be necessary.

22. RESOLVED, That the General Conference Committee, as soon as practicable, select a suitable person to go to the help of Elder J. G. Matteson, in Christiana, Norway.

23. RESOLVED, That we are heartily in favor of opening reading-rooms in the leading cities of this country, as soon as proper persons can be found to engage in such enterprises.

24. RESOLVED, That it is our judgment that Elder J. P. Rosqvist labor for some months to come with Elder O. A. Olsen, the work of the former being especially to advance the cause among the Swedes of this country.

25. RESOLVED, That we express ourselves as highly gratified with the exercises in Bible-readings, conducted by Brother Haskell and others at this Conference, and we recommend that such exercises be encouraged in all parts of the country; and the better to secure this end, we recommend the formation of a Bible-reading Bureau to take the oversight of the work, to be organized after the following plan: 1. There shall be a central committee of five who shall have charge of the work of publishing and distributing printed lessons to the members of the organization. 2. The conditions of membership shall be the payment of one dollar a year, and the furnishing of one or more original readings a month, to the committee. Those complying with these conditions shall receive from the committee a printed sheet monthly, containing one or more lessons for each week. 3. Those who do not choose to become members on the foregoing conditions, may secure the printed lessons by becoming subscribers at \$5 a year.

A full discussion of these recommendations ensued, after which they were

adopted as the sense of the body.

The Committee on Credentials and Licenses then presented the following partial report: For credentials: J. G. Matteson, A. A. John, B. L. Whitney, George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, J. Fargo; William F. Killen, of Georgia; L. P. Hodges and S. H. Kime, of North Carolina; for ship-missionary's license, George R. Drew, of England; for license, William M. Baird, of North Carolina; A. A. Meredith and William Foggin, of West Virginia; J. R. Waite, of Alabama.

Each name of the above was considered, and the recommendations of the committee adopted.

On motion, the chair was empowered to appoint the central committee of the Bible-reading Bureau. This committee was afterward announced as follows: U. Smith, W. C. Sisley, W. H. Littlejohn, E. B. Miller, M. J. Chapman. It was also--

VOTED, That the chair appoint a committee of three to consider the matter of ministers' quarterly and annual reports. H. A. St. John, J. D. Rice, and R. M. Kilgore were named as this committee.

Meeting adjourned to call of chair.

ELEVENTH MEETING, 2:30 P.M.

The report of the financial standing of the General Conference was presented at this meeting, and accepted. This report is as follows:--

TREASURER'S REPORT

M. J. Chapman in account with the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists:--	Dr.	
To cash on hand, November 1, 1882-----	\$8,038.42	
To cash received to October 31, 1883-----	5,871.91	
Total-----		\$13,910.33
By cash paid out from Nov. 1, 1882, to Oct. 31, 1883, as per itemized statement rendered	Cr.	
Balance in treasury, October 31, 1883-----	\$6,823.49	
Total-----		\$13,910.33

The committee appointed to consider the wants of destitute fields, then made the following recommendations:--

a. That Elder William Ostrander, of Michigan, go to Colorado to assist

Elder E. R. Jones in that field of labor.

b. That Elder J. N. Loughborough hold general meetings in New York, Pennsylvania, and Michigan during the winter and early spring, and then by April 1 proceed to California to assist in general work there.

c. That there be an interchange of laborers and a blending of interests between the New England and the Vermont Conferences.

d. That Elder J. O. Corliss be allowed to select his own field of labor.

e. That Elder S. H. Lane take an oversight of the work in Virginia, and labor with Brother Lane, and afterward labor in connection with some experienced minister in Indiana.

f. That Elder R. S. Owen labor with Elder A. C. Bourdeau in the Canada Conference.

g. That Elder R. Conradi, after having labored in Dakota and Kansas during the winter and spring, go to Pennsylvania to engage in tent labor the coming season among the Germans.

h. That the fields of Florida, Arkansas, and Alabama be referred to the General Conference Committee.

On motion, these recommendations were considered separately; feeling remarks were made in reference to the changes thus to be effected, showing a disposition to submit to the will of God and the judgment of the brethren in regard to these matters. The report of the committee was then, by vote, adopted.

Following this, the Committee on Credentials and Licenses presented the name of D. T. Bourdeau for credentials. On motion, this recommendation was adopted.

The meeting then adjourned to call of chair.

TWELFTH AND THIRTEENTH MEETINGS, NOVEMBER 19, 1883

It was voted that J. N. Loughborough receive credentials from the Conference for the coming year.

The report of the Nominating Committee was then presented as follows: For president, George I. Butler; secretary, U. Smith; corresponding secretary, Mrs. F. H. Sisley; treasurer, A. R. Henry; Executive Committee, George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, W. C. White, J. Fargo, O. A. Olsen.

These names were acted upon separately, and the persons nominated were declared elected.

The committee of ten appointed to consider the subject of the seven trumpets, then reported as follows:--

"Your committee appointed to consider a new exposition of the prophecy of the seven trumpets of Revelation 8 and 9, would respectfully report that they see no occasion to change from the views we have formerly entertained, especially as the proposed view is, in their judgment, unscriptural, and would unsettle some of the most important and fundamental points of our faith."

On motion, the above was adopted as the sense of the Conference.

The committee to whom was referred the matter of suggesting a better plan for church and district quarterly meetings, submitted the following report:--

"The committee to whom was referred the subjects of quarterly and district meetings, having had the same under consideration, beg leave to submit the following for your consideration: Instead of holding the quarterly meeting the first Sabbath in the quarter, and the district quarterly meeting the Sabbath following, we recommend that they be so arranged in each district that they will follow each other in consecutive order, each one coming one week later, until each district has had its quarterly and district meeting; and we would further recommend that at the beginning of each Conference year, each State Conference Committee proceed to arrange for carrying out this system, so that a complete round of these meetings can be held in each district in the state once in three months."
Committee."

These recommendations were considered at some length, but as the plan presented was not considered a feasible one, the motion to adopt, on being put to vote, was lost.

The following recommendations from the Committee on Resolutions were then considered:--

26. WHEREAS, We, as students of prophecy, have for years anticipated the present Sunday movement, and understand that there is a conflict before us, the magnitude of which can scarcely be appreciated; and--

WHEREAS, Thousands of earnest Christians are laboring sincerely for the enforcement of the Sunday law, who would not do so if the claims of the true Sabbath were placed before them; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we remind our people of their duty to place the great light which God has given them upon the Sabbath question before others; and we urge that this be done before the leaders of this Sunday movement have opportunity to represent the issues of this question in a false light.

27. RESOLVED, That we need tracts, both large and small, upon the present issues of the Sunday movement.

28. WHEREAS, The ever-shifting front of this Sunday question calls constantly for new arguments, and the stealth of their movements calls for constant vigilance; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend the publication of a four-page paper, the size of the Review, monthly, whose mission shall be to oppose this Sunday law enforcement, this paper to be conducted by a committee of five, appointed by this Conference.

29. RESOLVED, That in our judgment it would be well for Elder Haskell to accompany Elder Butler in his visit to the European missions, and we recommend him to do so if consistent with other duties.

30. WHEREAS, There are important mission fields in the islands of the Pacific Ocean which should be entered as soon as practicable; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we invite men of means, who have experience in the truth, acting under the advice of their conference committee, to visit or locate in these fields, that they may become acquainted with the customs of the people, learn the wants of the field, encourage and maintain colporter work, and thus prepare the way for the more direct efforts of the missionary.

These resolutions called forth stirring remarks in their favor from many of the delegates present, showing a lively interest in the actions recommended. Each resolution was considered separately, and by vote adopted.

The Committee on Credentials and Licenses recommended that Mrs. E. G. White, J. P. Rosqvist, and O. A. Olsen, receive credentials from the Conference; and that W. C. White be ordained and receive credentials. On motion, this report was adopted.

Adjourned to call of chair.

FOURTEENTH AND FIFTEENTH MEETINGS, NOVEMBER 20, 1883

The condition and wants of the cause among the Germans was the first subject introduced. Elder R. Conradi gave a very interesting account of the rise and progress of the work of present truth among this nationality, the nature of the work, especially among the Mennonites, and the crying need of laborers in this tongue. Remarks were also made in the same direction by Brethren H. A. Rife, A. Snyder, O. A. Olsen, S. N. Haskell, and S. H. Lane; after which the following resolution was introduced and adopted:--

31. RESOLVED, That we recommend Brother H. A. Rife and all our preachers who are able to labor in the German tongue, to devote their efforts to the interests of our cause among the German people; and we recommend that all who can speak the German language labor to spread the truth among that people in any and all the ways provided for by our different organizations.

The Committee on Resolutions then presented the following:--

32. WHEREAS, Some of the bound volumes of the Testimonies to the Church are out of print, so that full sets cannot be obtained at the Office; and--

WHEREAS, There is a constant and urgent call for the re-printing of these volumes; therefore--

RESOLVED, That we recommend their re-publication in such a form as to make four volumes of seven or eight hundred pages each.

33. WHEREAS, Many of these testimonies were written under the most unfavorable circumstances, the writer being too heavily pressed with anxiety and labor to devote critical thought to the grammatical perfection of the writings, and they were printed in such haste as to allow these imperfections to pass uncorrected; and--

WHEREAS, We believe the light given by God to his servants is by the enlightenment of the mind, thus imparting the thoughts, and not (except in rare cases) the very words in which the ideas should be expressed; therefore--

RESOLVED, That in the re-publication of these volumes such verbal changes be made as to remove the above-named imperfections, as far as possible, without in any measure changing the thought; and, further--

34. RESOLVED, That this body appoint a committee of five to take charge of the re-publication of these volumes according to the above preambles and resolutions.

35. RESOLVED, That we hereby express our thanks to the various railroads, especially the Michigan Central and Grant Trunk, for favors extended to the delegates to this meeting; and also to the papers of this city for the publication of reports.

36. RESOLVED, That we hereby express our appreciation of the kindness of the Battle Creek Church in entertaining those from abroad during the progress of the Bible-reading Institute and the General Conference.

The above were considered separately and adopted.

The committee of five to take charge of the re-publication of the testimonies provided for in the thirty-fourth resolution was announced as follows, the chair having been empowered to select four persons besides himself for this purpose: W. C. White, Uriah Smith, J. H. Waggoner, S. N. Haskell, George I. Butler.

On motion, the General Conference Committee was empowered to appoint the committee of five, who, according to the twenty-eighth resolution, are to conduct the paper to be issued on the subject of the Sunday law movement.

The Committee on Destitute Fields then made its final report. It is recommended:--

i. That Elder J. H. Cook, of Kansas, and Elder A. J. Cudney, of Nebraska, interchange labor as far as practicable.

j. That Elder A. O. Burrill, of Michigan, go to Vermont as soon as possible, and consider that state his field of labor.

k. That Elder G. G. Rupert, of Ohio, go to Kentucky, and labor in connection with Elder Osborn.

l. That Elder J. P. Henderson, of Indiana, go to Ohio, to fill Elder Rupert's place.

m. That Elder H. A. St. John, of Ohio, on account of his health, go to California, to labor in the churches of Oakland and San Francisco, and such other places as those concerned may direct.

n. That other destitute fields be referred to the General Conference Committee.

Each item of the above was considered separately. The matter of sending Elder J. P. Henderson to Ohio, was, by vote, referred to the General Conference Committee, with instructions to send some other laborer from Indiana to Ohio, provided the Committee does not see fit to send Brother Henderson. With the exception of the above, the several items of the report were adopted.

The subject of organizing a city mission in Chicago was introduced, and interesting remarks relative to this were made. The brethren in Illinois have about \$3,000 ready to start this work, and probably more could be raised if the work were commenced.

On motion, the matter was referred to the General Conference Committee with instructions to take it into consideration before the committee should separate.

The committee appointed to introduce a plan for ministers' quarterly and annual reports, made a verbal report; but as the time was too short to have the plan considered by the body, the matter was referred to the General Conference Committee for consideration.

The Committee on Credentials and Licenses recommended that credentials be granted to M. C. Wilcox, and that A. B. Oyen be ordained, and receive credentials. On motion, these recommendations were adopted. It was also--

VOTED, That this Conference request that Sister White's talks at the early morning meetings, and such other matter as may be considered advisable, be published.

Following remarks by Sister White, the ordination service was held, Elder George I. Butler offering the prayer, and Elder S. N. Haskell delivering the charge.

Adjourned sine die.

George I. Butler, President.
A. B. Oyen, Secretary.

Names of Conferences	Ministers	Licentiates	Churches	Members	during year
California (including Nevada)-	11	6	25	1165	\$11602.18
Canada-----	2	2	5	116	305.00
Colorado-----	2	2	4	106	750.00
Dakota-----	4	2	13	310	1673.42
Denmark, Sweden, and Norway---	7	3	13	312	300.00
Illinois-----	7	3	30	641	4154.50
Indiana-----	8	9	29	730	2883.52
Iowa-----	15	5	50	1375	7192.94
Kansas-----	5	13	37	931	4493.33
Kentucky-----	2	1	5	83	300.00
Maine-----	3	2	22	380	1965.87
Michigan-----	26	28	131	3580	15130.51
Minnesota-----	9	8	50	1000	5703.87
Missouri-----	4	8	18	400	2038.51
Nebraska-----	5		24	546	4570.36
New England-----	3	5	24	518	5020.00
New York-----	8	8	29	768	4578.68
North Pacific-----	3		8	140	1584.45
Ohio-----	7	2	37	850	4598.90
Pennsylvania-----	6	3	22	448	5000.51
Tennessee-----	1	2	5	92	430.00
Texas-----	1	3	8	263	2409.00
Upper Columbia-----	2	2	6	185	1375.05
Vermont-----	1	4	13	388	1800.73
Virginia-----	1	3	3	86	285.00
Wisconsin-----	14	6	46	1429	5877.62
MISSIONS--					
Central European-----	3		*16	*223	*442.70
English-----	2	1	2	70	299.87
General Southern-----	3	4	5	201	*152.00
Totals-----	165	135	680	17436	\$ 96418.62
As given last year-----	167	134	660	17169	\$ 84261.36
Gain-----		1	20	267	\$ 12157.26

*Figures as given last year.

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

October 30 to November 4, 1884

The twenty-third annual session of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists convened in Battle Creek, Michigan, at the time appointed, October 30, at 9 a.m. President, Elder George I. Butler, in the chair. Prayer by Elder J. H. Waggoner.

The following delegates, representing the conferences named, handed in credentials: California, J. H. Waggoner, W. C. White; Colorado, William Ostrander; Dakota, A. D. Olsen; Indiana, S. H. Lane; Iowa, H. Nicola, E. W. Farnsworth, J. D. Pegg, A. R. Henry; Kansas, J. H. Cook, T. H. Gibbs; Kentucky, G. G. Rupert; Michigan, E. H. Root, I. D. Van Horn, W. H. Littlejohn, D. H. Lamson, H. M. Kenyon, M. B. Miller, E. P. Daniels, D. M. Canright, W. C. Sisley, F. D. Starr, E. S. Griggs, R. C. Horton; Minnesota, Harrison Grant, Lewis Johnson; Missouri, Dan T. Jones; Nebraska, A. J. Cudney, Henry Shultz; New England, S. N. Haskell; New York, M. H. Brown, R. F. Cottrell, J. E. Swift, E. W. Whitney; Ohio, R. A. Underwood, E. H. Gates; Pennsylvania, D. B. Oviatt, F. Peabody; Vermont, H. Peebles; Virginia, B. F. Purdham; Wisconsin, H. W. Decker, John Hanson, A. J. Breed.

Elder J. P. Rosqvist was invited to act as delegate from Sweden.

A request from the recently organized conference in Switzerland, to be admitted to the General Conference, with Elder George I. Butler as delegate, was granted.

The reading of the minutes was waived.

On motion of J. H. Waggoner, the chair was empowered to appoint a special committee to examine the Constitution of the General Conference, and the constitutions of state conferences, and suggest such revisions as may seem to be necessary.

On motion of S. H. Lane, the chair was empowered to appoint the usual committees.

On motion of S. H. Lane, the chair was empowered to appoint a committee of five on destitute fields, and a committee of three on religious exercises.

While the chairman was preparing the committees, Elder R. Conradi made interesting and encouraging remarks on the progress of the work among the Germans in this country.

The following committees were then announced: On Constitutions, S. N. Haskell, J. H. Waggoner, W. C. White, R. A. Underwood, O. A. Olsen; on Nominations, D. B. Oviatt, H. Grant, M. B. Miller; on Resolutions, U. Smith, J. H. Waggoner, W. H. Littlejohn; on Credentials and Licenses, S. H. Lane, J. Fargo, D. M. Canright; on Auditing, H. Nicola, A. R. Henry, W. C. Sisley,

D. T. Jones, H. W. Decker, M. H. Brown; on Religious Exercises, W. C. White, J. Fargo, W. H. Littlejohn; on Destitute Fields, W. C. White, G. G. Rupert, O. A. Olsen, R. Conradi, W. H. Littlejohn.

A general survey of the field and progress of the work the past year was then presented by the chairman.

Adjourned to 2:30 p.m.

SECOND MEETING, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by U. Smith. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

Will E. Morton was invited to act as delegate from Maine, P. H. Cady as additional delegate from Wisconsin; Brother S. H. Kime to represent the North Carolina field; Brother R. F. Barton as additional delegate from Kansas; and Brother W. B. White as additional delegate from Minnesota.

Calling Elder Haskell to the chair, Elder Butler occupied the time in giving a general account of observations in the European field, stating the questions which would come up for consideration and decision at this meeting. The remarks were full of interest and encouragement.

On motion of Elder Waggoner, the chair was instructed to appoint a special committee of five to take into consideration the question of owning and controlling our foreign printing offices, our tract depositories, church buildings, etc., and report at this session of the Conference. The following were named as said committee: J. H. Waggoner, W. H. Littlejohn, A. R. Henry, S. N. Haskell, W. C. White.

Adjourned to 10 a.m., October 31.

THIRD MEETING, OCTOBER 31, 1884, 10 A.M.

Prayer by S. N. Haskell. Minutes read and approved. The following additional delegates presented credentials: O. A. Olsen, of Minnesota; C. H. Chaffee, of Missouri; R. M. Kilgore, of Texas; and C. L. Boyd, of Oregon. George B. Starr was invited to represent Chicago.

Elder J. H. Waggoner, chairman of Committee on Revision of Constitution, made partial report of the action of the Committee, suggesting the changes which they thought desirable. As the Committee wished to meet again, action on the report was temporarily waived. The remaining time was taken up with a discussion of the best methods of supporting canvassers and colporters. Many

took part in the discussion of the subject, and interesting items of experience and valuable thoughts were expressed. It was suggested that the Committee on Resolutions make this a subject for consideration.

On motion of Elder Waggoner, Dr. J. H. Kellogg was invited to give an address on the subject of Health Reform, Sunday, at 5 p.m.

Adjourned to 2:30 p.m.

FOURTH MEETING, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by Elder S. H. Lane. Elder J. W. Raymond presented credentials as delegate from Pennsylvania. Reports from delegates, respecting the work and wants of their fields of labor, were made the order of the meeting. Elder S. H. Lane spoke for Indiana and the South. Two hundred Sabbath-keepers have been brought out in Indiana the past year. Two meeting-houses have been dedicated, another will be ready for dedication the first of next month, and the foundations for two more are laid. He reported that his Southern trip had done him good, and he had a higher esteem for Southern people than ever before. An interesting account was given of the work in West Virginia, where a meeting-house is about ready to be dedicated.

Elder Kilgore spoke of the work in Texas. The severe drouth has greatly retarded the work the past summer; but there are over a hundred Sabbath-keepers in the state more than there were a year ago.

Elder C. L. Boyd spoke of the work in Oregon. There has been quite an increase in the number of Sabbath-keepers there; and obstacles which have heretofore existed have disappeared.

At this point credentials were presented by Brother E. A. Chapman, as additional delegate from California.

The delegate from Upper Columbia not having arrived, Elder J. H. Waggoner spoke in regard to the work in that part of the field. California has voted to send Elder Healey to Upper Columbia, and to open up the field in Idaho, California to meet his expense of time and travel while in the latter Territory.

FIFTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 3, 1884, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by Elder D. M. Canright. Minutes read and approved. R. F. Andrews presented credentials as delegate from Illinois. M. E. Kellogg was by vote invited to act as additional delegate from Vermont, and C. H. Bliss from Illinois. James Sawyer, from Chicago, as missionary in the employ of the Conference, took his seat as member of the Conference. E. Van Deusen was

invited to represent Arkansas.

Elder Waggoner, in behalf of the Committee on Constitutions, reported such changes as the committee thought best to suggest in the Constitution of the General Conference.

On motion to adopt the Constitution with the revisions suggested, as the report of the committee, many questions were raised and answered in regard to different articles and sections, after which the report was adopted. (See Constitution of the General Conference.)

No other committees being prepared to report in full, the chairman read the following communication from the Central European field:--

"TO THE BRETHREN ASSEMBLED IN GENERAL CONFERENCE AT
BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN, OCTOBER 30, 1884

"Dear Brethren: In view of the recent visit of our beloved president, Elder George I. Butler, and his thorough acquaintance with the affairs of the Central European Mission, it will not be expected of your committee to make an extended report respecting its work, further than a statement of its finances, and the actual work done in the dissemination of the truth by means of the journals and tracts which have been published and distributed during the past year. There are, however, some other points to which we invite your attention, and concerning which we desire such instruction as in your wisdom it may seem best to give.

"Under the blessing of God it has been possible, during the past year, to extend the work of publishing, both as to the number of journals issued and the languages in which they are printed. According to the recommendations of your last session, periodicals have been issued since January 1, 1884, in the German, Italian, and Roumanian tongues, besides that already published in French. The actual number of copies printed from October 1, 1883, to October 1, 1884, is as follows: Les Signes des Temps, 62,900; Herold der Wahrheit, 46,200; Adevarulu Present, 23,000; and L'Ultimo Messaggio, 14,000; or in the aggregate, 146,100 copies. Of the French and German papers, all have been distributed except the regular number reserved each month for binding. Of the Italian and Roumanian journals, we are not able to speak definitely what proportion has been distributed, but should judge about one-third of those printed. As these journals have been prepared with care, and are issued only quarterly, these remaining copies will be valuable for future distribution. The actual paying list of subscribers to Les Signes is 794, and of the Herold 1,264; but there are also regularly mailed in addition to this, of Les Signes 144 copies, and of the Herold 71 copies.

"We have had opportunity to know that quite a number have embraced the truth during the past year through the reading of these periodicals. We have reason,

also, to believe that the impression which they have made upon the public is favorable, not only to the truth, but to their future circulation. This has been demonstrated by what has been done in obtaining subscribers for Les Signes in localities where it has been gratuitously circulated. One brother has obtained, in a small Swiss city, since July 1, more than 150 subscriptions, most of which are for one year; and yet the paper had been sent gratuitously to all the addresses found in the directory of this city. What has been accomplished in this and other localities leads us to believe that thousands of paying subscribers might be obtained if suitable persons could be employed as canvassers. These persons, while acting as canvassers for the paper, could distribute such of our periodicals as should be circulated gratuitously, much more judiciously and with much less expense than is done according to our present plan of sending promiscuously through the mails. Especially is this true of France, where there is great need of the circulation of the journal in preparing the way for public labor. The expense of postage to France is five-fold that to Switzerland, according to the present postal arrangement; and the cost of sending the number of journals heretofore sent out through the mails would do much toward maintaining judicious colporters in the field, who, while distributing the papers, could at the same time obtain many subscribers. In the judgment of your committee, this course would be much more judicious and efficient for the advancement of the work than that pursued at the present; and they desire instruction as to whether they are authorized to encourage colporters in this manner, particularly in France and Germany, furnishing them such support from the mission funds as may be absolutely necessary for their maintenance.

"Since receiving instruction from the president to go forward with the erection of the building for the publishing work here, we have done our best to have the work go on with the utmost expedition possible; and at the same time we have endeavored to exercise the greatest care that the expense of the work might be as light as possible, consistent with having the building substantially and thoroughly built. We are happy to report that, according to present prospects, the building will be under roof by the time this communication shall reach you. This will permit its being finished and ready for occupancy by July 1, if you shall authorize going forward immediately with the work. The building thus far has been constructed in a most thorough and substantial manner. Full plans, showing how it has been built thus far, and how it is proposed to finish it, will be forwarded so as to reach you before the close of the session. Particular attention is called to the plan for heating and ventilating that portion of the building to be devoted especially to the publishing work and meeting hall. In view of the prospective completion of this building, and the necessary purchase of requisite presses and machinery in order that the design in the erection of the building may be accomplished, your committee would respectfully request and urge that you recommend, in harmony with the action

of your last session, the coming to Europe of Elder W. C. White, at as early a date as possible, to take charge of the finishing and furnishing of this publishing house. We request, in view of the probable increase of the printing work here, that you take into consideration the question of furnishing such experienced help as in your judgment will be necessary to take the oversight of this important branch of the work, and give such instruction as is needed to those now engaged in the work here.

"In behalf of our mission, in behalf of our brethren and sisters generally, whose wishes we know, and on our own behalf personally, we express our earnest desire that Sister White may visit Europe, that the cause here may share the benefits of her labors and of the precious light and instruction which the Lord so graciously grants us through his servant.

"Praying that God may guide you in all your deliberations, and that this session of your Conference may be a season of especial refreshing, we remain,--

"Your brethren in the Lord,

B. L. Whitney,
A. C. Bourdeau,
D. T. Bourdeau,
Committee of the
Central European Mission."

Following the reading of the foregoing communication, remarks were made by Elders Butler and Haskell in regard to the desirability of a visit to Europe in the near future by Sister White and her son, W. C. White. The two latter responded that they stood ready to go whenever God should indicate by unmistakable providences that such was their duty.

The treasurer's report was then presented as follows:--

TREASURER'S REPORT

A. R. Henry in account with the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists:--

	Dr.	
To cash on hand, November 1, 1883-----	\$7,086.84	
To cash received from conferences during yr.-	5,810.76	
To cash received on tent fund-----	82.00	
To cash received on miscellaneous sources----	93.17	
Total-----	Cr.	\$13,072.77
By amount paid to ministers-----	\$5,978.84	
By amount paid to New York City Mission-----	3,004.52	
By amount paid on sundries-----	84.25	
Total-----		\$13,072.77
	A. R. Henry, Treasurer.	

Adjourned to call of chair.

SIXTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 5, 1884, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by William Ostrander. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved. Credentials were presented by William Covert and J. W. Rees, as delegates from Indiana, and Samuel Fulton as delegate from Tennessee. R. S. Owen, having arrived from Canada, was invited to represent that field, and Brother George Brown to represent Ontario.

In behalf of the Committee on Constitutions, Elder J. H. Waggoner reported the changes which they had to suggest in state constitutions. (See Constitution of State Conferences.)

After a few remarks and queries upon some portions of the Constitution suggested, the report was adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions submitted the following as a partial report:--

1. RESOLVED, That in view of the difference of opinion existing in regard to ministers' paying tithes, we express it as the sense of this Conference that it is the duty of ministers in this respect, as in all others, to be ensamples to the flock; that they should pay tithes, and urge upon all others to do the same.

2. RESOLVED, That in view of the perils of the last days upon which we are entering, we deem it to be the duty of all believers to keep themselves free from all worldly entanglements; and as such as we would especially designate all secret organizations.

3. RESOLVED, That we approve of the action of the California Conference in opening a mission in the Sandwich Islands; and we view with gratification the indications that in other places, also, our brethren are partaking largely of the missionary spirit.

4. RESOLVED, That in our judgment, steps should be immediately taken to open a mission in Australia.

Upon a motion to adopt the report, the first resolution came up for discussion. More than an hour was spent in a very lively and entertaining examination of the question, when it was moved to lay it upon the table till a Bible-reading should be given on the subject. This motion was lost; and the time having expired, the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

SEVENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 6, 1884, 2:30 P.M.

Elder G. G. Rupert opened the meeting with prayer. Minutes of last meeting approved. The question before the meeting being on the adoption of the report of the Committee on Resolutions, and the point under discussion being the first resolution, namely, a resolution that ministers should pay tithes, the subject was but little further discussed; and the general opinion expressed being in favor of the resolution, it was unanimously adopted.

The second resolution--pertaining to secret societies--drew forth remarks as lengthy and earnest as greeted the first one. No diversity of opinion was found to exist on the resolution itself; the discussion was confined chiefly to the question as to what would be the most expedient attitude for us to maintain toward the question whenever circumstances called for a stand to be taken. It seemed to be the prevailing opinion that this matter could generally be left to the individual concerned and the occasion. The resolution was adopted with no dissenting voice.

The third resolution was adopted without discussion.

While the question was pending on the adoption of resolution 4, the Conference took an adjournment to such time as the chairman should convene them again.

EIGHTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 7, 1884, 2:30 P.M.

The brethren were led in devotional exercises by Elder R. M. Kilgore. Record of previous meeting approved. The question before the Conference being on the adoption of the fourth resolution, the motion unanimously prevailed. The following additional resolution was then introduced:--

WHEREAS, The third angel's message has been committed to us to give to the world, and we now have but three laborers in Great Britain where there are forth millions of English-speaking people; therefore--

5. RESOLVED, That, in consideration of the magnitude of the work to be done in Great Britain, it is our duty to send two more able ministers to engage in the work in that mission.

Some earnest words were spoken in reference to the subject involved in this resolution, and our duty in regard to sounding the warning to the earth's remotest bounds, and the motion to adopt was heartily sustained.

The Committee on Fields of labor then presented a partial report as follows:--

Recommendation 1. That Elder S. H. Lane and wife go to England to take a leading part in the British Mission, and the printing work of that Mission.

Recommendation 2. That Elder R. F. Andrews be sent to the British Mission, to labor in Scotland and Ireland, as the way may open.

Recommendation 3. That Elder W. C. White go to Europe when the proper time arrives, and assist in the publishing work.

Recommendation 4. That Elder R. M. Kilgore take the presidency of the Illinois Conference, made vacant by the resignation of Elder Andrews.

Recommendation 5. That Elder M. B. Miller go to Texas and take the presidency of that Conference.

Recommendation 6. That Elder J. D. Pegg go to Texas to labor in that conference.

Recommendation 7. That West Virginia be united to the Ohio Conference, and that Elder C. H. Chaffee move to and labor in that field.

Recommendation 8. That we accept the generous offer of the Indiana Conference to furnish a tent to West Virginia.

Recommendation 9. That Arkansas be united to the Missouri Conference, and that Elder J. G. Wood labor for a time in that field; that Elder G. G. Rupert visit Alabama, and spend as much of the winter there as possible; also that Brother Blackmon of Missouri join him in labor in that field.

Recommendation 10. That Elder Butler spend the greater part of the winter in Battle Creek, laboring especially for the church, the College, and our other institutions located there.

Recommendation 11. That Elder E. R. Jones go to the Pacific Coast to labor in California or the Northern conferences, as the wants of the cause may demand.

Recommendation 12. That Elder William Ostrander take the presidency of the Colorado Conference when Elder Jones goes to California.

Recommendation 13. That Elder H. W. Decker go to the Upper Columbia Conference in time to attend their next camp-meeting.

Recommendation 14. That Elder S. N. Haskell go to California in time to attend the fall camp-meeting, and as soon after this as possible go to Australia to superintend the establishing of a mission there; and that Elder J. O.

Corliss, and other laborers who may be selected, go at the same time to labor in the mission.

W. C. White,
O. A. Olsen,
W. H. Littlejohn,
G. G. Rupert,
R. Conradi,
Committee on Destitute

Fields."

Recommendations 1 and 2, after affecting remarks by the parties mentioned in them, and the delegates from Indiana and Illinois, were adopted. By request, recommendation 14 was next taken up for consideration, when the following substitute was offered by Elder Butler:--

That Elder S. N. Haskell, as soon as possible, go to Australia to superintend the establishment of a mission there; and that Elder J. O. Corliss, and other laborers who may be selected, go at the same time to labor in the mission; and that Elder Haskell return at least early enough to attend the California camp-meeting in 1885.

While the question was pending on the substitution of the foregoing for the

original recommendation of the Committee, the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

NINTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 9, 1884, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by Elder R. F. Andrews. Before resuming the regular business, on a tacit suspension of the rules, a little time was taken to consider the question of the continuation of this Conference. It was finally decided by vote that the delegates should make no arrangements for the future which would interfere with their remaining at this meeting two weeks longer.

The regular business being resumed, and the question pending being on the adoption of the substitute for the 14th recommendation of the Committee on Fields of Labor, offered by Elder Butler, after some discussion, the substitute was withdrawn. The question being now on the adoption of the original recommendation, it was seriously objected to by some, and urged by others. After remarks by Elders Haskell, Butler, White, and Waggoner, it was referred back, without instructions, to the committee.

Recommendation 3 was then read, and the following substitute was offered by Elder Butler:--

That Elder W. C. White go to Europe to assist in the purchase of machinery for our houses in Bale, Switzerland, and Christiania, Norway, and in the placing of the publishing work there on the proper basis, and in counseling and assisting in all branches of the work in Europe.

This substitute was by vote accepted, and the recommendation was then adopted.

Recommendation 4 was then adopted.

Recommendations 5 and 6 were referred back to the committee.

Recommendations 7, 8, 9, and 10 were adopted without much discussion, and the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

TENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 10, 1884, 2:30 P.M.

Elder J. H. Waggoner opened the meeting with prayer. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. The regular business being further action on the report of the Committee on Fields of Labor, the remaining recommendations, Numbers 11, 12, and 13, were adopted without discussion.

The following resolution was then presented, and after a brief discussion adopted:--

WHEREAS, We realize that there is no neutrality in the cause of God, and that they who gather not with Christ scatter abroad, and that they who do not work, weaken and discourage those who do work; and we know that there are many, especially in Battle Creek, whose lives are unprofitable in their present position; therefore--

6. RESOLVED, That we request and urgently call upon those who are doing no work in the cause here, to move to destitute fields where they may be of service to the Master; and further--

7. RESOLVED, That a committee of three be appointed to canvass the Sabbath-keepers, and report to the Conference or to the church, the names of those who it may appear have a duty to the cause in this respect.

On motion of Elder Rupert, Elder Waggoner was requested to preach a sermon to the Battle Creek Church on the subject of this resolution at some time during this session of the Conference.

The Committee on Licenses presented their report, recommending that credentials and licenses be granted, as follows: For credentials, George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, J. Fargo, W. C. White, O. A. Olsen, J. G. Matteson, B. L. Whitney, Mrs. E. G. White, A. A. John, A. B. Oyen, M. C. Wilcox, J. H. Durland, William F. Killen, L. P. Hodges, S. H. Kime; for licenses, A. A. Meredith, W. R. Foggin, E. Hoff, William M. Baird, J. R. Wait, N. B. England; for ship missionary, George R. Drew.

The report was amended by adding for credentials the names of R. F. Andrews, E. G. Olsen, and S. H. Lane, and then adopted.

The desire having been expressed by certain ones to present to the Conference some theological views which were to them of great interest, it was--

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of eight to act with himself, to consider any theological questions which may be brought before it.

This motion prevailing, the chair appointed as said committee, S. N. Haskell, J. H. Waggoner, U. Smith, W. C. White, R. F. Cottrell, D. M. Canright, I. D. Van Horn, and E. W. Farnsworth.

It was further--

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of four to act with the General Conference Committee to consider a plan of more perfect co-operation between the publishing houses in Battle Creek, Michigan, and Oakland, California. Carried.

The chair appointed as said committee, S. H. Lane, E. W. Whitney, R. A. Underwood, and Dan T. Jones.

A communication from Norway concerning the publishing interest in Christiania and the plan of the European Council in reference to the further prosecution of the work there, was read and referred to the General Conference Committee.

An interesting communication from Elder D. T. Bourdeau respecting the progress of the work in France, and the encouraging prospect before the cause there, was read, after which the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

ELEVENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 11, 1884, 5:30 P.M.

Prayer by Elder H. Nicola. Minutes read, and with one correction approved.

The Nominating Committee reported, recommending that the following persons be chosen to the offices named: For president, Elder George I. Butler; secretary, U. Smith; corresponding secretary, Mrs. M. J. Chapman; treasurer, A. R. Henry; Executive Committee, George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, O. A. Olsen, W. C. White, and J. Fargo.

The report of the committee was adopted as the voice of the Conference.

The subject of the preparation of a new hymn book for the general use of our people, being introduced, it was--

MOVED, That a committee of five be appointed to draw up a plan of action on which this work should proceed. This motion prevailed.

The Committee on Fields of Labor further reported as follows:--

Recommendation 15. That the recommendation for Elder M. B. Miller to go to Texas be withdrawn.

Recommendation 16. That Elder J. D. Pegg go to Texas to labor under the direction of Elder Kilgore until the next Texas camp-meeting.

Recommendation 17. That Elder J. F. Hanson labor in Chicago as much as his other duties will permit.

Recommendation 18. That Elder J. C. Mikkelson go to Kansas, and labor among the Scandinavians there.

Recommendation 19. That Elder G. G. Rupert spend several months in North Carolina, as the way may open, and that he labor in other Southern fields as the General Conference Committee may advise.

Recommendation 20. That Ontario be a mission field, and that Elder T. M. Steward go there to labor.

Recommendation 21. That Delaware and Maryland be a mission field, and that

Elder O. F. Guilford go to this field to develop and establish the work.

Recommendation 22. That Elder J. S. Shrock go to Pennsylvania to labor among the Germans, and that Elder Conradi go with him for a time to assist and counsel in the work.

On a motion to adopt, recommendations 15 and 16 were sustained. An amendment to No. 17 was offered by adding that the Scandinavian Church in Chicago be transferred from the Wisconsin Conference to the Illinois Conference. This was ruled out of order as not coming within the province of the committee's action. A motion to lay the recommendation on the table was lost, and the recommendation was adopted. The remaining recommendations of the report passed without extended discussion.

At this point another resolution was offered as follows:--

7. RESOLVED, That we express our heartfelt gratitude that the way is opening to extend our work into Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, and other destitute fields in this country, as well as in the Province of Ontario, in Scotland, Ireland, etc.; and we suggest that the attention of those friends who are acquainted with these fields, and who may be able to give counsel in regard to them, be specially called to this part of the work.

The adoption of this resolution was moved, when the Conference adjourned to the call of the chair.

TWELFTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 12, 1884, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by U. Smith. Minutes of the last meeting read and approved. The pending question being on the adoption of resolution 7, it was spoken to by Elder S. N. Haskell, and adopted.

The committee called for in resolution 6 was appointed as follows: S. H. Lane, R. A. Underwood, C. L. Boyd.

The Committee on Hymn Book was appointed as follows: I. D. Van Horn, H. W. Decker, M. H. Brown, R. F. Andrews, and William Ostrander.

The Committee on Fields of Labor completed their report as follows:--

Recommendation 23. That Elder F. D. Starr go to the North Pacific Conference.

Recommendation 24. After more mature consideration, we recommend that Elder H. W. Decker go to California so as to labor several months in that state before attending the Upper Columbia camp-meeting.

Recommendation 25. That in view of the great importance of spreading the truth to earth's remotest bounds, and of opening a mission in Australia as soon

as possible, Elder S. N. Haskell go to Australia next May, taking with him a competent corps of laborers to establish a mission; and that he return in time to attend the next General Conference.

Recommendation 26. That, in view of Elder Haskell's going to Australia, Elder E. W. Farnsworth go to New England to labor.

Recommendation 27. Also that Elder D. M. Canright go to labor in New England, after attending some general meetings in various conferences with Elder Butler.

Recommendation 28. That Elder J. O. Corliss and Brother William Arnold prepare to go with Elder Haskell to Australia.

Recommendation 29. That Northern Dakota from the 46th parallel be united to the Minnesota Conference.

Recommendation 30. That Elder G. C. Tenney labor in this field, and with Elder A. O. Olsen, as he may be needed in general meetings.

Recommendation 31. That Kentucky and Tennessee interchange laborers as the presidents of these conferences may agree.

After the adoption of recommendation 23, Number 24 was amended by recommending that P. H. Cady be added to the Wisconsin Conference Committee, and that Elder Breed be chairman of the committee on Elder Decker's departure. As amended, it was carried. All the remaining recommendations were adopted without dissent.

MOVED, by Elder S. H. Lane, That Michigan be invited to furnish North Carolina a brand new 50-foot tent by the first of May next. Carried.

Elder J. H. Waggoner moved the adoption of the following resolution:--

WHEREAS, We have received light from the Testimony of the Spirit that the health reform is a part of the present truth, and it having suffered neglect, both from our ministers and people; therefore--

8. RESOLVED, That we urge upon all our people, both ministers and churches, the duty and necessity of renewing their interest in this important subject; and we further request that articles on this subject be again published in our church paper.

This being heartily adopted, the matter of an improved form of diary for ministers was introduced by Elder E. P. Daniels, when it was--

MOVED, That a committee of five be appointed to take the matter into consideration, and report at this session of the Conference. Carried.

The following brethren were appointed as said committee:--

E. P. Daniels, G. K. Owen, J. H. Waggoner, S. H. Lane, and R. M. Kilgore.

MOVED, That the General Conference Committee take into consideration the circumstances of the Chicago Mission, and make such recommendation concerning it as they may deem necessary.

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three to present a plan for the preparation of a book containing a full list of the share-holders in our various incorporated institutions. Carried.

W. C. White, U. Smith, and J. H. Waggoner were appointed as this committee.

MOVED, That the matter of the Yearbook for 1885 be referred to the foregoing committee.

Adjourned to call of chair.

THIRTEENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 18, 1884, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by Elder Van Horn. Minutes read and approved. The question pending being on the adoption of the motion to refer the matter of the Yearbook to the committee on shareholders' book, the motion was carried. It was also--

MOVED, That Elder A. J. Breed take the position of president of the Wisconsin Tract Society when Elder Decker leaves the state.

The Committee on Resolutions introduced the following:--

9. RESOLVED, That the urgent need of the publishing interests in Switzerland and Norway demands that special efforts be made to raise funds for their relief; and we urge upon the presidents of the conferences the duty of raising money on the pledges made in their respective fields, knowing that the cause must suffer in respect to their publishing work unless the buildings in Bale and christiania are soon erected.

This resolution was adopted.

The committee further recommended that the clause inclosed in brackets below be added to resolution 6, in reference to moving from Battle Creek, causing it to read as follows:--

6. RESOLVED, That we request and urgently call upon those who are doing no work here [as well as those who are doing little compared with what they might do in other fields] to move to destitute fields where they may be of service to the Master.

This was adopted.

The committee on the preparation of a book containing lists of shareholders in our institutions, reported as follows:--

1. Revise the list in the book entitled, Appeal to Working Men, and make such corrections therein as may seem necessary by correspondence with them or otherwise.
2. Arrange the names alphabetically.
3. Leave out the addresses. Insert with the names only the number of shares owned by each person.
4. Each Association to prepare a list of its own shareholders.
5. Each Association to bear its proportion of the expense of publication.
6. Insert Constitutions and By-Laws if desired.
7. We recommend that A. R. Henry, W. H. Hall, and E. B. Miller be a committee to carry this into effect.

Report adopted.

The committee reported as follows in reference to the Yearbook for 1885:--

1. We consider it important to continue the publication of the Yearbook.
2. We recommend that each conference furnish the proceedings of its conference and its associations, to be bound in those copies of the Yearbook which are circulated within its own boundaries.
3. That it be printed to order, and furnished to conferences at cost of manufacture.
4. That the presidents of the conferences furnish a revised list of the ministers, etc.
5. That the Yearbook contain matter as follows:--
 - (1) Preface and Contents.
 - (2) Ministers' Directory.
 - (3) General Directories.
 - (4) General Conference Proceedings.
 - (5) Table of Seventh-day Adventist Statistics.
 - (6) International Tract and Missionary Proceedings.
 - (7) Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association Proceedings.
 - (8) Pacific Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association Proceedings.
 - (9) Educational Society Proceedings; also of the Healdsburg College, and South Lancaster Academy.
 - (10) Health Reform Institute Proceedings.
 - (11) General Sabbath-school Association Proceedings.
 - (12) Health and Temperance Association Proceedings.
 - (13) General and State Conference Constitutions.
 - (14) Statistics of our publishing work.
 - (15) Postal Guide and Calendar.

6. That George B. Starr, E. W. Whitney, and E. P. Daniels be a committee to canvass for orders, and secure lists of ministers, etc., to act immediately, before the officers and ministers leave.

W. C. White,
J. H. Waggoner,
U. Smith,
Committee.

This report was adopted.

From the Committee on Resolutions:--

WHEREAS, The question has been laid before this Conference as to whether our usages will permit licentiates to solemnize marriage; and we believe that such a course would bring reproach, inasmuch as many of the licentiates are persons of little experience and often of immature judgment; therefore--

10. RESOLVED, That we hereby declare that it is not our usage to permit our licentiates or local elders to solemnize marriage.

Adopted.

The committee on improved form of ministers' diary reported as follows:--

We recommend that a diary be prepared for the use of ministers, licentiates, and others, arranged as follows: containing first, the usual annual calendar; second, 24 pages blank prepared for daily report; one blank page prepared for quarterly and yearly summary; 365 days of diary; ten blank pages for general use; and 40 blank pages prepared for personal and general cash account.

After some discussion, this matter was referred to the Trustees of the Publishing Association.

Elder Waggoner reported in regard to the matter of an organization to hold church and other property in this and foreign lands, as chairman of the committee appointed for this purpose at the second meeting of this session. The committee took legal council, and learned that an Association, auxiliary to the General Conference, might be formed to hold and control all its property, adopting articles of association substantially as follows:--

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
GENERAL CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

STATE OF MICHIGAN,
County of Calhoun,
ss:

We, the undersigned, in pursuance of the Act of the People of the State of Michigan, numbered No. _____, approved _____, 1884, and entitled, "An Act to provide for the incorporation of Associations, Conventions, Conferences, or religious bodies, for literary, religious, or other benevolent purposes," desiring to avail ourselves of the privileges and powers granted and conferred by said Act, and to become incorporated thereunder, do hereby associate ourselves together as a body Corporate under said Act, to be known by the name and style of "Seventh-day Adventist General Conference Association," as follows, to wit:--

I.

The purpose for which this Corporation is formed is the issuing and diffusing of Christian knowledge by means of publishing houses for such purpose and publications therefrom, and by the further means of missionaries, missionary agencies, and other instrumentalities.

II.

The temporal affairs of this corporation shall be managed by, and the real and personal property of this Corporation shall be in charge of, Trustees, who shall hold their offices one year, and until their successors shall be duly chosen.

III.

The Trustees of this Corporation shall choose one of their number President, and such other officers as their By-laws may require, which said officers shall hold their respective offices one year, or until others are chosen in their stead. The Trustees for the time being shall have power to fill any vacancy which shall happen in their Board by death, resignation, or otherwise.

IV.

The first board of trustees of this Corporation shall be the following

_____, _____, _____, _____, _____,
 who shall hold their offices until the first following regular annual meeting of the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventists, and until their successors shall be duly elected.

V.

This Corporation shall act as auxiliary to said General Conference of the Seventh-day adventists, and the entire Board of Trustees of this Corporation shall be duly elected by the legal voters of said General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventists, according to the usages and customs thereof.

VI.

This Corporation may use the general funds coming into its hands by the sale of certificates of membership for the following purposes, to wit; for the issuing and diffusing of Christian knowledge by means of establishing publishing houses and issuing publications therefrom, and by the further means of missionaries, missionary agencies, and other instrumentalities: and all such funds may, in the discretion of the Trustees, be so used in any and every country upon the globe.

VII.

This Corporation may receive and hold real and personal property to an

amount allowed by law, whether acquired by gift, purchase, devise, or bequest, and may receive and execute trusts for the following purposes: 1st, for its general purposes, as specified in Section 6th of these Articles; 2nd, for the benefit of said General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventists; but all such latter trusts shall be executed within the State of Michigan.

VIII.

The purposes and essence of this Corporation being purely of a benevolent, charitable, and philanthropic nature, no dividends shall be declared upon any funds, but the Trustees are authorized to use and expend the entire principal sum and all accumulations thereon, in such manner as to them shall seem most fit and proper, to carry into full effect the objects and aims of this Corporation. And if at the expiration of the statutory life of this Corporation, it, said Corporation, has in its hands any property, real or personal, in fee or in trust, unexpended or unapplied, then and in such case, the majority of the then Trustees are authorized and empowered to duly transfer the title and ownership of said property to such Corporation as they may elect to carry on and continue the object and work of said first-named Corporation.

In Witness Whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals this day of _____, 188____.

The foregoing report having been presented, it was voted to take immediate steps to form such an organization.

Adjourned to call of chair.

FOURTEENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 19, 1884, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by Elder Haskell. Minutes of last meeting approved. The statistics of the different conferences were read for the purpose of correction.

The committee on new hymn book reported as follows:--

"We, your committee to consider plans for the production of a new hymn book, would submit the following report:--

"1. That a committee of twenty-five, of whom Elder George I. Butler shall be chairman and Elder U. Smith secretary, shall be chosen to gather up both hymns and music, and each individual, after due examination of what he collects, shall send it to the secretary of the committee.

"2. That there be a central committee of seven, with the same president and secretary, who shall examine all hymns and tunes sent to them, and shall have

power to call to their aid such musical talent as may be needed to help them in their work; and this committee shall make a report at the next session of the General Conference of the progress made toward a new hymn book.

"3. We suggest the following names for the committee of twenty-five: George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, Uriah Smith, J. H. Waggoner, W. C. White,

Charles

Jones, S. Brownsberger, W. H. Littlejohn, J. E. White, C. C. Lewis, Professor E. Barnes, Frank Belden, B. L. Whitney, O. A. Olsen, G. C. Tenney, E. W. Farnsworth, L. McCoy, R. M. Kilgore, E. W. Whitney, R. F. Cottrell, D. B. Oviatt, D. A. Robinson, A. J. Cudney, J. G. Matteson, M. C. Wilcox.

"4. We suggest that the following persons be the central committee:
George I. Butler, W. H. Littlejohn, U. Smith, J. E. White, J. H. Waggoner,
W. C. White, Professor E. Barnes. I. D. Van Horn,
H. W. Decker,
R. F. Andrews,
M. H. Brown,
William Ostrander,
Committee."

The Committee on Credentials and Licenses made further report, presenting the following additional names for credentials: D. T. Bourdeau, A. C. Bourdeau, George B. Starr, James Sawyer, and J. P. Rosqvist; which report was adopted.

In view of the fact that Elder Corliss is called to Australia, Elder Steward to Ontario, and Elder O. F. Guilford to Delaware and Maryland, it was voted that they also receive credentials from the General Conference.

The committee on moving from Battle Creek reported progress, and hoped soon to be able to report action.

MOVED, That the Swedish church in the upper peninsula of Michigan, which has been considered a part of the Wisconsin Conference, be transferred to Michigan.

Fearing that the church would be neglected if this motion prevailed, some delegate moved that the motion be so amended as to transfer the whole of the upper peninsula to the Wisconsin Conference. After some spirited appeals on the part of some to the Michigan delegates, the amendment was lost. The original motion was then carried.

The question of the continuance of the Bible-Reading Gazette being introduced, it was voted, in view of the fact that its continuance for more than a year was not contemplated, and that it has well accomplished its object, that its publication cease with the present volume.

The question of the continuance of the Sentinel being also called up, it was voted to continue it, and that the chair appoint a committee of five to determine the method of its further publication and management, a change of its name, etc.

The following persons were appointed as said committee: J. H. Waggoner,

U. Smith, S. N. Haskell, W. C. White, A. R. Henry.

It was moved, on the request of Elder Ostrander, that Brother E. S. Griggs go to Colorado, to assist in the work there. This motion was referred to the next meeting of the Conference.

MOVED, by Elder M. H. Brown, that Elder Butler's articles on inspiration be prepared for publication in pamphlet form. The matter was referred to the Publishing Committee of the Publishing Association.

Adjourned to call of chair.

FIFTEENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 20, 1884, 10 A.M.

Prayer by Elder D. B. Oviatt. The matter of E. S. Griggs's going to the assistance of Elder Ostrander in Colorado was referred to the General Conference Committee.

On motion of Elder Waggoner, the president of the New England Conference was authorized to secure such interchange of laborers in Vermont, Maine, and New England as may seem advisable to himself and other leading brethren there.

From the Committee on Resolutions:--

11. RESOLVED, That we hail with great pleasure the publication of Volume IV of The Great Controversy; that, while we anxiously looked for it, expecting that it would give important information concerning the closing scenes of this world's history, we can freely say that it more than meets our most sanguine expectations; and that we earnestly urge all our people to read it carefully and prayerfully, and to use all proper means to place it before the world.

Adopted.

The following resolution was offered by Elder Haskell, and adopted:--

12. RESOLVED, That we regard the pamphlet entitled "Honor Due to God," as one giving much light upon the Bible teaching on the subject of tithes and offerings, and that we recommend its careful study by all.

On the strength of a suggestion received from Elder M. C. Wilcox, it was voted that the "English Mission" be hereafter called the "British Mission."

On motion of W. C. Sisley, Brother A. R. Henry was appointed our general agent to confer with railroads in regard to whatever courtesies they may see fit to extend to us.

Elder D. T. Jones offered the following:--

13. RESOLVED, That this Conference recognize the right of individuals to pay their tithes to the conference where they reside.

For this the following substitute was offered:--

That this Conference recognize the duty of individuals in changing their place of residence, to transfer their membership, and to pay their tithes to the churches with which they thus unite.

This was accepted and adopted.

On motion, the matter of the vacancy in the Conference Committee of the Illinois Conference, occasioned by Elder Andrews's being called to a foreign field, was referred to the General Conference Committee, till Elder Kilgore can take his position there.

Elder R. A. Underwood, member of the committee on moving from Battle Creek, having left for home, Elder R. M. Kilgore was placed on the committee in his stead.

The Conference then adjourned sine die.

George I. Butler, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST STATISTICS, 1884

Conferences	Ministers	Licentiates	Churches	Members	Amount of S.B. Raised
California-----	14	16	28	1339	\$ 16851.31
Canada-----	1	2	5	116	305.00
Colorado-----	1		4	160	950.00
Dakota-----	3	4	15	449	2134.14
Denmark-----	4	3	6	195	270.00
Illinois-----	8	5	30	642	2514.23
Indiana-----	8	6	33	828	3150.00
Iowa-----	12	7	56	1460	10422.47
Kansas-----	4	11	32	931	5777.68
Kentucky-----	4	1	5	143	424.19
Maine-----	3	2	21	375	1755.78
Michigan-----	26	26	137	3622	15179.94
Minnesota-----	8	3	55	1345	6189.66
Missouri-----	6	4	21	407	1663.57
Nebraska-----	5	5	28	600	5300.00
New England-----	3	5	24	532	4208.50
New York-----	11	6	28	731	3826.93

North Pacific-----	1	2	7	160	1407.00
Ohio-----	7	2	36	831	5195.59
Pennsylvania-----	6	6	27	539	3456.76
Switzerland-----	4	8	7	202	1303.82
Sweden-----	1	1	5	185	200.00
Tennessee-----	1	1	5	87	382.68
Texas-----	1	3	8	261	1929.58
Upper Columbia----	3	3	8	188	1407.20
Vermont-----	5	3	13	388	1918.41
Virginia-----	3	1	4	102	400.00
Wisconsin-----	14	3	48	1475	6051.81
MISSIONS					
English-----	3		3	66	330.16
General Southern--	3	4	5	201	152.00
Norway-----	3	2	1	142	475.00
Total-----	176	145	705	18702	\$105543.41
Reported last yr.--	165	135	680	17436	96418.62
Gain-----	11	10	25	1266	9124.79

NOTE.--The foregoing does not represent the actual progress of the cause during the past year. For instance, while the table shows an increase of membership of only 1,266, our ministers have reported 2,984 conversions. And this count is made on a basis to exclude all exaggeration. Thus, when a minister reported several times concerning the same meeting, only the last was taken; if two numbers were stated, as "fifteen or twenty have been converted," the less number has always been taken; and if no number was stated, as "several," or "a few have embraced the truth," no account has been made of such reports. Of course many of these have not yet been fully organized into churches so as to unite with the conferences, and thus appear in the reports. The increase reported this year is largely from converts who were not organized into churches at the time of the Conference in 1883, but have since been organized. And many of the 2,984 converts of the present year will be organized into churches, and appear in the report of next year.

The conferences which report additional churches are the following:--

California 3, Dakota 2, Indiana 4, Iowa 6, Minnesota 5, Missouri 3, Michigan 6, Nebraska 4, Pennsylvania 5, Upper Columbia 2, Virginia 1, Wisconsin 2, making a total of 43. But in other conferences reductions are reported, so that the actual increase shows only 25. This is owing to the fact that in some instances churches have ceased to exist by removals and deaths, but more largely to the fact that unfaithful clerks have failed to report.

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

November 18, 1885

The twenty-fourth annual session of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists convened in Battle Creek, Michigan, according to appointment, at 9 a.m., November 18, 1885, with the president, George I. Butler, in the chair. Prayer by U. Smith.

Delegates being requested to hand in their credentials, forty-seven responded, representing twenty-seven conferences, as follows:

California, J. H. Waggoner, C. H. Jones; Colorado, William Ostrander; Dakota, S. B. Whitney; Illinois, R. M. Kilgore, A. O. Tait, J. F. Ballenger; Indiana, William Covert, J. M. Rees; Iowa, H. Nicola; Kansas, J. H. Cook, R. F. Barton, S. S. Shrock, E. M. Kalloch; Kentucky, G. G. Rupert; Maine, J. B. Goodrich, J. L. Prescott; Michigan, E. H. Root, D. M. Canright, M. B. Miller, H. W. Miller; Minnesota, G. C. Tenney, Harrison Grant, Lewis Johnson, W. B. White, H. P. Holser; Missouri, D. T. Jones, N. W. Allee; Nebraska, A. J. Cudney, H. Shultz; New England, D. A. Robinson, A. T. Robinson; New York, E. W. Whitney, Harmon Lindsay (with E. E. Miles, alternate); North Pacific, C. L. Boyd; Ohio, R. A. Underwood, W. J. Stone, E. H. Gates; Pennsylvania, D. B. Oviatt; Switzerland, C. M. Andrews; Sweden, J. P. Rosqvist; Tennessee, Samuel Fulton; Upper Columbia, H. W. Decker; Vermont, A. S. Hutchins, I. E. Kimball; Wisconsin, A. J. Breed, P. H. Cady, T. B. Snow.

In addition to the foregoing who presented credentials, the following brethren were present as members, by virtue of laboring in the conference the past year: I. D. Van Horn, G. B. Starr, T. M. Steward, J. D. Pegg, R. Conradi.

The chair was empowered to appoint the committees on nominations, resolutions, credentials, and auditing, and instructed to appoint a committee of five on destitute fields, and a committee of three on the religious exercises of this Conference.

I. D. Van Horn, R. A. Underwood, and M. B. Miller were appointed as the committee on religious exercises; and the chair asked a little time for the arrangement of the other committees.

The time was then taken up with an interesting survey of the field by the chairman, and brief comments upon the work that has been performed the past year. A fair degree of prosperity has attended our work during the year that is past, in all its branches, and in many respects we find the cause in advance of what it was a year ago. J. H. Waggoner spoke in regard to the interesting mission opened in Australia. At half-past eleven the Conference adjourned to 2:30 p.m.

SECOND MEETING, 2:30 P.M.

Minutes of previous meeting approved. Prayer by G. G. Rupert. The following additional delegates presented their credentials: W. C. Sisley, Michigan; John Wilson and A. G. Daniells, Iowa; M. H. Brown, New York.

The following committees were then announced: On Nominations, J. B. Goodrich, R. M. Kilgore, C. H. Jones; on Resolutions, O. A. Olsen, J. H. Waggoner, R. A. Underwood; on Credentials and Licenses, J. Fargo, D. A. Robinson, C. L. Boyd; on Auditing, D. B. Oviatt, H. W. Decker, A. R. Henry, A. J. Breed, Dan T. Jones, Henry Nicola; on Distribution of Labor, D. M. Canright, G. G. Rupert, G. C. Tenney, E. W. Whitney, R. Conradi.

Reports from ministers being made the order of the meeting, G. G. Rupert gave an interesting account of his tour through the South, and the state of the cause in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia.

G. C. Tenney spoke of the work in North Dakota, and made a strong appeal for that field.

H. W. Decker spoke for Upper Columbia and Idaho.

C. L. Boyd spoke for British Columbia. The Canadian Pacific Railway is opened, the tide of emigration of intelligent, enterprising people is setting in there, and now is the time to strike.

C. H. Jones spoke for the Sandwich Islands, followed by J. H. Waggoner on the same subject.

T. M. Steward spoke in regard to the state of the work in Ontario, and the condition of that field.

R. Conradi spoke in regard to the work in Russia, and the necessity of sending a laborer there.

The treasurer's report was then presented as follows:--

TREASURER'S REPORT

A. R. Henry in account with the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists:--

Dr.

To cash on hand at beginning of year-----	\$ 4,005.16
To cash received from Conferences-----	14,429.09
To cash received from tent fund-----	403.03
To cash received from other sources-----	826.28

Total-----		\$19,663.56
		Cr.
By amount paid ministers-----	\$13,053.44	
By amount paid to missions-----	1,181.05	
Total-----		\$14,234.49
By cash on hand to balance-----		<u>5,429.07</u>
		\$19,663.56

A. R. Henry, Treasurer.

This report was accepted.

The question of a Yearbook being called up, J. H. Waggoner, D. M. Canright, and A. R. Henry were appointed a committee to consider the matter and present some recommendations on the subject to this Conference.

The Committee on Hymn Book made a partial report through its chairman, G. I. Butler, whereupon it was--

MOVED, by H. W. Decker, That the chair appoint a committee of nine to examine the work already done, and make a definite recommendation to the Conference. Carried.

Adjourned to 9:30 Thursday morning, November 19.

THIRD MEETING, NOVEMBER 19, 1885, 9:30 A.M.

Prayer by J. H. Cook. Minutes approved. The following additional delegates presented credentials: D. H. Oberholtzer and J. P. Henderson, Indiana; D. T. Fero, Pennsylvania; Leonard Lawrence and M. B. Cyphers, Michigan; A. D. Olsen, Dakota; E. W. Farnsworth, Iowa. A Mead was chosen to act as additional delegate from Wisconsin.

The Committee on Hymn Book was announced as follows: C. H. Jones, E. H. Gates, S. B. Whitney, R. M. Kilgore, A. G. Daniells, J. H. Cook, E. W. Whitney, J. D. Pegg, and G. B. Starr.

The chairman, in a clear and forcible manner, then laid before the meeting the financial wants of the cause, and the different enterprises which need a more liberal support, and which give every promise of success if such support can be secured.

Appeals on this subject were made by O. A. Olsen and R. A. Underwood.

MOVED, by J. H. Cook, That the chair appoint a committee of five to take into consideration the matter of finances, and present some recommendations to

this meeting.

The motion was amended by adding four more to the committee, making a committee of nine, and making the president of the General Conference one of the number.

As amended, the motion was carried; and the chairman asked time before announcing the appointment.

The subject of city missions being introduced by a statement from the chairman concerning the workings, efficiency, and needs of these enterprises, G. C. Tenney, R. A. Underwood, C. H. Jones, E. W. Whitney, J. H. Waggoner, G. G. Rupert, and E. E. Miles spoke to greater or less length on the subject. The general testimony was of an encouraging nature, even in regard to present and visible fruits, to say nothing of those which are prospective. Many items of interest were related. It was finally--

MOVED, by C. H. Jones, That the chair appoint a committee of nine to consider the matter of city missions, and report to this Conference in regard to the best methods of conducting them; which motion prevailed.

Adjourned to meet in the afternoon at a quarter before three o'clock.

FOURTH MEETING, 2:45 P.M.

Prayer by A. S. Hutchins. Minutes of previous meeting approved.

On motion, J. F. Hanson was received as a member of the Conference.

The members of the previously authorized committees were then announced as follows:--

On Finances, J. Fargo, O. A. Olsen, A. R. Henry, C. L. Boyd, J. L. Prescott, W. S. Nelson, Dan T. Jones, W. C. Sisley, G. I. Butler.

On City Missions, W. C. Sisley, J. H. Waggoner, G. B. Starr, M. H. Brown, R. A. Underwood, A. G. Daniells, D. B. Oviatt, D. A. Robinson, G. C. Tenney.

The question next proposed for consideration was, What attitude shall we assume toward indictments for Sunday working, which are beginning to be numerous in various states?

While this question was pending, E. W. Farnsworth gave a graphic description of the trials of our brethren in Arkansas, on indictments for Sunday labor.

The case was decided against them in the lower court, but has been appealed to the supreme court of the state. S. Fulton, of Tennessee, also made a statement

of the situation in that state, where several of our brethren have been indicted on the same charge, and have appealed the case to the supreme court. Our brethren there are persons of limited means, and would be glad of any assistance which any may be disposed to render them. It was then--

MOVED, by G. G. Rupert, That the chair appoint a committee of five to consider the question of arrests for Sunday labor, and our duty in reference thereto. Carried.

The following persons were appointed as said committee: J. H. Waggoner, U. Smith, O. A. Olsen, J. Fargo, William Covert.

The question of institutes to be held in different places, for the purpose of instructing persons how to labor in the various branches of our work, was next taken into consideration. Remarks were made on the subject by D. M. Canright, J. H. Waggoner, M. B. Miller, C. L. Boyd; and, on motion by R. A. Underwood, the matter was referred to a committee of seven to be appointed by the chair. The following brethren were named as said committee: O. A. Olsen, R. A. Underwood, D. M. Canright, D. A. Robinson, H. W. Miller, R. M. Kilgore, H. W. Decker.

The question of an increase of help in the literary departments of our work was then taken into consideration. An increase of editorial help is needed, as it becomes necessary to establish new papers, and it is also desirable to cultivate talent for reporting for the secular papers. After remarks by various persons on the subject, the chairman was empowered, on motion of A. S. Hutchins, to appoint a committee of five to present before the Conference some plan of action on this matter.

The chairman wished time in the selection of the committee; and the Conference adjourned to 9:30 p.m., Friday, November 20.

FIFTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 20, 1885, 9:30 A.M.

Prayer by E. W. Farnsworth. Minutes of previous meeting approved. The following additional delegates handed in credentials: H. S. Lay and J. D. Gowell, Michigan; R. M. Kilgore, Texas; L. McCoy, Iowa. As the delegation from Michigan was not full, several of the appointed delegates not having arrived, by vote of the Conference H. M. Kenyon, J. S. Burnham, and W. A. Towle were received as delegates from Michigan.

The Committee on Distribution of Labor made the following partial report, recommending--

1. That Richard Conradi go to Europe to labor in the cause there, especially among the German-speaking people, as soon as he can do so

consistently with other duties.

2. That J. M. Rees, of Indiana, be invited to locate in East Tennessee, and labor in that section and in North Carolina, and to assist in the general Southern field as Providence and circumstances may indicate.

3. That G. G. Rupert devote as much of his time and attention to the Southern field as he can consistently with his duties in his own Conference.

4. That J. D. Pegg, of Iowa, be requested to join William Ostrander in labor in Colorado.

5. That E. W. Farnsworth be requested to return to New England to labor until the return of S. N. Haskell from Australia.

6. That J. B. Goodrich be requested to remain in the New England Conference until the return of S. N. Haskell.

On motion to adopt, the report came up for consideration item by item. A vote was taken on the recommendations separately, and each one was heartily indorsed by the Conference.

Other committees not being prepared to report, the question of camp-meeting advertising was taken up. After a lengthy discussion, which took quite a wide range, embracing the advisability of acquainting ourselves with editors, advertising through the papers, preparing suitable posters, etc., etc., the question was referred to a committee, appointed by the chair, consisting of C. H. Jones, J. L. Prescott, and A. R. Henry.

It was thought advisable at this point to introduce a theological question, and the subject of trine [sic] immersion was taken up. After a somewhat extended examination of the subject and the situation in various parts of the country relative to this question, and what our position should be in regard to receiving into our churches persons who hold to the view of trine immersion, the question was referred to the Committee on Resolutions, with instructions to present a resolution touching this matter.

The question of church elders was then introduced, with regard especially to the extent of their jurisdiction, and the effect of their ordination as to other churches; that is to say, Can an elder of a church upon removing to another church be elected to the eldership of this last church without re-ordination? After remarks by a number of members, a motion was made and seconded to refer this question to a committee of six, to be appointed by the chair, to act with himself.

While this motion was pending, the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

SIXTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 22, 1885, 3 P.M.

Prayer by J. B. Goodrich. Minutes of previous meeting approved. The question being on the adoption of the motion pending at the last adjournment, the motion was amended so as to read that a committee of seven be appointed by

the chair, of which he shall be one, to consider any theological question which may come before the Conference. As amended the motion prevailed.

An interesting communication having been received from W. C. White, it was read by the chairman. On motion of J. H. Waggoner, the suggestions contained in the communication were referred to the Committee on the Distribution of Labor.

The committee on Sunday arrests presented the following report:--

"Your committee to whom was referred the matter of arrests of our brethren for laboring on the first day of the week, and of considering what is proper to advise them in cases of arrest, deem it advisable to set forth before the people some of the reasons of our practice, and of our advice in this matter.

"1. The commandment of God, one of the ten commandments, spoken and written by Jehovah himself, says: 'Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work: but

the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work.' As servants of god, recognizing and bowing to his authority, we have no option in this matter. By a precept which is plain in every particular, we are in conscience bound to keep the seventh day. But God, who rested from the work of creation upon the seventh day and reserved that day to himself as his Sabbath, and sanctified it as his holy day, also gave to man six days wherein to labor. If it be denied that we are commanded to work six days, it cannot be denied that the commandment contains a permission to work six days, and the permission has all the authority of the law and the Lawgiver. This permission is very dear to us, because it is often absolutely necessary to the proper support of ourselves and our families.

"2. We not only hold it to be a most solemn duty to obey the precept of the law, but we claim it as a God-given right to avail ourselves of the permission contained in the law. As no man, no community of men, and no earthly government has a right to forbid us to obey the law of Him who is 'supreme moral Governor,' and who styles himself the 'Governor among the nations,' so no earthly power has a right to deprive us of the privileges and permissions specifically given to us by Jehovah himself. Our time is our choicest capital. While we confess our duty to pay tribute and custom for the support of the government (and this we have always done willingly), we deny the right of any government to deprive us of one-sixth of our time, our income, our property, for that which does not increase the revenues of the Government, does not add to its support in any particular, which is only an infringement upon our civil and religious privileges--a violation of the dearest rights of moral agents. The enforcement of these laws deeply injures us, while it benefits nobody.

"3. When laws are enacted which deprive us of the rights which God has given us, and which are used for the purpose of hindering us from keeping his law, we have the authority of the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, and the approved example of the servants of God of all ages, to

obey him, to keep his precepts, even if we have to suffer the penalties of human enactments. Daniel prayed to the God of Heaven, when the law of the land strictly forbade his doing so, and when the penalty was to be thrown into a den of lions. His three brethren refused to worship the image which the king had set up, though the law requiring such worship was very specific in its terms, and its penalty most terrible. They appealed to God from the decree of the king. The apostles said: 'Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.' And they suffered stripes and imprisonment rather than to disobey God. But God approved them all and vindicated them in their actions.

"4. While we have no desire to criticize the action of the courts, we feel compelled to express our dissent from a decision rendered in one of these cases, which was as follows: 'The law forbidding all labor on Sunday is no infringement upon the religious rights of any. The State requires all her citizens to keep the first day; and if any choose, in addition to this, to keep the seventh day, that is a sacrifice to their religion, with which the State does not interfere.' Against this we refer to the defense of rights which we have already given. The same ruling might have been made against the three Hebrews in Babylon, thus: The king required them to bow down and worship the image which he had set up. If they chose, in addition to this, to bow down to their God and worship him, the king did not interfere with such worship. Such laws are not merely extra, or outside of reference to the law of God, but are actually against the law of God. Worship of God forbids the worship of anything besides him. The Sunday institution was designed as a substitute for the Sabbath of the Lord; and it is impossible to keep aright the Sabbath of the Lord as he has commanded, and to keep a human substitute for it at the same time. 'No man can serve two masters.' We have already shown that it is an infringement upon our rights to compel us to keep the first day; that we cannot properly support ourselves and our families and rest two days of the week. And, therefore, compulsion to rest the first day is equivalent to compulsion to labor on the seventh day, or to be deprived of the bounties which God has mercifully bestowed upon us. Its direct tendency is to deprive us of our religious rights, or to cause us to suffer pains and penalties if we insist upon our rights.

"5. That these arrests are not only actually, but intentionally, religious persecution, we have evidence, which we here present for the consideration of our fellow-citizens:--

"a. By inquiry we have learned that the arrests of our brethren have been instigated by professed Christians, who thus forfeit their own standing as Christians by violating the 'golden rule' of our Saviour, which requires of all that they should do unto others as they would that others should do unto them. Not content in the enjoyment of all the rights of conscience themselves, they endeavor to deprive their fellow-men and Christians of the same rights. We hesitate not to say that their position as related to those whom they are persecuting is similar to that of Cain to Abel, as presented by the apostle John, who says: 'And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil,

and his brother's righteous.' Why do they seek to deny the precious rights of conscience to their brethren?--Because their brethren keep the commandment of God, and they do not. We believe their action springs entirely from prejudice and religious bigotry; not from zeal for the truth of God. For this we give the following further reason:--

"b. We are informed that where these arrests have been made, the attention of the prosecutors and of the grand jury have been called to the cases of the reckless and the profane who were constantly and openly violating the Sunday law, working at a great variety of businesses, shooting, fishing, etc., on the first day of the week. But the cases of such have been ignored, and indictments presented only against those who labor on the first day, because they keep the seventh day, 'according to the commandment.' Facts evident to every one compel us to believe that these our brethren who have been arrested and fined, would not have been arrested, though they worked on the first day in common with many of their neighbors, if they had not also rested on the seventh day. This marks the proceedings unmistakably as religious persecution. And it proves that those religious zealots who are instrumental in causing these arrests, are not moved by any high regard for the human law which requires the observance of the Sunday, but they are actuated by enmity against the divine law which requires the observance of the seventh day. If they really wish to protect the Sunday, there are plenty of violators of the law besides those conscientious Christians who keep the seventh day out of respect to the divine precept. But the former are not disturbed; the latter are fined, and may be imprisoned.

"6. We object to being classed with the Mormons (as we have been by some), who practice immorality under the guise of religion, and say they are persecuted if restrained in their practices. We affirm that our case is no parallel to theirs. Polygamy was never commanded in the Scriptures. It was never practiced as part of anybody's religion, but as a matter of choice. It was and is a violation of God's original institution of marriage. It is contrary to the comments or instruction of the Saviour upon the marriage institution. God created man male and female--not male and females; the Saviour said a man shall cleave unto his wife--not unto his wives; he said they two shall be one flesh--not they three or five. it was permitted--as many other things were permitted in that dispensation--but not in any precept as man is permitted to work six days. Not a sentence can be found in the Bible proving that it is an ordinance of God. Now, because polygamy is a matter of human choice, and not of Bible precept, we deny that it is religious in any proper sense of that word. And because it is contrary to the original marriage ordinance of God, we declare that it is an immorality. To the contrary, the seventh day was set apart by God himself at creation, and incorporated into his commandment as given at Mount Sinai. No one dares to say that it is an immorality to keep any and all of the ten commandments. It is morality itself; for the ten commandments are the moral law. Surely it is a great injustice to us and to the law of God to class us with them, or to compare our practice with theirs.

"In view of all these considerations, we feel constrained to advise our brethren in those States where they are being persecuted, or wherever they may be persecuted, for their devotion to the commandment of God, as follows:--

"1. Continue, in a peaceable and quiet manner, to obey God in keeping the seventh day, and to exercise your natural and religious right to work six days. We call it a religious right because it is inseparably connected with the observance of the Sabbath, and is confirmed unto us in the law of Him who is the only true object of worship.

"2. In case you are prosecuted therefor, obtain the best counsel you can to represent you in the court. Be sure that your counsel is a man of ability and standing; a man of known integrity, who will not resort to any cavils and trickery, but will command the respect of the court and of the people.

"3. If you are convicted, take an appeal to the Supreme Court of your State.

"4. If the conviction is affirmed in the Supreme Court, then avoid paying fines if it is possible, and suffer imprisonment instead. We believe that it will have a good moral effect to suffer imprisonment rather than to pay fines. Not that it is our desire to have our brethren imprisoned, but this will most forcibly call attention to the injustice of the law, and also lead all classes to consider well the motives of those who instigate persecution against quiet and inoffensive Christian citizens, who, for conscience' sake, adhere to their faith in and practice of the law of the Most High.

"5. If the decision against you in the lower court is affirmed in the Supreme Court, then it will be quite unnecessary to contest any other cases in that lower court. Let the cases go by default, and thus save trouble, and submit to imprisonment without murmuring or complaining. But as the ruling may be different in different courts, we advise that in other parts of the same State, and in other lower courts, cases be contested, as test cases, as an opportunity will thus be presented of getting the truth before the people in a forcible manner. But if conviction follows, then it will be useless to appeal a second time to the same Supreme Court.

"And we entreat you, dear brethren, to exercise a meek and quiet spirit in all your lives. Be not boastful, and avoid giving offense; let it be said of you as was said of Daniel: We shall not find any occasion against him except we find it against him concerning the law of his God.' Everything indicates that the struggle in vindication of the great principles of the Reformation is to be re-enacted in the United States. Our reading of the prophetic word has enabled us to foresee these things; for years we have looked for them. And if we shall be counted worthy to have a part in this work, and to suffer for the sake of the precious truth of God, let us walk after the example of Him who suffered for us, and who will crown his faithful followers with glory and immortality.

"Respectfully submitted,--

J. H. Waggoner,
U. Smith,
O. A. Olsen,
J. Fargo,
William Covert,

Committee."

On motion to adopt, quite an earnest and lengthy discussion was called, and a general unanimity of sentiment was expressed in favor of the positions taken in the report. On putting the question, the motion was unanimously sustained. The question being one of general interest, the whole congregation was given an opportunity to vote upon the motion, and, by a rising vote, heartily sustained the report.

The chairman then named the following committees heretofore unannounced:--

On providing more literary help for the various departments of our work, O. A. Olsen, D. A. Robinson, C. H. Jones, W. C. Sisley, A. R. Henry.

On theological queries, U. Smith, J. H. Waggoner, A. S. Hutchins, O. A. Olsen, J. Fargo, D. M. Canright, G. I. Butler.

Adjourned to 9:30 Monday morning.

SEVENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 23, 1885, 9:30 A.M.

Prayer by J. D. Pegg. Minutes of previous meeting approved. The Committee on Resolutions made the following partial report:--

1. RESOLVED, That we express our conviction that it is neither consistent nor expedient to receive into our churches those who hold to trine immersion, inasmuch as we consider that such immersion is unscriptural, and its introduction among us can only result in confusion. And further--

2. RESOLVED, That as very many of those holding to trine immersion speak the German language, we request the Committee on Publication to have a work on the subject prepared in that language.

WHEREAS, We have a goodly number of men who have been ordained and furnished with credentials on the expectation that they would become efficient laborers, but who from some cause have not developed into regular laborers; therefore--

3. RESOLVED, That credentials be granted to such only as are willing to devote their time to the work, and are so situated that they can do so.

4. RESOLVED, That great care should be used by our ministers in the selection of church officers, and that no person be ordained to fill offices of trust in God's work who is not sound in faith and practice upon all Bible doctrines as held by Seventh-day Adventists.

WHEREAS, There is a large Scandinavian population in this country among whom the truth has already made some progress, quite large numbers having already embraced it; and--

WHEREAS, The laborers are few, the time is short, and much must be done through the circulation of reading matter; therefore--

5. RESOLVED, (1) That systematic and organized efforts be made to

circulate Scandinavian reading matter among these nationalities; (2) that while at this time new and important works are being issued in the Danish-Norwegian and Swedish languages, we would therefore recommend that a department be opened in the office of the Review and Herald to manage the sale and care for the agencies of the Scandinavian subscription books.

Resolutions 1 and 2 being read for action, resolution 2 was amended to include a general work on baptism in the German language, which should especially contain the arguments against trine immersion. As amended, the resolutions were adopted.

Resolution 3 was referred back to the committee for revision. Resolution 4 was adopted. A motion was made to amend resolution 5 so as to include the German work also; but this amendment was not sustained, because the facilities are not yet apparent to carry it into effect. The resolution as presented was then adopted.

The committee then offered an additional resolution as follows:--

WHEREAS, God has represented a failure to pay tithes as robbery of him, and we have evidence that many in our churches do not pay tithes, and believing that in many cases their failure is the result of ignorance on the subject; therefore--

6. RESOLVED, That the ministers and the officers of our conferences and tract societies be instructed to make especial efforts to place the pamphlets, "The Tithing System," and "Honor Due to God," in every family of our people, and that we all make continual efforts until all not only become educated on this question, but have a conscience void of offense toward God in this important duty.

On motion, this resolution was freely discussed and adopted.

Adjourned to call of chair.

EIGHTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 24, 1885, 9:30 A.M.

Prayer by L. McCoy. Minutes of previous meeting approved. The Committee on Resolutions again presented the resolution referred back to them, with the addition of these words: "And exceptions to this rule should be very carefully made;" so that the resolution as revised would read:--

3. RESOLVED, That credentials be granted to such only as are willing to devote their time to the work, and are situated so that they can do so; and exceptions to this rule should be very carefully made.

As revised, the resolution was adopted.

For the information of the Conference, the chairman presented the following figures showing the present standing of the different missions:--

CENTRAL EUROPEAN MISSION

Amount on hand, November 1, 1884-----	\$ 4,172.47	
Received during the year-----	6,777.14	
Total-----		\$10,949.61
Paid out during year-----	\$16,350.02	
Overdrawn-----	5,400.41	
		\$10,949.61

SCANDINAVIAN MISSION

Amount on hand, November 1, 1884-----	\$ 1,912.00	
Received during the year-----	3,455.81	
Total-----		\$ 5,367.81
Paid out during year-----	\$ 9,940.74	
Overdrawn-----	4,572.93	
		\$ 5,367.81

BRITISH MISSION

Amount on hand, November 1, 1884-----	\$ 1,713.45	
Received during the year-----	4,633.28	
Total-----		\$ 6,346.73
Paid out during year-----	\$ 5,680.47	
On hand November 1, 1885-----		\$ 666.26

AUSTRALIAN MISSION

Received during year-----	\$ 6,753.72	
Paid out during year-----	521.75	
On hand, November 1, 1885-----		\$ 6,231.97

Since this report was completed (November 1), \$1,500 have been sent to S. N. Haskell, leaving but \$4,731.97 in the Australian Mission treasury.

The Committee on the Distribution of Labor presented the following additional recommendations:--

7. That William Healey be requested to go to the Hawaiian Islands, and that California be requested to loan a tent to that mission in case it should be needed.

8. That O. A. Olsen go to Europe as soon as consistent with other duties, to assist in the work in the Old World, particularly in the Scandinavian Mission, for a period of one year or more.

9. That D. T. Fero, of Pennsylvania, join H. W. Decker in the Upper Columbia Conference.

10. That William Ings make England his field of labor as soon as he can consistently do so.

11. That we request J. H. Waggoner to go to Europe to assist in the work of publishing, and in counsel.

On motion to adopt, all the recommendations, after a lively and interesting discussion, were indorsed without any dissenting vote, except recommendation 10, which in view of W. C. White's soon expected return from Europe, was laid on the table, that action on it might be deferred till he should be present.

MOVED, by J. H. Waggoner, That this Conference proceed to take the necessary steps to become incorporated by law so as to be able to hold property, on the plan fully discussed a year ago. Carried.

The question how to increase the efficiency of our licentiates and ministers next came up for consideration. It was voted that the chair appoint a committee of five to consider this question and report to this Conference.

Adjourned to call of chair.

NINTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 25, 1885, 9:30 A.M.

Prayer by J. P. Henderson. Minutes of previous meeting approved. The committee on the question of how to increase the efficiency of licentiates and ministers was announced as follows: D. M. Canright, R. A. Underwood, William Ostrander, E. W. Farnsworth, O. A. Olsen.

The Nominating Committee offered their report, recommending for president, George I. Butler; secretary, U. Smith; corresponding secretary, Mrs. M. J. Chapman; treasurer, A. R. Henry; Executive Committee, George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, O. A. Olsen, W. C. White, R. A. Underwood.

A motion was immediately made to adopt, which, after due consideration, was carried, electing these persons to the offices named.

The Committee on Resolutions offered the following addition to its previous report:--

7. RESOLVED, That we hereby express our heart-felt thanks that the Testimonies to the Church Numbers 1-30 have been published in four volumes,

and thus put into a durable form. And we hereby urge our ministers throughout the wide field to give them as large a circulation as possible. And we further urge all our people to read these volumes, and to induce others to read them, confident that the instruction and wise counsel contained therein will commend them to all classes, and will prove beneficial to all.

WHEREAS, It sometimes occurs that persons who have been excommunicated from one Seventh-day Adventist church, offer themselves as candidates for admittance to another church of Seventh-day Adventists; therefore--

8. RESOLVED, That it is a breach of Christian courtesy among churches, and an act of injustice, to receive such into church fellowship, until they have first effected a reconciliation with their former brethren.

As many brethren spoke as time permitted, warmly and gratefully indorsing resolution 7; and after some further remarks on the salutary nature of resolution 8, the report was unanimously adopted.

The committee on camp-meeting advertising presented the following report:--

"Your committee appointed to consider the matter of camp-meeting advertising, would respectfully submit the following for your consideration. We would recommend--

"1. That some four or five weeks before such a meeting begins, a corps of active workers go to the city where it is to be held and canvass it thoroughly, holding Bible readings, etc., as the way may open, but making no mention of the camp-meeting until it is noticed in the daily papers. This company should be under the direction of the president of the conference, or some competent person who can direct in the work; they should also make friends with the publishers of the leading newspapers, so that a week or two before the meeting opens, short

notices of our work and the coming meeting may appear; also, arrangements should be made with them so that during the meeting full reports of the sermons may be published. In order to secure this, it may be necessary to subscribe for a certain number of copies of the newspaper wherein the reports are published; but we believe that a strong effort should be made to carry this point.

"2. That camp-meeting posters, 28x42 inches, be prepared, said posters to be gotten up in good style, and to contain the announcement, time, and place of meeting, etc., in bold type, and to be illustrated with a good cut of a camp-meeting scene. We would suggest that the Review and Herald Office be requested to get up such a poster, to be supplied to the different states. We would further suggest that as the bulletin boards in all the large cities are private property, and belong to the city bill poster, it would be best to hire him to do the bill posting, stating that they are to remain in sight

until after the meeting. In smaller places, where there are no bill posters, of course our brethren can attend to the work. These announcements should be put up about ten days before the meeting.

"3. That instead of using small handbills, a four-page paper be prepared, the size of the page to be about the same as that of the Review; the first page to contain an article on camp-meetings, comparing our meetings with those usually held by other denominations, also matters of general interest; the second page to contain a brief history of our people, the rise and progress of our work, etc.; the third page to contain notices from the press, or short articles that have appeared in some of the leading papers in regard to our people and our camp-meetings; the fourth and last page to contain a displayed advertisement of the camp-meeting, the daily program, or order of services, etc. On this page, on either side of the displayed advertisement, there should be a good cut of a camp-meeting scene. About a week before the meeting, the workers should place this paper in every house within a radius of ten or fifteen miles. This part of the work should not be intrusted to the bill poster or distributor, as they are very liable not to do it thoroughly. Some good name should be selected for the paper, and we would suggest that of Camp-Meeting Journal.

"4. That a small Invitation Card be prepared, containing an announcement of the meeting, time and place of holding it, order of services, and an invitation to attend. These cards are to be used by workers and others, and handed directly to individuals. They will then consider it a personal invitation to attend the meeting.

"By combining these different methods of advertising, we are pretty sure to reach all classes of people.

"It is our opinion that no mention of the names of speakers should be made on the posters. They might appear in a reading notice in the four-page paper; but we would suggest that even there no display be made concerning them.

"The notice of reduction in railroad fare, and other general directions, should be given both in the paper and poster.

"If the foregoing meets the mind of the brethren, we would suggest that a committee of five be appointed by the chair to carry these suggestions into effect.

C. H. Jones,
A. R. Henry,
J. L. Prescott,
Committee."

After an interesting discussion of the report, it was unanimously adopted.

Adjourned to call of chair.

TENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 26, 1885, 9:30 A.M.

Prayer by G. G. Rupert. Minutes of last meeting approved.

The committee on city missions presented the following report:--

"Your committee appointed to consider the question of city missions, after a careful deliberation upon the matter, desire to present the following recommendations as its report:--

"Considering the character of our work, the extent to which the message must go, the limited time in which we have to perform the work assigned us, together

with the fact that the Spirit of God has said that the time has come when we should enter our cities, villages, and towns, and that the standard of truth should be planted in the great thoroughfares of travel, the conviction urges itself upon us that vigorous steps should be taken, and wise plans laid, whereby the truth can be successfully carried forward in these localities.

"1. We therefore recommend that each conference having cities of sufficient size to much such a move desirable, have in its bounds at least one mission

where there shall be special training and special instruction given to the workers in connection with their actual work in these missions, and thus prepare persons to enter other missions that must in the near future be opened.

"2. Experiment and experience suggest that in most cases it is both inexpedient and inconsistent to connect public reading-rooms with out city missions.

"3. We would suggest that the mission in New York City receive additional help; that the New York and New England Conferences together furnish at least half a dozen workers for that mission; that Asa Robinson and wife go to that city, and take charge of the work there for the present.

"4. That Howard Miller, Charles Parmelee and his sister, and Nellie Webber connect themselves with the work at Washington, D.C., and that G. I. Butler and O. A. Olsen visit that field at their earliest convenience.

"5. That Thomas Gibbs and wife go to New Orleans and take charge of that mission, and that D. A. Owen and other suitable help join them in the work; also that Daniel Thompson go to that city and devote his time this winter to the ship mission work.

"6. It is our decided conviction that our missions should each have connected with them a man and his wife, who should be persons of sound judgment and Christian experience, and n full sympathy with all points of our faith.

"7. When persons desire to give themselves to the work of God, and feel a burden to gain an experience in our city missions, they should express such desire to the Conference Committee of the conference where they reside.

"8. We recommend that our workers in these missions prayerfully read and carefully heed the instructions given in the Testimonies, especially those which relate to this branch of the work; also that all should read the appeal from Mrs. White in Review No. 44, Volume 62.

"9. Since success in bringing individuals into the present truth depends largely upon publications, which so clearly bring before the mind the truths of God's word, we deem it of the highest importance that each worker should constantly, yet judiciously, endeavor to sell our publications to those who

have become interested in the truth through Bible readings and otherwise, and as far as may be, secure their subscriptions to our periodicals.

"10. In reference to the financial support of our city missions, we recommend that those laboring in the missions be considered as being in the employ of the conference which engages them; that those persons who may be considered as experimental workers shall, until they have become acceptable laborers, receive as remuneration their board and lodging; that those workers who receive a salary make a report of their labor and expenses to their conferences; that where accommodations are furnished by the mission, the workers be charged a reasonable amount for rent, that amount to be determined by the Conference Committee controlling the mission; that in cases where the workers are boarded by the mission, a careful account of the living expenses be kept by the one having charge of the mission, and a proportionate amount be charged each of the workers who receive pay, such apportionment to be made at the end of each month; and that a bill of the board and rent of those who do not receive pay be presented by the manager of the mission to the conference, the amount to be returned to the city mission treasury; that such expenses as are not provided for above be paid out of the city mission fund by order of the Conference Committee. Where persons are sent from one state to another to be instructed in a city mission, we recommend that the board and room-rent of such individuals be paid by the conference which sends them. We further recommend that our people in the vicinity of the missions and elsewhere be invited to donate of the necessaries of life to the support of the missions, and that correspondence be held with the mission before sending contributions. We would recommend that where regular meetings are held in mission rooms by a company of Sabbath-keepers, they pay a reasonable rent for the use of such rooms.

"11. We believe it to be highly important that each worker keep an accurate and faithful account of his receipts and expenditures and of the work he performs from week to week; and where any person has not had instruction in this respect before entering a mission, the mission should supply that lack.

"12. Experience having shown that much good may be accomplished by means of tract distributors, we suggest that they be placed in hotels and depots, if it can be done, and in those cities where we have missions, these distributors be supplied by the mission workers according to the discretion of the conference officers and those having the mission in charge.

"13. In view of the numerous cities to be entered, together with the fact that one great object before us is to get our publications before the people, we believe that each mission where this is possible should have connected with it at least one first-class book canvasser, who should devote his time largely to the sale of our books and in teaching others to labor in the same capacity.

"14. We request that a committee of three be appointed by the chair to take into consideration the question of suitable books of record and accounts for our city mission work, and that they draw up forms or sample pages of such books,

and present them before this Conference for examination; and that these books be prepared for use as soon as possible.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. C. Sisley	A. G. Daniells
J. H. Waggoner	D. B. Oviatt
George B. Starr	D. A. Robinson
M. H. Brown	George C. Tenney
R. A. Underwood	Committee."

The report was adopted.

On motion, the chair was requested to appoint a committee of three to nominate five persons to act as trustees of the General Conference Association in its legal capacity.

At this point an address from Mrs. E. G. White was read, and most of the remaining time of the forenoon was occupied in the consideration thereof.

The matter of financial settlement incident to the transfer of the Scandinavian Church in Chicago from the Wisconsin Conference to Illinois, was referred to a committee of three, to be appointed by the chair.

The matter of the propriety of starting printing offices in the various conferences was referred to a committee of three, to be appointed by the chair.

The chair then announced the committees, as follows:--

Committee to nominate five legal trustees for the General Conference: J. H. Waggoner, J. B. Goodrich, Harrison Grant.

Committee on account books for city missions: G. C. Tenney, D. A. Robinson, H. P. Holser. To this committee G. B. Starr and A. G. Daniells were subsequently added.

Committee on the financial settlement in reference to the transfer of the Scandinavian Church of Chicago from Wisconsin to Illinois: A. R. Henry, W. S. Nelson, J. L. Prescott.

Committee on starting printing offices in different conferences: O. A. Olsen, William Ostrander, P. H. Cady.

The matter of reprinting Bible Helps was referred to the committee on account books for city missions.

Adjourned to call of chair.

ELEVENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 27, 1885, 3 P.M.

Prayer by A. J. Breed. Minutes of previous meeting approved.

A resolution was offered that J. H. Waggoner's articles on the "Church" be published in pamphlet form. At Elder Waggoner's request, the matter was waived till there should be more time for its consideration, by laying the motion on the table.

The committee on the Yearbook reported as follows:--

"1. We consider the present arrangement of the Yearbook very good, and recommend that it be retained.

"2. We recommend that the whole edition be uniform throughout; but if any state wishes a special edition or something special in their editions, let such matter be printed on separate pages and bound in at the end of the book, which will save much trouble and expense.

"3. We recommend that a digest or brief synopsis of our work for the year be inserted, together with a very brief sketch of the rise of our cause, the whole not to occupy more than from four to six pages.

J. H. Waggoner,
D. M. Canright,
A. R. Henry,
Committee."

Report adopted.

The committee to nominate five trustees for the General Conference Legal Association reported as follows:--

"That the present Executive Committee be the Incorporating Board of Trustees but as S. N. Haskell is not present, and therefore cannot act, we nominate

Uriah Smith to act in his place.

J. H. Waggoner,
H. Grant,
J. B. Goodrich,
Committee."

The Committee on Credentials and Licenses reported, recommending that credentials be granted by this Conference to the following persons:--

George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, O. A. Olsen, W. C. White, Mrs. E. G. White, A. B. Oyen, B. L. Whitney, D. T. Bourdeau, A. A. John, J. G. Matteson, E. G.

Olsen, M. C. Wilcox, J. H. Durland, A. C. Bourdeau, J. P. Rosqvist, J. O. Corliss, R. Conradi, R. F. Andrews, S. H. Lane, M. C. Israel, J. H. Waggoner, William Ings, R. A. Underwood, O. F. Guilford, and T. M. Steward.

The report also recommended that licenses be granted to George R. Drew, N. B. England, and L. H. Chrisler.

The report was amended by leaving the name of O. F. Guilford among the Ohio ministers, as circumstances do not now permit him to labor in General Conference fields, the committee to grant [him] credentials in the future should occasion require. It was further amended by adding the names of G. G. Rupert and J. M. Rees to the list for credentials. As amended, the report was adopted.

The committee on workers' institutes reported as follows:--

"Your committee appointed to take into consideration the matter of institutes desire to express themselves in the following manner:--

"In carefully looking over the field, taking into account the several interests connected with our work, the varied duties to be performed, and the fact that the Spirit of God has repeatedly stated that the labors of the ministers should be more of an educating character than merely sermonizing, this being especially emphasized in the fact that scores of individuals are connecting themselves with the work who might become efficient laborers could they receive the proper instruction; we hereby express the conviction that our general meetings should partake more largely of the nature of seasons of education and instruction, and we recommend that each conference where practical hold a meeting of this character as soon as may be consistent, at which time special instruction should be given, clearly defining the duties of ministers while laboring in new fields or among the churches, the duties of the various church officers, Tract and Missionary workers, Bible readers, canvassers, and Sabbath-school workers.

O. A. Olsen,
D. M. Canright,
H. W. Decker,
Howard Miller,
D. A. Robinson,
R. M. Kilgore,
Committee."

Report adopted.

The committee on improvement of ministers and licentiates reported as follows:

"Recognizing the importance of thoroughly disciplined and educated laborers in all branches of the work of the Lord, especially in the ministry, we therefore recommend--

"1. That the presidents of the state conferences urge their ministers to economize their time, systematize their labor, inform themselves in those things most necessary to their work, and, as far as reasonable, devote a portion of each day to study, under ordinary circumstances at least three hours.

"2. That the younger and less experienced laborers in the conference be placed for a portion of the year under the training of the best ministers in the conference, the same as our missionary workers are now trained in their work.

"3. That the Conference Committee of each state conference appoint a suitable person to speak on the subject of education and the best methods of labor at each annual session of the conference; and that immediately following this a meeting of the conference be devoted to a discussion of the same subject.

"4. That the General conference do the same.

"5. That at the annual session of each state conference some person or persons be appointed by the committee to examine all candidates for credentials or licenses as to their attainments, their habits of study, what they have studied during the preceding year, and to advise them with regard to the same in the future.

"6. That the General Conference appoint annually a committee of three of whom the president shall be one, to prepare questions to be used in said examinations.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. M. Canright,
O. A. Olsen,
E. W. Farnsworth,
William Ostrander,
R. A. Underwood,
Committee."

Pending action on this report, the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

TWELFTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 30, 1885, 9:30 A.M.

W. C. White, having arrived from Europe, led the Conference in prayer. Minutes of previous meeting approved. The delegation from Ohio not being full, Victor Thompson was received as additional delegate from that state.

The first business being action on the motion pending at the hour of the preceding adjournment, to adopt the report of the ministerial improvement committee, it was read, discussed, and unanimously adopted.

On motion, the chair was empowered to appoint the two remaining members of the committee called for in the foregoing report.

On the subject of the new Yearbook it was--

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of one to collect statistics and other matter for the book.

The motion was amended so as to read that a committee of two be appointed

by the chair to act with the corresponding secretary, to prepare the matter for the Yearbook.

As amended, the motion prevailed.

MOVED, by G. G. Rupert, That N. Orcutt, of Moultrie, Florida, receive credentials from this Conference. Carried.

The committee on the financial settlement between Wisconsin and Illinois, on account of the transfer of the Scandinavian Church of Chicago to Illinois, submitted the following report:--

"Your committee appointed to consider the matter of difference between the Wisconsin and Illinois Conferences, would respectfully report that they have given the subject their careful consideration, and would express it as their opinion that the Illinois Conference should pay the Wisconsin Conference seven hundred dollars, one-half during the year 1885, and the balance during the year 1886.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. R. Henry,
J. L. Prescott,
W. S. Nelson,
Committee."

After a free interchange of views between the Illinois and Wisconsin delegations, the report was adopted.

The motion was afterward reconsidered, and the question referred back to the committee without instructions. One of this committee having left the place, the chair was by vote requested to supply one to fill the vacancy, and to add two additional members to the committee.

W. C. White, R. A. Underwood, and O. A. Olsen were appointed by the chair under this motion.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following additional report:--

9. RESOLVED, That we hereby indorse the standing rule of our Sabbath-school Associations in regard to taking offerings on the Sabbath, for the following reasons: (1) It trains our young to the habit of giving. (2) If appropriated, not merely for school expenses, but, as is now being done in some places, in part for missionary work, it cultivates a missionary spirit in the children. (3) It is in harmony with the Lord's will as expressed in the law, when more offerings were made on the Sabbath than on any other day. (4) It is in harmony with the light given to us as a people. And--

10. RESOLVED, That the same principles apply to the subject of donations on the fourth Sabbath of the month, which day is devoted to the missionary

work; and we recommend that they be so taken.

11. RESOLVED, That in view of the uncertainty of the times, and the danger of depositing money where we can have no idea of its security, we recommend that our conferences east of the Rocky Mountains deposit their surplus funds in the Office of the Review and Herald, and those west of the mountains deposit the same with the Office of the Signs of the Times.

Motion was made to adopt the report, and the first resolution of this series (numbered 9) was discussed and approved, when, the hour of noon having arrived, the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

THIRTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 1, 1885, 9:30 A.M.

Prayer by D. M. Canright. Minutes of previous meeting approved. The question before the meeting was on the adoption of the remainder of the report of the Committee on Resolutions as presented at the preceding meeting, being resolutions numbered 10 and 11. These were read and adopted.

An appeal to missionary workers from Mrs. E. G. White was read at this point, whereupon it was--

MOVED, by J. H. Waggoner, That we express our thanks to the writer for the timely counsel contained in the communication just read, and that the same be published. Carried.

Communications were then read from the Mission Board of the Central European Mission at Basle [Switzerland], and from J. G. Matteson, the latter concerning the circulation of the European papers in America.

Following the reading, W. C. White, at the invitation of the chairman, made a full and interesting statement concerning the condition of the cause in Europe. Openings are everywhere presenting themselves, and the outlook is very encouraging.

The chair announced as the persons to assist the corresponding secretary in gathering statistics for the Yearbook, S. I. Miner, L. A. Smith.

The committee on account books for city missions reported, recommending that a small account book be prepared for the workers in which they may record their daily labor, their accounts with the mission, their personal expenses, etc., and books for the mission as follows: a Visitor's Register, a Record Book, and a small Indexed Ledger. They recommended the continued publication of Bible Helps, and that a committee of three be appointed by the chair to revise

and prepare matter for the same, and superintend its publication from "Helps to Bible Study."

The report was adopted.

The committee called for was appointed as follows: U. Smith, George B. Starr, W. C. Sisley.

The brethren present from Michigan having appointed a committee to present a request to the Conference, the said committee, consisting of D. M. Canright, J. F. Carman, and H. S. Lay, offered the following resolution:--

RESOLVED, That we request the General Conference to release H. W. Miller from his appointment at Washington, D.C., that he may fill the place of president of the Michigan Tract and Missionary Society, made vacant by the resignation of the former president.

A motion to refer the matter involved in this resolution to the Committee on the Distribution of Labor, was lost. The resolution was then adopted as presented.

A motion was made inviting the president of the General Conference to prepare a pamphlet on the change of the Sabbath, and one on the three messages of Revelation 14; which motion was finally referred to the Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association, with the request that they cause such works to be prepared. The Publishing Association was also by vote requested to furnish a tract on the subject of conversion.

The resolution that J. H. Waggoner's articles on the "Church" be published in pamphlet form, which was laid on the table in the afternoon meeting of November 27, was now taken from the table for consideration. It had scarcely got fairly into the hopper of discussion, when the hour of noon arrived, and the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

FOURTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 2, 1885, 9:30 A.M.

Prayer by P. H. Cady. Minutes of previous meeting approved. The question before the meeting being the motion on the publication of the articles on the "Church," the motion was referred to the Publishing Committees of the Central Seventh-day Adventist and Pacific Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Associations.

The recommendation of the Committee on the Distribution of Labor, that William Ings go at his earliest convenience to England to labor, which was deferred till W. C. White should be present, was now taken from the table, and

after discussion by W. C. White and others, was adopted.

The Committee on the Distribution of Labor offered the following additional recommendations:--

12. That if the Michigan brethren will cheerfully assume the burden of the work in Ontario, this field be connected with the Michigan Conference.

13. That J. F. Ballenger, of Illinois, labor under the direction of the Michigan Conference.

14. That C. H. Bliss, of Illinois, be requested to labor in Georgia, with the counsel of G. G. Rupert.

15. That, if it is consistent with his health and circumstances, J. I. Collins, of Minnesota, labor in Alabama and Mississippi, with the counsel of G. G. Rupert.

16. That Victor Thompson, of Ohio, make Maryland his field of labor.

17. That N. M. Jordan, of Wisconsin, labor under the direction of the Michigan Conference, in the Northern Peninsula.

18. That I. D. Van Horn assist R. M. Kilgore in Illinois for about six weeks before the next camp-meeting season.

19. That W. H. Saxby and wife, of Kentucky, go to Washington to labor in the mission there.

20. That Frank D. Starr of the North Pacific Conference, join the Illinois Conference.

21. That I. H. Evans, of Michigan, go to Kentucky to labor.

22. That R. M. J. Pound, of Kentucky, labor in Michigan.

The first of these recommendations (Number 12) was referred to the Michigan Conference Committee to consider and report to this Conference. The remaining recommendations were adopted.

The Committee on Theological Queries made a partial report, as follows:--

"The committee to whom was referred the subject of the ordination of local elders, would respectfully report that we find there is a difference of opinion existing, and there has been a difference in practice in different conferences, in regard to the jurisdiction of local elders, or to the extent of their authority to act. In some places, the jurisdiction and ordination have been looked upon as confined to the church which elected them; in other cases, they have been permitted to administer the ordinances wherever they might chance to be, as unrestricted as a minister. We have tried to canvass the ground thoroughly, and find that there are difficulties in both positions if separately traced to their conclusions. All agree that it is to be regarded as purely a matter of church discipline, and we believe there is truth in both positions which may be combined into one consistent system. We therefore offer the following recommendations:--

"1. That the jurisdiction of a local elder, or his authority to administer the ordinances, be confined to that church which elected him as elder; the only

exception to this is where the Conference Committee deems it advisable to instruct him to go to another church under special circumstances.

"2. If he is re-elected, or properly elected elder of another church, his ordination shall stand good. He need not be re-ordained.

"3. But in case of his removal to another church or another conference, the fact that he has acted as elder over another church should not be considered a ground for calling him to act as elder again. The church should consider his qualifications just as they would if he had never been an elder; and if there is any doubt, inquiry should be made of some minister or of an officer of the conference, to ascertain whether he filled the office acceptably.

"4. It is well understood that a license from the conference does not authorize the licentiate to celebrate the ordinances, to administer baptism, or to organize a church. And, therefore, if a local elder receive a ministerial license, it does not enlarge his sphere of action as an elder; it gives him no authority to celebrate the ordinances outside of the church of which he is acting as elder.

"5. And, finally, though his ordination shall stand good for all time, except in case of apostasy, whenever and wherever he may properly be called to act, he cannot exercise the functions of an elder beyond the time for which he was elected, unless he is re-elected, or elected by another church. But if from any cause there should be a failure to hold an election, he may then act until his successor shall be elected.

"We believe that a failure to regard either of the above recommendations will open the way to disorder and confusion in our churches."

The report having been read, the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

FIFTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 3, 1885

Prayer by A. D. Olsen. The minutes of the previous meeting approved.

The report of the Theological Committee being before the meeting, a motion was made to adopt, and after due consideration of the question, the motion prevailed.

The Hymn Book Committee submitted the following report:--

"Your Committee appointed to consider the matter of the new church hymn book, and make suggestions in regard to the publication of the same, would respectfully submit the following:--

"On examination, we find that the committee to which this matter was referred at the last General Conference have been diligently at work selecting hymns and tunes, and have already arranged for twenty-six departments,
as follows:--

"Repentance, Missionary, Reward of Saints, Judgment, Waiting for Christ, Social Worship, Baptism, Lord's Supper, Gospel, Sabbath, Law of God, Sanctuary, Dedication, Second Advent, Christian Experience, Closing Hymns, Family Devotion, Holy Spirit, Praise and Thanksgiving, Public Worship, Kingdom of God, Faith, Closing Message, Funeral Hymns, Special, and Miscellaneous.

"We find that most of the hymns and tunes in our present hymn book have been retained, and to these have been added many others of real value, gathered from various sources. We think that so far as the committee has gone, the collection is a good one, and the departments well arranged. But we think that one or two important departments have been omitted.

"It is a fact that there is a demand for a book containing pieces especially adapted for use in tent meetings, camp-meetings, and new Sabbath-schools. Your committee would therefore recommend that a department covering this ground be added to the hymn book.

"For the convenience of those who do not care for the tunes, and to supply the demand in our tent and camp-meetings, where the large book would be too expensive to use, we would recommend that three separate books be prepared, as follows:--

"1. A book containing all the hymns and tunes, this book to be printed on strong and durable paper, and substantially bound. We also recommend that the type for the music be the large of the two samples shown to the committee; that the type of the hymns be Brevier Number 4, as shown in Barnhart Brothers & Spindler's book; that the size of the page be about the same as that of the Spiritual Songs, published by Scribner & Company, New York; and that in addition to the regular index of hymns and tunes there be an index to the first line of each verse.

"2. As there are a large number who do not care for the tunes, on account of not being able to read music, we recommend that another book be prepared, to contain the hymns alone, without the tunes; the size of page of this book to be about the same as that of our present hymn book, Spiritual Songs.

"3. And we recommend the printing of still another book, of about 150 pages, for special use in tent labor, camp-meetings, and new fields, where it would be too expensive to use the large book; that this last book be made up of pages taken directly from the large book, without change of numbers, said book to contain all those pieces in that department of the large book devoted to tent labor, etc., and such other pieces as shall be thought suitable for this purpose; this book to be bound in paper covers, and gotten up as cheaply as possible and be consistent with good work; the retail price not to exceed ten cents per copy.

"Your committee would state that they have had the pleasure of listening to some special pieces prepared by F. E. Belden, and would recommend that, if possible, negotiations be made with him whereby these pieces may be incorporated into our hymn book.

"We further recommend that a standing committee of seven be appointed to carry forward this work as rapidly as possible.

C. H. Jones

J. H. Cook

E. H. Gates	E. W. Whitney
S. B. Whitney	J. D. Pegg
R. M. Kilgore	George B. Starr
A. G. Daniells	Committee."

The report was adopted.

The Michigan Conference Committee reported on the matter referred to them in relation to Ontario, that they cheerfully submitted to the recommendation of this Conference.

J. F. Ballenger, being called to labor in Michigan, resigned his position as member of the Illinois Conference Committee. In view of this, the president of the Illinois Conference requested the General Conference to fill the vacancy, and Frank D. Starr was by vote appointed to this place.

MOVED, by C. L. Boyd, That John E. Graham be appointed to fill the vacancy in the North Pacific Conference caused by the removal of F. D. Starr. Carried.

The committee on publishing in the different conferences submitted the following report:--

"Your committee appointed on the matter of printing by the several state societies would respectfully submit--

"That in our judgment it would not be profitable nor consistent for the present, at least, to start the publication of any regular periodical by the several state societies; and further, that no such publication should be entered upon except by the indorsement of the General Conference.

O. A. Olsen,
William Ostrander,
P. H. Cady,
Committee."

Report adopted.

The committee on the matter between Wisconsin and Illinois reported as follows:--

"Your committee appointed to consider the matter between the Wisconsin and Illinois Conferences, have given the subject a careful reviewal, and feel much inclined to fall back on their former convictions; that a money consideration for territory transferred from one conference to another, is not advisable.

"We would urgently recommend that this practice be discontinued. In view of a precedent having been established, we feel compelled to give this some consideration; and we give it as our opinion that since the Minnesota Conference has shown a very liberal spirit in cancelling the debt of the Wisconsin

Conference, we would name one hundred and fifty dollars as the amount which should be paid by the Illinois Conference to them. This decision is made with a view, as heretofore expressed, that hereafter no claim should be made for a like transfer of territory from one conference to another; that when one conference labors in another it be at their own expense.

"We would further report that no pressure, nor even a request, was made by this committee that the Minnesota brethren take the action they have, and that it was a voluntary act on their part.

W. C. White,
R. A. Underwood,
J. L. Prescott,
O. A. Olsen,
A. R. Henry,
Committee."

J. M. Rees tendered his resignation as one of the Executive Committee of the Indiana Conference, in view of his being called to labor in the South; whereupon, at the request of the president of the Indiana Conference, Dr. William Hill was by vote appointed to fill the vacancy.

MOVED, by J. H. Waggoner, That this Conference set apart next Sabbath, as suggested by the president of this Conference, as a day of fasting and prayer. Carried by a vote of the Conference, and by a rising vote of the whole congregation.

MOVED, by J. H. Waggoner, That a committee of three be appointed to present an amendment to the Constitution, both state and general, providing for the filling of vacancies. Carried.

The following persons were appointed as said committee: J. H. Waggoner, O. A. Olsen, W. C. White.

Adjourned to call of chair.

SIXTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 4, 1885, 10:30 A.M.

Prayer by J. B. Goodrich. Minutes of last meeting approved. In view of the fact that Victor Thompson, C. H. Bliss, and J. I. Collins are called to labor in other fields, it was voted that they receive credentials from this Conference.

The Committee on Theological Queries made a verbal report on several questions which had been brought before it. The report was accepted.

W. C. White presented the subject of a historical missionary work which should contain a full history of our missions and interesting incidents

connected with them which have never been published. It was therefore--

MOVED, That a committee of three be appointed by the chair to take this matter into consideration, and make some recommendation in reference to the same. Carried.

W. C. White, J. H. Waggoner, and E. W. Whitney were appointed as said committee.

MOVED, That A. R. Henry be requested to continue to act in behalf of this Conference in the reception of favors from the railroads.

For this motion the following was substituted:--

RESOLVED, That we express to A. R. Henry our thanks for his kind and efficient efforts in behalf of our people in securing favors of the railroad companies, and we request that the matter still be left in his hands; and that it is the sense of this Conference that he should arrange for necessary assistance in performing this work.

Adopted.

Adjourned to call of chair.

SEVENTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 6, 1885, 9:30 A.M.

Prayer by A. O. Tait. Minutes of previous meeting approved.

The Committee on Theological Queries reported as follows:--

"The question has been proposed to the committee: If a contractor sub-lets a part of his work, and the sub-contractor does work upon the Sabbath, is the contractor responsible?

"It is difficult to answer this question because there are so many contingencies presenting themselves; contracts assume so many different phases. We will try to clear the case of some of its difficulties.

"1. If the contractor did his work on Sunday, and the sub-contractor worked on the same premises on Sabbath, this would bring reproach, as it would appear to the world that the contractor had work done on his job every day in the week.

"2. If the sub-contractor was incompetent or unreliable, and needed to be watched every day to insure his doing his work right, the watching on the part of the contractor, or any one in his employ, would be a violation of the Sabbath.

"3. Any sub-contract which involved oversight, care, or anxiety on the part of the contractor, would be wrong, as the contractor could not rest on the

Sabbath of the Lord, and be free from his worldly business, if he were obliged to have such care, oversight, or anxiety.

"4. We think that a strictly conscientious regard for the Sabbath on the part of the contractor, will guard him from making a contract which will wound his own conscience, or give the world occasion to reproach him.

George I. Butler,	D. M. Canright,
U. Smith,	J. Fargo,
J. H. Waggoner,	O. A. Olsen,
A. S. Hutchins,	Committee."

Report adopted.

The Committee on Finances reported as follows:--

"Your Committee on Finances, after collecting all the information at our command, and carefully considering the wants of the cause in its different branches, would report that we find an urgent and pressing need of funds to carry forward the work. The treasuries of the European and Scandinavian Missions are empty, and these missions are in debt to the Review Office several thousand dollars. The English and Australian Missions need additional funds to carry forward their work successfully. The funds of the International Tract Society are exhausted; and this Society, which has done such a noble work in the past in sending out rays of light and truth to all parts of the world, and has by this means brought the light of truth to many that were in darkness, and opened new fields that could not otherwise have been reached, is now, for lack of funds, powerless to occupy the field of usefulness which it has held among other agencies for the spread of the Third Angel's Message. There is also great need of a fund to support city missions outside of organized conferences.

"It is evident to the minds of your committee, after careful and candid consideration, that funds must be raised, or the work we have begun must be abandoned, an idea which no true believer in the third angel's message can entertain for a moment.

"We would therefore recommend--

"1. That \$15,000 be raised for the Central European Mission, \$15,000 for the Scandinavian Mission, \$5,000 for the English Mission, \$5,000 for the Australian Mission, \$10,000 for the International Tract Society, and \$10,000 for the support of city missions.

"2. That our people everywhere be requested to make Christmas donations to the European and Scandinavian Missions, to relieve them as much as possible from their present embarrassment. And we would further recommend that the week between the holidays, including the Sabbath, January 2, be set apart as a Week of Prayer; and that the General Conference Committee suggest suitable subjects for consideration each day, and also prepare addresses to be read at the beginning of this Week of Prayer and at suitable intervals during the week. We would urge upon all presidents of conferences, ministers, and church elders to give this matter their immediate and faithful attention, and see that every

church, and as far as possible every individual, is informed of the nature and object of this Week of Prayer; and that all join in humbling ourselves before God and pleading with him for a deeper conversion, that his blessing may rest upon the work that is begun, and that he may open the hearts of those that have means to use this talent which God has given them to send the truth to the nations of the earth, to gather out of them a people for his name.

"3. That the General Conference Committee use the best means at their command to raise the above-mentioned funds to sustain the work already begun; either by themselves visiting men of means, and laying the wants of the cause before them, or by appointing suitable persons to do this work, or in any other way that may seem to them most feasible.

"4. In view of the fact that the College buildings are entirely too small to accommodate the students already seeking the advantages of its instruction, we recommend that \$40,000 be raised to pay the present indebtedness of the College, and to erect such additional buildings, and provide facilities for fully instructing those who seek its aid in preparing themselves to do more efficient work in the cause of truth, that the College may fill the position which the Lord has shown it should occupy.

"We believe the work in which we are engaged is the work of God, and that he has a special care for it. And we believe that in the hours of trial which may be permitted to come upon us to test our fidelity to him and his cause, we should trust in God and move forward, believing that to the faithful will come the victory.

George I. Butler	C. L. Boyd
J. Fargo	W. S. Nelson
A. R. Henry	Dan T. Jones
O. A. Olsen	W. C. Sisley
J. L. Prescott	Committee."

This report, after earnest appeals and most weighty words in reference to the demands of the cause upon us, and the progress we may expect in the future if all consecrate themselves to the work as they should was unanimously adopted.

The committee on literary and editorial help, submitted as their report the following:--

"Your committee appointed to consider the wants of the cause in the literary departments, would report that they have carefully considered this matter, and find that there are calls in every direction for labor of his kind--for editors, reporters, correspondents, etc.; and we know that as the work increases and extends into new fields, these calls will be still more urgent; therefore we feel the necessity of immediate steps being taken to educate proper persons to engage in this work. We would therefore recommend--

"1. That the Executive Committee of the General Conference be requested to call in from two to six individuals in whom they have confidence, and who they think have the ability to develop into editorial help, and that some of them be placed in training at the Review and Herald Office and some at the Office of the Signs of the Times, and that they be given a thorough course of instruction in all branches necessary to perfect themselves and to become familiar with the different phases of editorial work.

"2. That W. W. Prescott, A. R. Henry, and W. C. Sisley constitute a committee of three to organize a class at Battle Creek College, to be educated to act as reporters and correspondents, and to assist in other branches of the work as the way may open; and--

"3. That they encourage other suitable persons now engaged in Office and conference work to develop their talents in this direction.

O. A. Olsen	W. C. Sisley
D. A. Robinson	A. R. Henry
C. H. Jones	Committee."

The report, after interesting remarks by several members, was adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions made the following addition to their previous reports, explaining that some of the resolutions did not originate with the committee, but were handed to them by other members:--

12. RESOLVED, That our denominational hymn book be the property of the General Conference, and that all profits which arise from its publication be devoted to the support of missions.

13. RESOLVED, That we hereby express our unfeigned gratitude to the kind Providence which has so highly prospered the work of establishing a mission in Australia; that we extend to S. N. Haskell and his fellow-laborers our earnest sympathies in their efforts to plant the truth in that important field; and that we pledge ourselves to afford that mission help as the providence of God may open the way.

14. RESOLVED, That this Conference earnestly recommend the extensive circulation of that important book, Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation; first, because it covers a large field in the great system of present truth, introducing many important doctrines in a clear and interesting manner, well calculated to favorably impress the reader; secondly, because there is in the public mind a desire more or less strong to understand the meaning of these prophetic books, which are supposed to be so mysterious, of which desire we should take advantage to bring before them the great truths of the message; thirdly, because we have no book better calculated to reach intelligent, influential, business men, who cannot find time to attend courses of lectures and long series of meetings, but who would purchase such a book and read it at home; fourthly, because such a book, bound in an attractive manner, presenting the truth in a permanent form, retaining its place on the center tables and in the libraries till the Lord comes, will command the attention of many persons

in the aggregate, and has some advantages which the presentation of the truth in periodicals, tracts, and pamphlets does not possess; and finally, because our past experience has demonstrated beyond all dispute the usefulness of the canvass on Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation, and that we cannot afford to neglect it. And--

15. RESOLVED, That we recommend that our president of the General Conference to visit the Pacific Coast Conferences during the months of April and May, 1886, and that he arrange his visit so as to attend the annual meeting of the Pacific Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association and of the healdsburg College.

17. RESOLVED, that we recommend S. N. Haskell to return to this country in season to attend the May camp-meetings.

These resolutions were all adopted.

The Committee on City Missions, being requested to supplement their report on a certain point connected with their work, submitted the following:--

CITY MISSION--DAILY PROGRAM

Rising bell-----	5:30	Work hours-----	7:30-
9:00 Toilet and private devotion--	5:30-6:15	Study hours-----	
9:00-10:45 Breakfast-----		6:15	Instruction in Bible
work-11:00-12:00 Worship-----		6:45	Private
devotions-----	12:00-12:30		

DINNER

Dining-room work-----	1:00-1:30	Prayer-meeting-----	
5:45 Bible readings w/the people--	2:00-5:30	Bible readings w/the people	
7:00 *Evening social and		Retiring bell-----	
9:30			

Sabbath--The same hours for rising, retiring, and meals are observed on the Sabbath as on other days.

Reports--The weekly reports should be made out and handed in the evening after the Sabbath.

Laundry Work--The laundry work should be done Monday morning, in which all should take a part.

*Workers who are some distance from the mission, and who have evening readings in some locality, are not expected to return to attend evening worship. Let such be remembered by those who are privileged to be present.

The report coming up for action it was--

MOVED, That the matter be referred to a committee of three to be appointed

by the chair, this committee to suggest in the missionary department of the Review such suggestions as they may think advisable. Carried.

George B. Starr, D. A. Robinson, and E. E. Miles were appointed as that committee.

It was then--

MOVED, That the previous vote that the chair appoint a committee of seven to carry out the publication of the hymn book, be rescinded, and that the following persons, G. I. Butler, U. Smith, J. H. Waggoner, A. R. Henry, and E. Barnes, be elected by this Conference to attend to the matter in question. This motion prevailed.

Adjourned sine die.

George I. Butler, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST STATISTICS, 1885

Name of Conference	Ministers	Licentiates	Churches	Members	Amount of S.B. Funds
California-----	13	6	30	1587	\$ 14812.84
Canada-----	1	1	5	127	413.14
Colorado-----	1	2	6	195	1765.00
Dakota-----	5	6	16	488	3212.67
Denmark-----	4	2	9	160	400.00
Illinois-----	9	4	30	729	4936.23
Indiana-----	8	8	36	920	3572.45
Iowa-----	11	8	58	1460	9913.11
Kansas-----	11	12	38	1313	6813.00
Kentucky-----	4	1	5	113	500.00
Maine-----	4	4	21	416	2074.95
Michigan-----	22	35	126	3809	22111.21
Minnesota-----	15	10	58	1488	8866.84
Missouri-----	5	3	21	563	2140.37
Nebraska-----	4	3	28	500	4734.53
New England-----	2	6	24	561	5529.88
New York-----	11	3	29	766	4120.03
North Pacific-----	2	4	12	237	1416.20
Ohio-----	8	----	39	944	6018.69
Pennsylvania-----	7	5	29	575	4784.75
Switzerland-----	3	7	10	224	1598.22
Sweden-----	1	----	7	232	-----
Tennessee-----	3	2	6	119	512.11
Texas-----	--	8	11	300	1081.37
Upper Columbia-----	3	----	8	180	1432.40

Vermont-----	6	3	15	456	1650.48
Virginia-----	3	----	4	105	400.00
Wisconsin-----	11	4	48	1525	6509.76
<hr/>					
MISSIONS					
British-----	5	----	3	68	519.46
General Southern---	1	2	8	245	302.00
Scandinavian-----	3	2	1	142	500.00
Total-----	186	151	741	20547	\$122641.69
As given last year	176	145	705	18702	\$105543.41
Gain-----	10	6	36	1845	\$ 17098.28

NOTE.--The foregoing table is made up of reports from the secretaries of the State Conferences to the last General Conference. It includes only those who are enrolled as members of organized churches. It is estimated that there are at least one-fourth as many more who, from their isolated situation, or other causes, are not yet connected with any churches, making the whole number of Seventh-day Adventists about 26,000. The number reported as church members doubtless falls considerably below the reality, as our conference secretaries still have occasion to complain that through the negligence and unfaithfulness of church clerks it is almost impossible to secure full returns from their conferences.

Let it be borne in mind also that many of the converts of the past year are not included in the figures presented above, as in many instances they have not yet been organized into churches. Our ministers have reported 2,908 converts during the year.

As large a degree of prosperity has attended the cause the past year as, perhaps, in any previous year, and its general growth has been encouraging.

RECORDS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

1886 to 1888

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

November 18, 1886

The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists met for its twenty-fifth annual session at the appointed time, November 18, 1886, with the president, Elder George I. Butler, in the chair. Prayer by Elder S. N. Haskell.

Delegates being called for, seventy-one responded, representing twenty-three conferences and four missions.

By vote, the chair was empowered to appoint the usual committees, which he did as follows:--

On Nominations: J. Fargo, J. B. Goodrich, C. L. Boyd.

On Resolutions: R. A. Underwood, A. B. Oyen, E. J. Waggoner.

On Credentials and Licenses: S. N. Haskell, B. L. Whitney, G. G. Rupert.

On Auditing (with Conference Committee): Harmon Lindsay, D. T. Jones, D. B. Oviatt, J. Fargo, J. H. Morrison, Harrison Grant.

On Religious Exercises: R. M. Kilgore, L. McCoy, G. C. Tenney.

The chairman then presented to the Conference a general review of the work during the past year. General prosperity has attended the cause, as much so as in any year in the past. Our views have received a more general hearing; we have sold more books than ever before; and a larger number of young people have attended our institutions of learning, with the object before them of entering into some branch of the work at the earliest possible time.

The missionary work was also reviewed at some length, and the financial standing of the different missions was presented. The outlook all along the line is of a very encouraging character. Allusion was also made to the

opposition that is arising against our cause in some quarters, and the persecution under which some are already suffering. But this should be no cause of discouragement; for this is just what we have long been expecting, from the declarations of God's word. Elder Haskell also made interesting remarks on the missionary work.

MOVED, That a committee of five (afterward amended to four) act with the General conference Committee as a committee on the distribution of labor. Carried.

D. M. Canright, A. J. Breed, Lewis Johnson, M. C. Wilcox, were appointed as said committee.

Adjourned till 2:30 p.m.

SECOND MEETING

Prayer by Elder I. D. Van Horn. Three new delegates handed in credentials. The chairman introduced the question of prosecutions for Sunday labor, for the consideration of the Conference. Elder D. T. Jones made a statement of the situation in Arkansas. J. A. Armstrong, and Elders Wood, Fulton, Rees, and Rupert spoke on the various phases of this question in different states; and the principles involved in the question were discussed at some length by E. J. Waggoner and others. On motion, the chair was requested to appoint a committee of seven, himself being chairman, to consider the question, and make some recommendations to the Conference.

The following were named as said committee: George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, J. Fargo, A. R. Henry, R. A. Underwood, E. W. Farnsworth, F. D. Starr.

Adjourned to Friday, at 9 a.m.

THIRD MEETING

Prayer by Elder D. P. Curtis. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Three new delegates were added to the list of members. By vote, brethren present in good standing, not members of the Conference, were invited to participate in its deliberations.

The subject of the missionary work being introduced, Elder S. N. Haskell spoke of the work, following whose remarks an earnest petition from Australia, with eighty-three names signed, was read, inviting a visit from Mrs. E. G. White, and Elders W. C. White and S. N. Haskell, and the permanent location of some efficient laborer among them. Elder B. L. Whitney spoke some forty-five minutes, giving a very interesting survey of the work in Europe,

what has been

done, what remains to be done, the difficulties of the work, and what is specially needed now to carry forward the work. Elder M. C. Wilcox spoke half an hour in regard to the work in England, showing its importance, the special difficulties it has to meet, and the extent and magnitude which the work must assume there in the near future. Following this, a communication was read from Elder S. H. Lane concerning the work in that field. Elder A. B. Oyen spoke thirty-five minutes in regard to the work in the Scandinavian countries. Prosperity has attended it, and when the office of publication in Christiana is better supplied with publications, as it soon will be, the work will become self-sustaining by means of canvassers. All these remarks were full of interest and encouragement.

Communications were also read from South Africa, and interesting remarks made about the introduction of the truth there and in South America. It was then--

MOVED, That the chair appoint a committee of four to act with the three members of the General Conference Committee present (making a committee of seven), to consider the special phases of the work in the different parts of the foreign field, and make such recommendations as they may think proper in regard to providing for the same. Carried.

Elder George B. Starr raised the question of the propriety of our taking some steps to circulate our literature at the Prophetic Conference in Chicago, whereupon George B. Starr, N. C. McClure, and S. B. Whitney were appointed a committee to take such action in regard to the matter as they might think proper.

Adjourned to 2:30 p.m.

FOURTH MEETING

Prayer by Elder R. A. Underwood. Minutes approved. The committee called for at the preceding meeting on special wants of the foreign fields, was announced as follows: B. L. Whitney, R. M. Kilgore, A. R. Henry, and H. Nicola, these persons to act with the members of the General Conference Committee in the matter committed to them.

The subject of the former part of the day--the missionary work--being again taken up, the following vote of thanks from the church in Christiana, Norway, was read:--

"TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS, U.S.A.

"The undersigned committee would hereby, in behalf of the church of

Seventh-day Adventists in Christiana, Norway, send to you the following vote of thanks, adopted unanimously by the church:--

"WHEREAS, Our brethren in America have so kindly furnished means, and thus secured the erection of a suitable building for the publishing work and meetings, and furnished excellent facilities for publishing and printing; and--

"WHEREAS, We are now most comfortably situated in a suitable hall for meetings, well warmed and lighted, and in every way well adapted to the preaching of the truth and to the worship of God; therefore--

"RESOLVED, That we do hereby express our heartfelt gratitude to God and to our American brethren for these comforts and blessings.

H. Steen,
G. O. Melin,
J. Syvertsen,
Committee."

A communication was then read from J. Kolvoord, in reference to the work among the Hollanders [Dutch] in this country. Some time was spent in considering the wants of this part of the field. Elder Haskell spoke in regard to the natives of New Zealand, called the Maoris, and the facilities that exist for bringing the truth before them. All things point to the necessity of a paper in the Maori language at no distant day. Elder T. H. Gibbs spoke of the mission in New Orleans, and his connection with the work in the South. He gave an interesting account of the work there, and made a strong appeal for the South.

The matter of theological questions being introduced, it was moved that the chair appoint a committee of nine to consider any theological questions that may come before the meeting. The chair requesting to be excused from the appointment of this committee on account of his expressed views on one of the questions to be considered, the motion was so amended as to substitute Elder Haskell in place of the chair as the one to appoint the committee, and that both Elders Butler and Haskell be on that committee.

Adjourned to call of chair.

FIFTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 21, 1886, 10 A.M.

Prayer by Elder E. J. Waggoner. Minutes approved. The Committee on Distribution of Labor submitted the following partial report:--

Your committee would respectfully make the following recommendations:--

1. That Elder E. W. Whitney and family proceed to Basle, Switzerland, at their earliest convenience, to assist in the work of the Central European Mission.

2. That in harmony with the request of the late European Council, Elder

S. N. Haskell visit the European field at his earliest convenience, to remain as long as he deems advisable, to assist by his counsels and labors especially in the British field.

3. That W. L. H. Baker and wife, of Oakland, California, go at their earliest convenience to Australia to assist in the work of the Office of the Bible Echo.

4. That Elder M. G. Huffman make Virginia his future field of labor.

5. That Elder B. F. Purdham go to Indiana as his next field of labor.

On motion to adopt, the recommendations were quire fully discussed, and the motion was carried.

The question of furnishing reports of the Conference for leading papers being called up, the chair was empowered to appoint a committee of three to attend to this matter. The following were appointed as said committee: A. B. Oyen, G. C. Tenney, W. A. Spicer.

Elder A. T. Robinson gave a report of the work in connection with the city mission of Brooklyn.

The Theological Committee was then announced as follows: G. I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, D. M. Canright, E. J. Waggoner, J. H. Morrison, U. Smith, M. C. Wilcox, B. L. Whitney, William Covert.

A report of the work in Washington, D.C., was given by W. H. Saxby, who has had charge of the mission there, after which the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

SIXTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 22, 1886, 10 A.M.

Prayer by Elder J. Cook. Minutes approved.

On motion, the chair appointed the following committee of five to take into consideration the subject of camp-meetings and workers' meetings, and make such recommendations to the Conference as might seem desirable: R. A. Underwood, D. M. Canright, L. McCoy, D. A. Robinson, William Ostrander.

The Committee on Resolutions began their report as follows:--

1. RESOLVED, That we feel our indebtedness and express our thanks to God for the faithful warnings and reproofs which he is in mercy giving us by his Spirit, and that we will show our appreciation of these testimonies by humbling our hearts before him, and putting away sin from us, that the work of God be not hindered.

WHEREAS, The reports from the various mission fields show that the third angel's message is spreading with a rapidity never known before, and the many

and urgent calls that are coming in show that the fields are white already to the harvest; and--

WHEREAS, The persecution which we have long expected against those that "keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ" is no longer a matter of theory, but is a stern reality; therefore--

2. RESOLVED, That we recognize all these things as evident tokens that the end is very near, and that our time for work will soon close; and that while we thank God for the help which he has given us in the past, and for the privilege of laboring for him, we will be admonished by these tokens to redouble our diligence, and to make renewed and complete consecration of ourselves to God and his cause; and further--

3. RESOLVED, That we tender our hearty Christian sympathy to our brethren who are suffering persecution, and that we urge them, and others upon whom the same things may come, to be in nothing terrified by the adversaries, but to remember that to us "it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake."

WHEREAS, Experience has demonstrated that many of the leading papers in the United States are anxious to secure reports of our general meetings and the many interesting facts connected with the extension of our work throughout the world; therefore--

4. RESOLVED, That each state conference should make arrangements to secure full reports of their large meetings in the leading papers of the state.

5. RESOLVED, That this Conference appoint a committee of three to prepare proper helps, with instructions to our various state conference officers, to assist them in carrying out the above.

6. RESOLVED, That we urge those having our colleges and schools in charge, to arrange for classes where students may have a practical drill in the work of reporting.

7. RESOLVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three who shall prepare, ready for the builder, plans and drafts of meeting-houses of different sizes and of the most approved construction, which can be furnished at the least reasonable cost to our churches everywhere who may wish to build meeting-houses; said committee to hold office during the Conference year.

8. RESOLVED, That we advise all our churches who design to build meeting-houses, to correspond with this committee, and obtain said plans and drafts for building.

Six of the foregoing resolutions were adopted, and the 7th and 8th were referred to the following special committee: L. McCoy, D. M. Canright, A. R. Henry.

WHEREAS, It is not reasonable that ministers should leave the word of God and serve tables, but that they should give themselves continually to prayer and the ministry of the word (Acts 6:2-4); and--

WHEREAS, The time of our camp-meetings is just when they should be in the

best mental and spiritual condition; therefore--

9. RESOLVED, That they should as far as possible be left free from the business of the camp and the work of fitting up the grounds, that they may properly do the work of the ministry at these important seasons.

This resolution was referred back to the committee, and the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

SEVENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 24, 1886

Prayer by Elder E. J. Waggoner. Minutes approved. The regular business being a continuation of the consideration of the report of the Committee on Resolutions, the remaining preambles and resolutions were read as follows:--

WHEREAS, It is exceedingly important that the special instruction to ministers and other workers which is contained in the four volumes of the Testimonies, be carefully and constantly studied by all laborers in the field; and--

WHEREAS, It is impossible for many who are traveling to carry with them more than one volume at a time; therefore--

10. RESOLVED, That we hereby ask the General Conference Committee to arrange for the preparation of a manual composed of extracts from the Testimonies concerning how to present the truth, consecration, manner of life, habits of study, etc., of ministers and missionary workers.

WHEREAS, There are in this country many thousands of Hollanders [Dutch], who are an industrious, frugal, and religiously-inclined people, many of whom are becoming interested in the truths of the Third Angel's Message, and are calling for reading matter; therefore

11. RESOLVED, That we recognize our duty to occupy the field thus opened before us, and that we advise the publication of a paper in the Holland language as soon as the General Conference Committee can secure suitable and competent persons to conduct it.

These resolutions were adopted.

The chair then announced the committee of three called for in resolution 5, as follows: R. A. Underwood, D. M. Canright, G. C. Tenney.

The Committee on Distribution of Labor made the following additional recommendations:--

6. That Elder E. W. Farnsworth accompany Elder Haskell to the British field.
7. That Elder Samuel fulton go to Florida, to labor in that field.
8. That Elder E. E. Marvin go to Tennessee, to assist in that conference.
9. That Elder G. G. Rupert visit British Guiana, and make such visits to

other points during his trip as he deems advisable.

10. That Elder Will D. Curtis, of Kansas, go to Australia.

11. That Elder H. Shultz, of Nebraska, give his time to the German work in the different conferences, under the direction of the General Conference Committee.

12. That Elder J. F. Hanson go to New York City and Brooklyn, to labor among the Scandinavians.

13. That Elder Lewis Johnson go to Chicago, to labor there as much as the needs of the cause demand.

14. That Elder J. H. Cook go to Kentucky at his earliest convenience, to take the place of Elder Rupert.

15. That Elder C. L. Boyd and wife go to South Africa as soon as they can conveniently leave their present field of labor.

16. That Elder D. A. Robinson and wife go to South Africa with Elder Boyd.

17. That Elder John Fulton go to the North Pacific Conference, to labor in connection with Elder Boyd till the latter shall leave for South Africa, and then take Elder Boyd's place in that conference.

All the foregoing recommendations were adopted.

On motion, the chair appointed a committee of three to prepare blanks and take such other steps as may be necessary to put the General Conference Association in a condition to do the business it is designed to accomplish:

A. R. Henry, L. McCoy, H. W. Decker.

On motion, the chair appointed a committee of three to prepare blanks and take such other steps as may be necessary to put the General Conference Association in a condition to do the business it is designed to accomplish:

A. R. Henry, L. McCoy, H. W. Decker.

A motion that the chair appoint a committee of three to issue the Yearbook for 1887, resulted in referring the matter of the Yearbook to the Committee on Resolutions, with instructions to present some recommendation on the subject.

MOVED, by B. L. Whitney, That A. T. Robinson and D. A. Robinson be a committee to canvass the members of the Conference, to ascertain how many copies of the new book, Historical Sketches of the Foreign Missions of the Seventh-day Adventists, will be wanted in the different conferences. Carried.

Adjourned to call of chair.

EIGHTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 29, 1886, 10 A.M.

Prayer by Elder A. S. Hutchins. Minutes approved. The Committee on Distribution of Labor presented a further report, making the following additional recommendations:--

18. That Elder H. Peebles and wife go to Indianapolis to take charge of the mission in that city.

19. That Elder J. M. Rees spend what time he can consistently with his work in Tennessee, in looking after the interests of the cause in North Carolina.

20. That W. C. Sisley and wife go to California, Mrs. Sisley to work in the Healdsburg College.

21. That Elder E. W. Farnsworth and wife remain in Michigan till he goes to the British field with Elder Haskell, Mrs. Farnsworth to take charge of the missionary work in the College.

22. That Elder G. W. Anglebarger and wife go to Atlanta, Georgia, to superintend the new mission to be started in that city.

23. That Richard H. Coggeshall go to Christiana as soon as he can reasonably leave the office in Basle, to stay at least six months, to give instruction in printing and press work.

24. That Ludwig Henrickson, of Western Iowa, go to Norway to assist and give instruction in the colportage and Bible work.

All the foregoing recommendations were adopted.

The treasurer's report was then presented as follows:--

TREASURER'S REPORT

A. R. Henry in account with the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists:--

	Dr.	
To cash on hand November 18, 1885-----	\$ 5,429.07	
To amount received from all sources to November 1, 1886-----	13,080.95	
Total-----		\$18,510.02
By cash paid ministers during year-----	\$13,596.01	
By cash paid for sundries-----	347.53	
Cash on hand to balance-----	4,566.48	
Total-----		\$18,510.02
	A. R. Henry, Treasurer.	

This report was accepted.

Moved, by Elder Rees, That as Elder Samuel Fulton is removed from Tennessee to Florida, Elder E. E. Marvin act on the conference committee of Tennessee in his place. Carried.

Moved, by Elder Rupert, That as Elder Cook is to take Kentucky as his

field of labor, he take the place of Elder Rupert as president of the conference, and also of the Tract Society of that state. Carried.

Moved, by Elder S. Fulton, That Elder Rees take Elder Fulton's place as president of the Tract Society in Tennessee. Carried.

The Committee on camp-meetings and workers' meetings presented the following report:--

Your committee appointed to consider the matter of camp-meetings, would recommend--

1. That the workers' meeting, where practicable, begin on Tuesday.
2. That the camp-meeting committee and manager of grocery and dining hall be on the ground the week previous, to make such preparations as are necessary.
3. That, as far as consistent, all ministers, workers, and delegates, and a large number of our leading brethren and sisters of the conference be on the ground the first day of the workers' meeting.
4. That it will be greatly to the advantage of each conference to secure the services of one or more of the leading ministers of an adjoining conference during the workers' meeting.
5. That the camp be thoroughly organized the first week.
6. That the auditing of all accounts be done during the week of the workers' meeting.
7. That the following be the program during the workers' meeting:--

	A.M.
Rise at-----	5:00
Devotional exercises in large tent-----	5:30- 6:30
Breakfast-----	7:00
Labor-----	7:45-10:30
Instructions-----	10:45-12:15
	P.M.
Dinner-----	1:00
Labor-----	1:45- 5:00
Instructions-----	5:30- 7:00
Retire at-----	8:00

Preaching service Friday evening, Sabbath, and Sunday afternoon and evening.

8. That the camp-meeting proper begin on Tuesday of the second week, and that the usual program be followed, excepting that from 9:30 a.m. to 12 m. the time be devoted to business meetings.

9. That the committee appointed to prepare helps for reporters, also make suggestions for detail work during the meeting.

This report was amended by adding an additional recommendation that the

foregoing recommendations do not apply in cases where conferences hold a two weeks' camp-meeting; and as amended, the report was adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions then presented the following:--

WHEREAS, The people of these foreign nationalities can be most effectually reached by the kind of labor done by these missions; therefore--

12. RESOLVED, That we recommend to those in charge of the city missions, that as fast as possible they introduce a foreign department in their work, making special efforts for the development of the work among those nationalities found in their respective fields.

WHEREAS, In our increasing German work, there exists an urgent demand for a suitable hymn book for the people of that tongue; therefore--

13. RESOLVED, That we recommend the appointment of a committee of five or more, for the preparation of the material for a German hymn book.

An amendment to resolution 13, providing that the hymn book should contain music as well as hymns, was added; and, as amended, the resolutions were adopted.

Adjourned to call of chair.

NINTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 29, 1886, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by Elder J. Fargo. Minutes approved.

The Committee on Resolutions continued to report as follows:--

WHEREAS, It has pleased god to connect with the last message of truth the light of health reform; and--

WHEREAS, Our health institutions and publications have been a means of disseminating the truth upon this important subject, and of leading many to a knowledge of the third angel's message; and--

WHEREAS, Our hearts are filled with gratitude to God for the past success of this work; therefore--

14. RESOLVED, That we will do all in our power that is consistent to advance this branch, and that we will hail with joy all proper efforts put forth to help the suffering millions to the light committed to us upon this important subject.

While this resolution was under discussion, the committee on meeting-houses finding it necessary to present their report, as some of the members were about to leave, the report of the Committee on Resolutions was temporarily laid on the table to make way for said report, which was presented as follows:--

"Your committee beg leave to recommend that the chair appoint a committee

of three, two of whom shall be experienced builders; said committee to obtain by correspondence or otherwise, a description of a reasonable number of the most approved churches among us throughout the country. From these they shall select about a dozen, different in size and construction, which shall be numbered and described in a small pamphlet. Cheap cuts or photographs of the buildings may accompany the description. From these descriptions a society may select a plan which suits them best, and on application to the committee, a draft and specifications of the house, with the probable cost, shall be furnished for reasonable compensation.

"We further suggest that the above-named pamphlet may, for a small charge, contain the addresses of approved carpenters among us in the various conferences. The recommendation of the above-named committee shall receive the approval of the General Conference Committee before being given to the public.

D. M. Canright,
A. R. Henry,
L. McCoy,
Committee."

This report was adopted. The report of the Committee on Resolutions was then taken from the table, and continued as follows:--

15. RESOLVED, That we advise all ministers to pay their tithe, not to the state treasurer, but to the treasurer of the church to which they belong.

This resolution was laid on the table.

16. RESOLVED, That this Conference authorize the chair to appoint a committee of three to prepare a telegraphic code adapted to our work.

WHEREAS, The superficial wearing of gold and costly apparel is not in harmony with the teaching of the Bible; and--

WHEREAS, Our mission workers should be an example to others in this respect; therefore--

17. RESOLVED, That all who connect themselves with our missions should, before going, bring their wearing apparel into harmony with the teachings of the Bible and the Testimonies on this subject.

It was moved to so amend this resolution as to include all workers in the cause, and ministers' wives, and to amend the amendment so as to make it apply to our offices of publication and our schools and colleges. These amendments were both lost. A motion to lay the resolution on the table was also lost.

WHEREAS, In city missions where several laborers are employed, the household duties consume much time; therefore--

18. RESOLVED, That in missions where more than five or six laborers are employed, it is advisable to secure the services of a woman to take the oversight of the various household duties of the mission; the expense of said helper to be paid from the conference funds.

WHEREAS, In some cases unpleasantness and misunderstanding have arisen because unsuitable persons have been advised to go to our city missions as laborers, without first consulting those at the head of the missions, and without being recommended by the proper authorities; therefore--

19. RESOLVED, That those who wish to become laborers in our city missions should first correspond with the one who has charge of the city mission to which they desire to go.

These resolutions were then adopted.

The chair then announced the following committees called for in the foregoing resolutions:--

On German Hymn Book: B. L. Whitney, L. R. Conradi, J. Ertzenberger, H. Shultz, A. Kunz.

On Telegraphic Cipher: U. Smith, A. R. Henry, B. L. Whitney.

The following resolution was then presented by the Committee on Resolutions, and adopted:--

WHEREAS, It has ever been well-pleasing to God, and according to his word, that laborers in his cause should be special subjects of prayer by all believers; and--

WHEREAS, Such special prayer has a twofold good result, in aiding and encouraging the laborers, and in broadening the minds of believers and deepening their interest in the cause; therefore--

20. RESOLVED, That we recommend that all of our people, wherever they may reside, regard Wednesday of each week as a day of special prayer for ministers and missionary laborers in all parts of the wide harvest field.

The Committee on Nominations reported as follows:--

Your committee to present nominations for officers would recommend the following: For president, Elder George I. Butler; for secretary, Elder U. Smith; for corresponding secretary, Mrs. M. J. Chapman; for treasurer, A. R. Henry; for Executive Committee, Elders George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, O. A. Olsen, W. C. White, R. A. Underwood.

This report was adopted. It was then--

MOVED, by B. L. Whitney, That the Constitution of the General Conference be amended by substituting the word "seven" for the word "five," in Section 1

of Article II, designating the number of the Executive Committee. Carried by the three-fourths vote.

MOVED, That the Nominating Committee suggest the two additional members necessary to raise the number of the Committee to seven according to the change of the Constitution just adopted. Carried.

Adjourned to call of chair.

TENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 1, 1886, 10 A.M.

Prayer by Elder E. J. Waggoner. Minutes approved. As Elders Purdham and Huffman were to exchange fields of labor, Elder Purdham resigned his position on the Virginia Conference Committee, and it was--

MOVED, by Elder Neff, That Elder Huffman be placed on the Virginia Conference Committee, which motion prevailed.

On motion, the chair was requested to appoint a committee of nine, himself being chairman of said committee, to consider the wants of our foreign missions, and the relation the Review Office should sustain to them, in a financial point of view.

The following were appointed as said committee: George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, R. A. Underwood, A. R. Henry, J. Fargo, C. L. Boyd, W. C. Sisley, Harmon Lindsay, J. H. Kellogg.

On motion, the chair was requested to appoint a committee of seven to consider the question of how far the General Conference Association shall extend its operations, in taking upon itself the management of property which some desire to place in its hands.

On motion, the chair was empowered to appoint a committee of three to devise some plan to assist worthy young persons to attend our institutions of learning, and through which such persons may be properly looked after while receiving such assistance.

The Committee on Resolutions were requested, by vote, to draft a resolution in reference to the payment of tithes quarterly into the General Conference treasury.

On motion, the chair was requested to appoint a committee of five to make some recommendations in regard to special courses of instruction to close up the long term in our institutions of learning.

The following committees were then announced by the chair:--

On General Conference Association: L. McCoy, Harrison Grant, P. Z. Kinne, C. Eldridge, H. Nicola, D. T. Jones, J. H. Morrison.

On Assisting Persons to Attend Our Schools: W. C. Sisley, B. L. Whitney, A. J. Breed.

On Special Courses of Instruction in Our Schools: S. N. Haskell, U. Smith, D. M. Canright, E. W. Farnsworth, W. C. Sisley.

On motion, the chair was instructed to appoint a committee of five to take into consideration the question whether assistance can be extended to foreign Sabbath-keepers in distressed circumstances.

The following persons were appointed as said committee: B. L. Whitney, J. H. Cook, H. W. Decker, F. D. Starr, M. C. Wilcox.

On motion, the chair was instructed to appoint a committee of five on translations into foreign languages, to insure accuracy in such translations.

Adjourned to call of chair.

ELEVENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 1, 1886, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by Elder R. A. Underwood. Minutes approved.

The committee on translations was announced as follows: U. Smith, B. L. Whitney, F. D. Starr, A. R. Henry, E. J. Waggoner.

The Committee on Distribution of Labor submitted the following recommendations:--

25. That Fannie Bolton and Hattie Annis go to the city of Washington, D.C., to work in that mission.

26. That Elder F. D. Starr, after spending three or four months in obtaining all possible information in the city-mission work, colportage work, and Bible-reading work, go to Basle, Switzerland, to assist especially in the German work.

27. That Elder S. S. Smith, of Wisconsin, go to Alabama to labor in that state and in Mississippi.

28. That Elder C. W. Olds, of Wisconsin, accompany Elder Smith to Alabama, to labor especially in canvassing for our subscription books, and otherwise assisting in the work in Alabama and Mississippi.

29. That Elder T. H. Gibbs go to British Honduras, to look after the work in that field and baptize those who are proper subjects for baptism.

30. That Charles F. Curtis go to Atlanta, Georgia, to work in connection

with that mission.

31. That George A. King accompany Elder Rupert on his trip to British Guiana, to assist him by selling our canvassing books and publications.

32. That J. F. Stureman go to South Africa with Elders Boyd and Robinson, as canvasser and to labor among those who speak the Holland [Dutch] language.

33. That Elder M. C. Wilcox return to the British field, to work in connection with our British paper and publications.

34. That Mary Heileson, in harmony with the request of the European Council, go to Christiana, Norway, to assist in that mission and publishing house.

Elder Boyd asked a little time for consultation on recommendation 32, and it was referred back to the committee for that purpose. All the remaining recommendations were adopted.

The committee on the General Conference Association, to take such steps as may be required to put it into working order, reported, showing that they had attended to the matters committed to them.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following on the Yearbook, according to their instruction:--

21. RESOLVED, That the Yearbook for 1887 contain the following matter: ministers' directory, general directories, reports of the proceedings of the General Conference, International Tract and Missionary Society, General Sabbath-school Association, and of the annual meetings of the publishing houses and educational and health institutions; a report of the European Missionary Council; full statistics of the publishing work; postal guide, and postal rates to foreign countries; constitutions of the General Conference and State Conferences and International Tract and Missionary Society; that the article, "Origin and Progress of Seventh-day Adventists," as published at present, be discontinued, and that in its stead we have a very brief sketch of the time of organization and the present numerical standing of the various conferences; also cuts of all our publishing houses and educational institutions, with brief history of each; that there be inserted a map of the world, on which shall be indicated the location of all our publishing houses, and the head-quarters of our different foreign missions; a sketch of all our foreign missions, and of our various city missions, and a general statement of the present status of our work, with an account of the fulfillment of prophecy in the recent persecution of our brethren in this and foreign countries.

We recommend further, that the societies represented bear a share of the expense of publication, so that the book may be furnished at retail at the nominal price of ten cents.

It was moved to amend by striking out what is said about the persecutions, and inserting in its place the words, "a brief historical sketch of our work during the past year;" and to amend the amendment by providing that if the map

of the world cannot be readily procured, it be omitted.

The amendments were carried, and the recommendations were referred to a committee of five to be appointed by the chair, to carry out the recommendations made.

The committee, according to instruction, presented the following concerning tithes to the General Conference:--

WHEREAS, The General Conference depends for its funds upon the tithes from the state conferences, and it is necessary that means should come in at frequent intervals in order that the work be not hindered; therefore--

22. RESOLVED, That we believe it to be the duty of every conference to pay its tithes quarterly to the General Conference, accompanied by a full report thereof to the General Conference secretary and treasurer; and that we urge all the state conferences so to do.

The following general resolutions were then presented:

23. RESOLVED, That at each camp-meeting at least one service should be devoted to the subject of education, and that at an early date in each meeting a committee should be appointed to canvass the camp for the purpose of encouraging youth to attend our denominational schools.

24. RESOLVED, That all our ministers who are laboring within the bounds of their own conference should pay their tithe to the church of which they are members.

WHEREAS, The "Chart of the Week" about to be issued in enlarged form by Elder W. M. Jones, of London, England, is an incontrovertible testimony to the unbroken continuity of the creation week, an unanswerable argument to the Sunday-seventh-day theory, and a positive proof of the perpetuity of the seventh-day Sabbath, showing that out of more than one hundred and fifty languages and dialects the large majority recognize Saturday as the Sabbath; therefore--

25. RESOLVED, That we express our hearty appreciation of the faithful, painstaking, arduous, and conscientious labors of Elder Jones, and cordially recommend the use of his chart to our fellow-laborers in the great harvest field.

These resolutions were adopted, and the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

TWELFTH MEETING, DECEMBER 5, 1886, 10 A.M.

Prayer by Elder I. D. Van Horn. Minutes approved. Elder R. F. Andrews, having returned from his European field, took his seat in the Conference, and

Elder J. Wilson was received as additional delegate from Iowa.

The committee on deeding property to the General Conference Association, reported as follows:--

"Your committee appointed to take into consideration and report on 'How far the General Conference Association shall extend its operations in taking upon itself the management of property which some desire to place in its hands,' after considering the subject as fully as time and opportunities permit, would submit the following:--

"WHEREAS, We believe it to be for the interests of the General Conference, and in harmony with the wishes of many of our people who want to place their property where it will advance the cause of truth; therefore--

"1. WE RECOMMEND, That the General Conference Association accept of property tendered to said Association in good faith, and secured to it by deeds, wills, mortgages, etc., when such acceptance will, in the judgment of the

Association, be for the interests of our work; and also that it accept and hold in trust property, when it may be for the interests of our people in certain localities and for the cause at large to do so; and further--

"2. WE RECOMMEND, That all persons desiring to make transfers, mortgages, deeds of trust, etc., in favor of the Association, first consult with the Conference Committee of the state in which they live, and that said committee give such advice to individuals, and make such recommendations to the agent of the Association, as may in their judgment be for the interests of all concerned.

L. McCoy

H. Nicola

Harrison Grant

D. T. Jones

P. Z. Kinne

J. H. Morrison

C. Eldridge

Committee."

The committee to suggest ways and means to assist foreign Sabbath-keepers in distressed circumstances, reported through its chairman, Elder B. L. Whitney, as follows:--

"Your committee appointed to suggest a plan for the relief of those who are brought into circumstances of destitution through obedience to the truth, by furnishing these individuals situations where they may obtain employment, would respectfully recommend--

"1. That a Labor Bureau be established at Battle Creek, the managers of which shall be in direct communication with the Mission Boards of our various missions, through whom they shall learn of those deserving of assistance; and with the executive committees of our various conferences, through whom they may ascertain the openings for labor and the possibilities of situations among the brethren of their respective conferences.

"2. That this Labor Bureau shall consist of a committee of three, to be

chosen annually by this Conference. This committee shall be empowered to select a secretary who shall devote such a portion of his time to this work as the business of the Bureau shall demand.

"3. That all applications for the intervention of the Bureau shall be made through the Mission Board of the mission, or the Executive Committee of the conference, in which the individual shall reside. The Bureau should be authorized to exercise its discretion as to the consideration of applications from any other source.

B. L. Whitney,
J. H. Cook,
H. W. Decker,
F. D. Starr,
M. C. Wilcox,
Committee."

The report was adopted.

The nomination of the members to constitute the Bureau, was referred to the General Conference Nominating Committee. The nomination of officers for the General Conference Association was also referred to the foregoing Nominating Committee.

The Committee on Finances reported as follows:--

Your Committee on Finances would respectfully submit the following:--

WHEREAS, The providence of God has opened the way for the proclamation of the third angel's message in all parts of the world, and has provided means for the establishment of foreign missions in Central Europe, Norway, England, and Australia, and for the planting of publishing houses at Basle, Switzerland, and Christiana, Norway; and--

WHEREAS, The International Tract and Missionary Society is in great need of means to carry forward the work in its specific field, in furnishing reading matter in places where for the want of men and means the living preacher at present cannot go, and where an interest has already been awakened; and--

WHEREAS, The Macedonian cry has for years been coming to us from South Africa, South America, British Honduras, and other fields; and--

WHEREAS, We believe that unless we make a speedy and vigorous effort to respond to these earnest appeals for the bread of life, there is danger of the curse of Meroz being pronounced upon us; and--

WHEREAS, This Conference has recommended that ministers, colporters, and canvassers go to these several fields, that a mission be established in South Africa, and that the work be opened in South America and British Honduras; and--

WHEREAS, Some of our brethren in the states of Arkansas and Tennessee have been imprisoned for the truth's sake, and some are now suffering from disease contracted in prison, from which recovery seems improbable, and means are needed to relieve the distress of these men and to appeal a test case to the

Supreme Court of the United States; therefore--

1. RESOLVED, That over \$100,000 are needed the present Conference year, in addition to the pledges already made; and, that the Lord's work be not hindered, that \$50,000 of this sum be raised within the next sixty days.

2. RESOLVED, That the General Conference Committee be invited to prepare a series of appropriate articles for the Review, to be read in all our churches.

3. RESOLVED, That all our churches and companies be recommended to set apart the holiday week as a season of special prayer and supplication to god for the advancement of present truth, both in our own and in foreign lands; that where it is consistent, daily religious meetings be held during this Week of Prayer, and that the General Conference Committee be invited to prepare appropriate readings for each of these meetings.

4. RESOLVED, That all who love the third angel's message, men and women, and children, be recommended to make liberal Christmas donations for the purpose of raising the above-named \$50,000; and that these donations be forwarded to

Review and Herald, Battle Creek, Michigan, through the tract society officers.

5. RESOLVED, That the following-named Sabbaths, December 18, 25, and January 1, be set apart as days of fasting and prayer for all our people, in harmony with God's command recorded in Joel 1:14, 15.

6. RESOLVED, That we heartily approve of the resolution of the Sabbath-school Association to meet the expense of establishing a mission in South Africa, and of supporting the same for the coming year.

7. RESOLVED, That we urge upon all our ministers and various society officers to unite with the people, both by counsel and co-operation, in carrying out each of the above-named plans.

8. RESOLVED, That all our foreign missions be required to make a monthly itemized statement to the General Conference, of all their receipts and expenditures.

9. RESOLVED, That before any moves are made by the missions located in Europe, necessitating the expenditure of any large sums of money, the matter be first laid before the General Conference Committee for their counsel.

George I. Butler
S. N. Haskell
R. A. Underwood
A. R. Henry
J. Fargo

C. L. Boyd
W. C. Sisley
Harmon Lindsay
J. H. Kellogg
Committee.

The report was adopted.

On motion, the pamphlet of H. Wren, on the Sabbath question, was referred to a committee of three, to be appointed by the chair.

The following persons were named as said committee: I. D. Van Horn, S. B. Whitney, M. B. Miller.

A communication was read from Mrs. E. G. White, and the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

THIRTEENTH MEETING, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by Elder Will D. Curtis. Minutes approved. The Committee on Resolutions presented the following:--

WHEREAS, In the rapid extension of the cause we see that system and order are necessary in all branches of the work of God; therefore--

26. RESOLVED, That each conference secretary keep a full account of all money paid out to laborers in his conference; and further, to accomplish this--

27. RESOLVED, That orders on the state treasury pass through the hands of the state secretary before they are sent to the state treasurer.

WHEREAS, In our city missions greater results can be attained by a systematic plan of work and study; therefore--

28. RESOLVED, That we recommend that a daily program be prepared, embodying those features which experience has shown to be most successful; and that such program be faithfully carried out in all our city missions, as far as practicable.

29. RESOLVED, That we give due consideration to the canvassing work at all our camp-meetings.

Resolution 27 was laid on the table, and the remainder were adopted.

On motion, the chair was requested to appoint a committee of three, in addition to the Publishing Committee of the Sabbath-school Association, who should examine the Sabbath-school lessons before they are published.

On motion, the chair was requested to appoint a committee of seven to take into consideration the question of the improvement of the ministry, by examinations and otherwise, as practiced last year.

MOVED, That Mrs. E. G. White and Elder W. C. White be requested to return to this country in season for the spring camp-meetings. This was amended so as to read that they return whenever they feel that it is their duty to return; and, as amended, was adopted.

The following committees were then announced:--

On Sabbath-school Lessons: U. Smith, W. W. Prescott, A. R. Henry.

On Improvement of the Ministry: S. N. Haskell, U. Smith, R. A. Underwood, E. J. Waggoner, D. M. Canright, B. L. Whitney, E. W. Farnsworth.

MOVED, by S. N. Haskell, That the next General Conference be held either

in New England or California.

E. J. Waggoner moved to amend by striking out the reference to New England, confining the appointment for the next meeting to California. As amended, the motion was carried.

The Hymn Book Committee of last year made a verbal report through its chairman, Elder G. I. Butler, and the subject was referred to the Committee on Resolutions, with instructions to present a resolution in reference thereto.

The committee on special courses of instruction in our schools reported as follows:--

1. RESOLVED, That we recommend that a special course of at least three weeks be held at the close of the winter term of school in our colleges and academy, for the benefit of young ministers, licentiates, Bible readers, canvassers, colporters, reporters, and laborers in any branch of the work, or those who may design to become such. Further-

2. RESOLVED, That the special course be not limited to the last three weeks of the school term, but may continue as long after the term of school as is thought advisable, and that this special course be attended with a revival effort.

3. RESOLVED, That the instruction given during this special term be adapted to the above-named classes, and that the best teachers in the field for these several departments be secured.

4. RESOLVED, That we invite the officers in our different conferences to make a special effort to induce all such persons as may be benefited by this instruction to attend this term.

S. N. Haskell,
U. Smith,
D. M. Canright,
E. W. Farnsworth,
W. C. Sisley,
Committee.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Translations reported as follows:--

Your committee to whom was referred the matter of translations of works treating upon our faith, from the English into foreign languages, and the steps necessary to secure accuracy in the same, having had the subject under consideration, would respectfully submit the following report:--

Three things, it has seemed to your committee, are essential to the attainment of the object in view in the matter of accuracy in translations: first, that the translator should have a thorough knowledge of that system of belief which we denominate the "present truth;" secondly, that he should have a thorough knowledge of the English language; and, thirdly, that he should also

be master of the language into which the translation is to be made.

Your committee recognize the difficulty of securing persons in the various foreign nationalities possessed of all these qualifications, and therefore deem it essential that great care should be taken that all translations should be critically examined before being put in type, in order to insure that accuracy so necessary to the proper representation of the truth in these foreign tongues. It is the opinion of your committee that, in order to secure such critics, this

Conference should encourage persons of good mental ability, who already have a thorough knowledge of our views and of the English language, to make a specialty of learning the languages into which it is desirable that our works be

translated. We would therefore recommend--

1. That this Conference select a suitable number of persons, and encourage them to study the leading foreign languages into which it is desirable that our publications be translated, till they become prepared to act as critics in those languages.

2. That to meet the present emergency in the French and German languages, Elder B. L. Whitney be designated to examine the manuscripts of such works as are translated into the French, and Elder F. D. Starr such as are translated into the German.

3. That translations into the Scandinavian languages, except for periodicals, which are made in this country, be examined by the Scandinavian Publishing Committee in Europe, and that those which are made there be examined by the Scandinavian Publishing Committee in America, before they are published. We also recommend--

4. That two persons be selected from the Central European Mission to act in connection with those members of the General Conference Committee who may be in Europe, as a publishing committee, to decide upon what works shall be published from the office at Basle; and that the publishing committee for the Scandinavian work consist of two members located in Christiana and two in Battle creek, who shall act in conjunction with the General Conference Committee. All of which is respectfully submitted.

U. Smith	A. R. Henry
B. L. Whitney	E. J. Waggoner
F. D. Starr	Committee.

The report was adopted, and it was left with the General Conference Committee to select the persons called for in the report to be encouraged in the study of foreign languages.

Adjourned to call of chair.

FOURTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 6, 1886

Prayer by Elder M. C. Wilcox. Minutes approved. The Committee on

Nominations presented the following report:--

For the two additional members of the General Conference Committee:
U. Smith, A. J. Breed.

For Trustees of the General Conference Association: George I. Butler,
A. R. Henry, S. N. Haskell, U. Smith, R. A. Underwood.

To constitute the Labor Bureau: A. R. Henry, C. Eldridge, A. B. Oyen.

Report adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following:--

WHEREAS, In the past the work among the French in this country has not shown that encouraging progress which has been seen among other foreign nationalities; and--

WHEREAS, That are at the present time those of this nationality who are feeling the burden of work for the people of their own tongue; therefore--

30. RESOLVED, That this Conference heartily approve the effort which is being made by several persons to specially qualify themselves for the French work, and that we express the desire that others of this tongue shall be encouraged to devote themselves to the work among their own nationality in this country.

31. RESOLVED, That we recommend that all our French brethren especially interest themselves in the work for their own nation; and that we invite them to co-operate in every possible way for the advancement of this branch of the great work of our message.

WHEREAS, There is connected with the third angel's message the important subject of health and temperance; and--

WHEREAS, There is a lack among many of our people in living up to the light committed to us upon this subject; therefore--

32. RESOLVED, That those commissioned to carry this message should attach more importance to this branch of the work, especially from a Bible stand-point. And--

WHEREAS, Our city mission workers need instruction upon these principles; and--

WHEREAS, The sanitarium is by its position among us a most fitting training school to prepare laborers for this work; therefore--

33. RESOLVED, That we invite Dr. Maxson and wife to go to Brooklyn, New York, to instruct the mission workers there in these principles, and also to obtain an experience in the mission work.

34. RESOLVED, That whenever it is practicable an experienced and competent reporter accompany the General Conference laborers on their camp-meeting tours, for the purpose of conducting the reporting work, and also of giving instruction to those who may be chosen to assist in such capacity.

WHEREAS, The providence of God has seemed, in a special manner, to open the way for distributors to be used in New York City, and for missionary work

to be done in Castle Garden among those of all nationalities; therefore--

35. RESOLVED, That Robert Sawyer and wife be requested to connect themselves with the work in that city.

WHEREAS, In each of our city mission training-schools a necessity exists for a library of encyclopedias, commentaries, Bible histories, and such other books as the workers need for general reference; therefore--

36. RESOLVED, That we recommend that the various conferences controlling said missions furnish them with suitable libraries.

R. A. Underwood,
A. B. Oyen,
E. J. Waggoner,
Committee.

Resolutions 30-34 were adopted. The 35th was referred to the Conference Committee. The 36th was so amended as to include also reference books in the French, German, and Scandinavian languages, as may be necessary. As amended it was adopted.

MOVED, by G. G. Rupert, That the committee appointed to prepare a course of study for the ministry incorporate therein a series of lessons on health and temperance, and that our ministers be examined on these points at the annual session of each State Conference. Carried.

The following resolutions, introduced by Dr. Kellogg, occasioned long and lively discussion, but were adopted:--

1. RESOLVED, That each of our state conferences be requested to appoint one or more persons to devote themselves especially to the health and temperance work; and that these persons be encouraged and assisted to prepare themselves for this branch of our work.

2. RESOLVED, That we recommend that meetings for instruction on the subject of health and temperance be held at each of our camp-meetings.

WHEREAS, The sanitarium is a very important missionary field; therefore--

3. RESOLVED, That we hereby request the General Conference Committee to provide suitable help to carry forward the missionary and religious work of this institution.

The Committee on Credentials and Licenses reported as follows:--

For credentials: George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, O. A. Olsen, W. C. White, R. A. Underwood, A. J. Breed, U. Smith, Mrs. E. G. White, B. L. Whitney, A. B. Oyen, D. T. Bourdeau, A. A. John, J. G. Matteson, E. G. Olsen, M. C. Wilcox, J. H. Durland, A. C. Bourdeau, J. P. Rosqvist, J. O. Corliss, L. R. Conradi, R. F. Andrews, S. H. Lane, M. C. Israel, William Ings, G. G. Rupert, Nahum Orcutt, C. H. Bliss, D. A. Robinson, C. L. Boyd, W. D. Curtis, G. W. Anglebarger, W. H. Saxby, F. D. Starr, E. W. Farnsworth, S. Fulton, T. H. Gibbs, L. P. Hodges, S. H. Kime, H. Shultz, M. Enoch, J. F. Hanson, A. G.

Daniells, Victor Thompson.

For ordination and credentials: J. C. Laubban.

For license: Henry Scott, George R. Drew, N. B. England, L. H. Crisler,
William Baird. S. N. Haskell,
B. L. Whitney,
G. G. Rupert,
Committee.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Sunday Prosecutions reported as follows:--

Your committee appointed to consider the matter of the prosecutions of our brethren in Arkansas, Tennessee, and other states, would respectfully recommend--

1. That the case of J. W. Scoles be appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States.

2. That the General Conference Committee be empowered to employ suitable counsel and take such steps as shall be necessary for the proper management of this test case.

3. That we give the General Conference Committee authority to render assistance to those in distress on account of being persecuted for keeping the Sabbath as far as in their judgment shall seem duty.

4. That the General Conference Committee be empowered to employ a suitable person to bring the facts connected with the persecution of our people for conscience sake, before the general public.

G. I. Butler
S. H. Haskell
J. Fargo
A. R. Henry

R. A. Underwood
E. W. Farnsworth
F. D. Starr
Committee.

The report was adopted.

MOVED, by D. T. Jones, That the matter of advice asked by brethren in Arkansas be referred to the General Conference Committee. Carried.

The following report from the Committee on Distribution of Labor was adopted:--

Your committee on distribution of labor would respectfully submit the further recommendations:--

35. That Elder R. F. Andrews, after spending a reasonable time with his family, labor in the Michigan Conference.

36. That Elder G. H. Rogers, of Kansas, go to Illinois to labor.

37. That Elder I. E. Kimball, of Vermont, go to Halifax, and make Nova

Scotia and New Brunswick his field of labor.

38. That Elder T. H. Purdon act as president in the place of Elder Kimball, after the latter shall have left Vermont.

39. That Elder E. O. Hammond, of Illinois, go to Kansas to labor.

40. That Napoleon Paquette labor in the Province of Quebec among his countrymen.

41. That Daniel Thompson go to New Orleans to labor.

42. That Montana be made a part of the Upper Columbia Conference, and that Elder J. W. Scoles go to that field to labor under the direction of that Conference.

43. That in view of the special difficulties existing in Arkansas on account of the spirit of persecution manifested against our brethren, and in view of the great scarcity of experienced laborers to supply that field, we invite Elder S. H. Lane to return from England to labor in Arkansas, as soon as he can feel that to leave the British field is consistent with duty.

44. That, if the Review and Herald Office can spare him, A. H. Mason go to Basle, Switzerland, to assist in the introduction of a more perfect system of book-keeping there, and to remain till a book-keeper has been educated to keep books for that office.

45. That the matter of supplying lady Bible workers and canvassers be left to the General Conference Committee.

46. That whatever destitute fields remain to be filled, be referred to the General Conference Committee.

George I. Butler

A. J. Breed

S. N. Haskell

Lewis Johnson

R. A. Underwood

M. C. Wilcox

D. M. Canright

Committee.

MOVED, That British Columbia be added to the North Pacific Conference.
Adopted.

On motion, B. F. Bicknell was added to the Vermont Conference Committee.

MOVED, by R. M. Kilgore, That Lewis Johnson be added to the Illinois Conference Committee in place of F. D. Starr. Carried.

MOVED, That A. T. Robinson and William Ings be authorized agents of this General conference to arrange with steamship lines for reduced fare for our laborers who are called to cross the ocean. Carried.

The committee on wants of foreign fields reported as follows:--

Your committee appointed to consider the special wants of foreign fields, having examined the various questions presented to them, respectfully submit the following recommendations:--

1. That the Present Truth be enlarged to sixteen pages, of the same size

and form as Les Signes des Temps, and that it be furnished with a new heading and border.

2. That the general German publishing work now done at the Review and Herald Office be removed to the publishing house at Basle, Switzerland.

3. That the Herold der Mahrheit be issued hereafter semi-monthly instead of monthly.

4. That the Stimme der Mahrheit be changed to a 16-page paper of the same size and style as the Herold der Mahrheit; and that hereafter the two papers take the same name, Herold der Mahrheit, the main portion of the two to be edited and composed at the office in Basle; and that matrices of such pages as are to be used by the Review and Herald be furnished at one half the cost of production, this cost of production to include editing, translating, composition, proof-reading, and making matrices.

5. That matrices of all publications hereafter issued at Basle, be furnished the Review and Herald on the same conditions as matrices for the papers.

6. That the above recommendations pertaining to the German publishing work take effect at the earliest date at which arrangements can be made between the respective offices.

7. That those who accept the truth, and who desire to become laborers in any of these foreign fields, be recommended to spend some time working in connection with experienced laborers before they shall be authorized to go out into the field to labor by themselves.

8. That Elder B. L. Whitney be authorized to act as agent for the General Conference Association at Basle.

With reference to matters in the Scandinavian Mission, your committee would make the following recommendations:--

9. That a loan be secured on the mission property in Christiana, sufficiently large to cover, if possible, the indebtedness, so that a deed may be secured on both the old building and lot and the new building and lot; this loan to be secured for a period of ten years, with a privilege of paying it off before that time if so desired.

10. That the mission property in Christiana be deeded to the General Conference Association, and that Elder O. A. Olsen be the legally authorized agent of the Association to transact such business for it as may be found necessary.

11. That the General Conference Association receive certificates of stock for the amounts invested by the General Conference in the Scandinavian Publishing Association of Christiana, Norway, and that the constitution of said Publishing Association be so revised as to provide for the proper representation of stock by proxy.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

George I. Butler
S. N. Haskell
R. A. Underwood
B. L. Whitney

R. M. Kilgore
A. R. Henry
H. Nicola
Committee.

Report adopted.

The Theological Committee presented the following report, which was adopted:--

WHEREAS, We learn with regret that in some places certain persons have urged the subject of rebaptism as necessary to salvation; and--

WHEREAS, This has caused trouble and division in some churches, and the mind of this body upon that question is asked; therefore--

1. RESOLVED, That upon the subject of rebaptism of those who have been properly baptized before embracing the message, it is the teaching and practice of our people, founded upon the Bible, as we believe, that they be received into our churches without rebaptism if they themselves are satisfied with their former baptism, though it is the privilege of such to be rebaptized whenever they shall desire it, as most of our people do sooner or later; but that it should not be urged upon any one as necessary to salvation.

WHEREAS, Both the Holy Scriptures and the Testimonies of the Spirit represent that unity in the work of God is of paramount importance, setting forth at the same time the grand truth that this message is designed to lead to the unity of the faith; and--

WHEREAS, If this object is to be attained, it is necessary that it be kept constantly in view in our educational institutions and in our periodicals, and that we avoid as far as possible the agitation, in a public manner, of those questions concerning which there may be from any cause a difference of opinion among ourselves, and also avoid the introduction of points of doctrine contrary to the established faith of the body, before they are carefully considered by our leading brethren; therefore--

2. RESOLVED, That this Conference earnestly recommend that the official boards of our schools, our Sabbath-school authorities, and the editors of our papers exercise great care not to permit doctrinal views not held by a fair majority of our people to be made a part of the public instruction of said schools, or to be published in our denominational papers, as if they were the established doctrines of this people, before they are examined and approved by the leading brethren of experience.

George I. Butler	U. Smith
S. N. Haskell	M. C. Wilcox
D. M. Canright	B. L. Whitney
E. J. Waggoner	William Covert
J. H. Morrison	Committee.

MOVED, That that part of the foregoing report referring to baptism be carefully translated and published in the Stimme. Carried.

The committee on assisting individuals to attend our schools reported as follows:--

Your committee to whom was referred the question as to how to aid properly

worthy but needy students in our several educational institutions, present the following report:--

We find that funds for this purpose have been raised in various conferences; but, apparently through lack of united action, they do not appear always to have been used to the very best advantage. We therefore recommend--

1. That all such funds be deposited with the trustees of the institution where they are designed to be used, to be kept separate for the exclusive use of the states from which they come.

2. That only such students be aided from those funds as are recommended by the Executive Committee of the Conference from which they come.

3. That the disbursement of these funds be made under the direction of a committee of three appointed by the trustees of each institution, to whom the students thus aided shall render an itemized account of their expenses.

4. That all money thus furnished shall be considered as a loan, to be paid as soon as the circumstances of the person shall render it possible.

5. That reports be made to the several conferences, stating the amount of money furnished to each individual recommended for aid by them, and giving such other information as may be desirable and proper.

6. That the committee also prepare a yearly report, to be read at the annual meeting of the stockholders, of the amount of means used, number of persons assisted, number helped by the different conferences, and such other information as may be of interest.

7. That persons who render aid directly to needy students be requested to confer with this committee, that as far as possible their means may be worthily used.

W. C. Sisley,
B. L. Whitney,
A. J. Breed,
Committee.

The report was adopted.

The committee on the improvement of the ministry reported as follows:--

1. We recommend that at each annual meeting of the State Conferences a sermon be preached upon this subject; and further--

2. That the General Conference Committee prepare and publish through the Review--

a. Some standard of attainment to be required of those who receive a license.

b. A course of study to be pursued by licentiates before ordination.

c. A course of study in our schools, not to exceed two years, especially adapted to ministers and workers.

S. N. Haskell	D. M. Canright
U. Smith	B. L. Whitney
R. A. Underwood	E. W. Farnsworth
E. J. Waggoner	Committee.

The report was adopted.

The committee appointed to examine theologically H. Wren's book, and to confer with him, reported unfavorably to its circulation, some portions of it being in their opinion of such a character that it would be unadvisable to recommend its distribution.

MOVED, by B. L. Whitney, That a vote of thanks be extended to our minister in Russia for his efforts in behalf of Elder L. R. Conradi; and that the General Conference Committee prepare a paper, to be addressed to our Consul at St. Petersburg, to secure the recognition of our denomination in that country. Carried.

MOVED, That the General Conference Committee be requested to designate the editors for the papers at Basle and Great Grimsby. Carried.

Elder Tenney presented the following resolution:--

RESOLVED, That this body hereby extend their thanks to those papers which have published reports of our meetings; to the railroads which have favored us with reduced rates; to A. R. Henry for his efficient efforts in securing liberal reductions of fare, both to this meeting and to others in the year past; to the Battle Creek Church and Sanitarium for their kind and hospitable entertainment of delegates and visitors during the meeting; and to all who have labored and sacrificed for our welfare and comfort. Adopted.

On motion, the Conference then adjourned sine die.

George I. Butler, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST STATISTICS, 1886

NAME OF CONFERENCE	DATE OF ORGANIZATION	PRESENT NUMERICAL STANDING				
		a	b	Churches	Members	Amount of Conference Funds
California-----	Feb. 15, 1873	14	10	35	1750	\$ 18,628.09
Canada-----	Aug. 16, 1880	1	----	5	137	471.00
Colorado-----	Sept. 26, 1883	2	2	5	200	2,220.90
Dakota-----	Sept. 16, 1880	6	6	22	594	4,864.76
Denmark-----	May 30, 1880	4	----	9	177	418.00
Illinois-----	June 9, 1871	8	7	30	784	6,377.94
Indiana-----	Sept. 20, 1872	8	8	40	1004	5,278.39
Iowa-----	Sept. 20, 1863	14	7	61	1550	9,048.20

Kansas-----Sept. 10, 1875	13	22	45	1701	7,697.27
Kentucky-----May 20, 1876	5	1	6	128	900.00
Maine-----Nov. 1, 1867	4	4	21	430	2,239.87
Michigan-----Oct. 5, 1861	28	24	123	4067	22,985.64
Minnesota-----Oct. 4, 1862	15	10	63	1584	12,210.26
Missouri-----June 2, 1876	7	5	26	707	3,337.55
Nebraska-----Sept. 25, 1878	6	5	31	650	5,200.00
New England-----Aug. 24, 1871	3	6	26	658	6,592.07
New York-----Oct. 25, 1862	10	4	30	820	4,678.82
North Pacific---Oct. 25, 1877	1	5	13	301	2,019.87
Ohio-----Feb. 22, 1863	9	7	43	1090	5,422.51
Pennsylvania----Sept. 17, 1879	7	3	35	743	4,641.22
Switzerland-----May 26, 1884	3	7	15	300	1,598.22
Sweden-----March 12, 1882	2	----	10	250	305.00
Tennessee-----1880	3	1	6	127	728.00
Texas-----Nov. 18, 1878	1	6	12	390	2,043.73
Upper Columbia-----1880	4	1	9	240	2,400.00
Vermont-----June 12, 1863	7	7	17	470	2,720.00
Virginia-----Aug. 5, 1884	3	3	5	120	294.51
Wisconsin-----June 22, 1871	12	3	49	1522	7,861.33

MISSIONS

British-----	5	----	3	122	603.63
General Southern-----	5	2	----	320	650.00
Scandinavian-----	3	----	3	175	500.00
Grand Total-----	213	166	798	23111	\$146,936.78
As given last year-----	186	151	741	20547	122,641.69
Gain-----	27	15	57	2564	\$ 24,295.09

aMinisters.

bLicentiates.

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

November 13, 1887 at Oakland, California

The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists convened for its twenty-sixth annual session, at Oakland, California, at the time appointed, November 13, 1887, at 9 a.m. The meeting was held in the lower rooms of the new Seventh-day Adventist Church, at the corner of Twelfth and Brush Streets. The president, Elder George I. Butler, was in the chair; and the meeting was opened with prayer by Elder O. A. Olsen.

The following-named brethren presented credentials as delegates from the following conferences:--

California: E. J. Waggoner, C. H. Jones, A. T. Jones, J. N. Loughborough, M. J. Church, N. C. McClure, William Healey.
 Nebraska: A. J. Cudney, J. P. Gardiner.
 Kansas: A. G. Miller, J. W. Bagby, Oscar Hill, S. S. Shrock.
 Michigan: A. R. Henry, C. Eldridge, D. H. Lamson, J. H. Kellogg, H. W. Miller, William Ostrander, J. Fargo, W. C. Sisley, E. S. Griggs, F. E. Belden, U. Smith.
 Colorado: J. D. Pegg.
 Wisconsin: A. J. Breed, P. H. Cady.
 Minnesota: G. C. Tenney, H. P. Holser.
 Texas: Henry Hayen.
 Illinois: R. M. Kilgore.
 Ohio: R. A. Underwood, D. E. Lindsey, William Chinnock, J. F. Robbins.
 New York: M. H. Brown.
 Upper Columbia: H. W. Decker.
 Kentucky: J. H. Cook.
 Maine: J. B. Goodrich.
 North Pacific: John Fulton, J. E. Graham.
 England: S. H. Lane.
 Tennessee: J. M. Rees.
 Pennsylvania: J. W. Raymond, L. C. Chadwick.
 Iowa: J. H. Morrison, L. McCoy, L. T. Nicola.
 Dakota: A. D. Olsen.
 Indiana: William Covert, J. P. Henderson.
 New England: A. T. Robinson.

E. W. Farnsworth, J. F. Hanson, Samuel Fulton, W. C. White, J. O. Corliss, A. LaRue, and H. Shultz were members by virtue of employment in the Conference some portion of the past year. The following were afterward received as delegates by vote of the Conference: L. Winston, William Dale, of Kansas; Jesse Woods, John Charles, of Indiana; H. Nicola, I. J. Hankins, of Iowa; Andrew Erskine, of Missouri; G. K. Owen, Robert Sawyer, of Michigan.

The conference in Norway was admitted to the General Conference, with O. A. Olsen as delegate, who was requested to act as delegate also from Sweden and Denmark, the two remaining conferences of the Scandinavian field.

The conference lately organized in West Virginia was also admitted to the General Conference, with R. A. Underwood as delegate.

J. I. Tay was requested to act as a member of the Conference, to represent the work in the islands of the Pacific.

The Conference was thus composed of seventy delegates, representing twenty-six conferences.

The chairman was authorized to appoint the usual standing committees on nominations, resolutions, auditing, religious exercises, distribution of labor, and credentials and licenses.

Before making these appointments, he addressed the Conference at length relative to the present condition and prospects of our cause. The work is onward in every part of the field. Notwithstanding increasing opposition and earnest effort on the part of not a few to throw obstacles in its way and hedge up its progress, there is everywhere a degree of advancement and prosperity.

The question of the Sunday prosecutions was touched upon. Immediate acts of persecution have been restrained, so that none are now laboring under that embarrassment; but the current in favor of enacting stringent Sunday laws is daily increasing, and we are ere long to have greater difficulties to meet in this direction.

The speaker then passed in brief review the work among the Holland [Dutch] people. Remarkable success has attended the Holland paper, the Bible Reader. This has already attained a large list of paying subscribers, and there is a call for reading in the form of books, which are being prepared for them. Fields are opening in South Africa, South America, the West Indies, and our own country, and the outlook is very encouraging.

Remarks were also made upon the publishing work connected with this cause. The great demand for books which has led to the recent enlargement of the publishing houses, both in Battle Creek and Oakland, has been created largely by the canvassing work. This led to instructive remarks upon the canvassing work, and a consideration of the principles upon which alone it can be successfully conducted. In connection with these, a review of the city mission work was presented, and also the work of our foreign missions. The question of finances was spoken upon as a very important one to come before the Conference.

The committees were then named as follows:--

On Nominations: J. Fargo, J. B. Goodrich, J. Fulton.

On Resolutions: U. Smith, W. C. White, O. A. Olsen.

On Licenses and Credentials: R. A. Underwood, R. M. Kilgore, S. H. Lane.

On Auditing: A. R. Henry, D. T. Jones, H. W. Decker, J. H. Morrison, H. W. Miller, J. W. Raymond.

On Religious Services: J. N. Loughborough, L. McCoy, William Ostrander.

It was then moved and carried, That the chair appoint a committee of nine, himself being chairman, to consider the question of the Week of Prayer and the

holiday gifts, and report to this Conference. The following persons were appointed as said committee: G. I. Butler, W. C. White, O. A. Olsen, R. A. Underwood, C. H. Jones, W. C. Sisley, J. H. Cook, J. O. Corliss, and A. J. Cudney.

It was moved and carried, That the chair appoint a committee of three (afterward amended to five) to act with such members of the General Conference Committee as can meet with them, on the distribution of labor. The following were appointed as this committee: G. C. Tenney, E. S. Griggs, J. M. Rees, A. D. Olsen, Samuel Fulton.

On motion, the chair was authorized to appoint a committee of nine to consider the question of training-schools for city mission and canvassing work, and the management of such work.

The secretary requesting some assistance in his department,--

On motion of E. J. Waggoner, G. C. Tenney was elected assistant secretary pro tem.

After pertinent remarks by the chair, upon the importance of punctuality in attendance upon the various meetings, and the necessity of expediting business by the various committees, the Conference adjourned to call of chair. The chairman appointed the next meeting at 2:30 p.m.

SECOND MEETING, NOVEMBER 13, 1887, 2:30 P.M.

Prayer by Elder R. M. Kilgore. Minutes were read, and, after minor corrections, accepted.

Elder A. T. Jones, in behalf of the California delegation, asked the attention of the Conference to the following matter: Referring to a resolution passed by the California Conference at its session of October 7-17, 1887, requesting the General Conference to take into consideration the question of the purchase of a missionary ship for use among the islands of the Pacific, he presented the following:--

An Act to provide for the more efficient transportation of missionaries to the islands of the Pacific Ocean.

WHEREAS, The professed faith of Seventh-day Adventists requires them to carry the message of truth for this generation to all kindreds, tongues, and peoples; and as the islands of the Pacific Ocean are peopled with many thousands who have never heard the tidings of the soon-coming King, and there are no regular means of transportation whereby missionaries may be sent to these islands; and,--

WHEREAS, It is thought be many that the time has fully come in the history

of this work, when these islanders should receive that consideration which shall result in an organized effort to carry them the truth for these days; and believing that our people everywhere stand ready to give substantial assistance to every legitimate project for the spread of the truth; therefore,--

It is recommended by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in conference assembled--

1. That a vessel of suitable size and construction for missionary purposes be purchased or built, and equipped for missionary work among the islands of the Pacific Ocean.

2. That the cost of building and equipping said vessel for a two years' cruise shall not exceed the sum of twenty-thousand dollars (\$20,000).

3. That such a vessel be made ready for service early in the year 1888.

4. That the duly elected officers of this body for the coming year, constitute a committee who shall be empowered to put in execution the provisions of this bill, and also to appoint other persons as their judgment may dictate, to act with them in carrying out the project.

Having presented this, he moved that the matter be referred to a committee of five, to be appointed by the chair, said committee to present some recommendation on the subject to this Conference, which motion prevailed.

The committee of five to consider the question of the purchase or construction of a missionary ship was then announced, as follows: A. T. Jones, C. Eldridge, M. H. Brown, J. O. Corliss, and L. C. Chadwick.

D. T. Jones submitted the following preamble and resolution:--

WHEREAS, It is a matter of the greatest importance that all questions involving important issues should be acted upon only after due deliberation; therefore,--

RESOLVED, That we adopt the following rules to assist in governing our deliberations during this Conference:--

1. All resolutions and reports of committees after their first reading shall, without discussion, be placed upon file, and at a subsequent meeting shall be read the second time, and shall then be open for amendment, discussion, and final action.

2. Important resolutions and reports of committees too long to be retained in the mind, may be printed by order of the Conference, and each member supplied with a printed copy.

3. When immediate action is necessary, these rules may be suspended by a two-thirds' vote of the Conference.

After some discussion, this matter was referred to the Committee on Resolutions; and the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

THIRD MEETING, NOVEMBER 14, 1887, 3 P.M.

Prayer by Elder S. H. Lane. Minutes read and approved.

The committee on the Week of Prayer and the Christmas offerings, made the following report:--

Your committee recommend that this Conference indorse the action of its Executive Committee in appointing a Week of Prayer to be held December 17-25, and offer the following suggestions:--

First, That an address be sent to the officers of the churches, Sabbath-schools, and missionary societies, setting forth the importance of the Week of Prayer, and urging them to work for a large attendance at the meeting appointed on fast-day, when they will also have plans to unfold before the brethren that will secure the co-operation of all the members, so that the following meetings of the week may be a success, and the Christmas offerings may be liberal. In order to accomplish this we recommend that the address mentioned shall urge a special meeting of the officers of the church, Sabbath-school, and missionary society, on Sabbath, December 10, in which they may pray together, and consult as to the best method of procedure.

Secondly, We also recommend that a circular letter be published in the Review and Herald, and be read in the churches on December 10, setting forth the objects and importance of the Week of Prayer.

Thirdly, We further recommend that the following articles be prepared, to be read in each church during the Week of Prayer:--

1. A reading for fast-day, December 17, setting forth the importance of devoting the Week of Prayer to the special work of seeking God.
2. Sunday, December 18: Steps by which we place ourselves in a condition where God can accept us.
3. Monday, December 19: The blessing of God, brought to us through faith, and the value of such an experience.
4. Tuesday, December 20: The object of God's blessing, and how it can be retained.
5. Wednesday, December 21: Missionary work in the home, church, and neighborhood.
6. Thursday, December 22: Foreign missionary work in great Britain and Scandinavia.
7. Friday, December 23: Foreign missionary work in Central Europe, Russia, etc.
8. Sabbath, December 24: The obligation, privilege, and blessing of giving; also setting forth the branches of the work most in need.

Fourthly, We still further recommend that the delegates composing this Conference do all in their power to enlist the interest and secure the co-operation of the ministers in their several fields of labor, to help forward this work.

On motion to adopt, each item of this report was carefully considered.

An amendment was offered that the same matter provided for in this report, be translated into German, for the use of our German churches. Another amendment was offered that Elders Shultz, Shrock, and Holser attend to the preparation of this matter for the Germans. Both amendments were carried, and the report was then adopted.

It was then moved and carried, That the chair appoint a committee of five to carry out the foregoing recommendations. He immediately named W. C. White, O. A. Olsen, R. A. Underwood, J. O. Corliss, and W. C. Sisley as said committee.

The Committee on Resolutions reported as follows on the matter referred to them at the preceding meeting:--

With reference to the resolution presented by D. T. Jones, relative to rules of order for the government of our deliberations, which was referred to the Committee on Resolutions, we beg leave to submit the following recommendation:--

We recognize the principle involved in the rules suggested, as a good one, but fear that, if carried out as proposed, it would often occasion unnecessary delay in our proceedings; therefore, to secure the often desirable privilege of having more time to consider important nominations, resolutions, or motions, and at the same time not to embarrass the proceedings by unnecessary delays, we recommend that the following rules be adopted in place of the ones previously submitted:--

1. When matters are before the meeting upon which it would seem desirable that more time be given for thought or investigation, it shall be the privilege of any member to request such subject to be deferred to the next meeting, and on such request, no objection being offered, the subject shall be deferred without debate or motion, and at the next meeting shall come up as unfinished business.

2. When objection is offered, the request to defer may be overruled by a two-thirds' vote, and the question be acted upon immediately.

3. No question can be more than twice deferred under this rule.

Respectfully submitted,

Signed,
Committee on Resolutions.

This report was adopted.

On motion, the chair was requested to appoint a committee of eleven, himself being one, to take into consideration the question of raising means to meet the wants of the different branches of the work, and the whole financial problem connected with the advancement of our cause.

The chair requested a little time for the selection of this committee; and the Conference adjourned to such hour as he should call them together again.

FOURTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 15, 1887, 3 P.M.

Elder E. J. Waggoner opened the meeting with prayer; and the Conference approved the minutes of the preceding meeting.

The chairman announced the Committee on Finances as follows: G. I. Butler, J. H. Kellogg, A. R. Henry, J. Fargo, J. H. Morrison, R. M. Kilgore, W. C. White, O. A. Olsen, R. A. Underwood, M. J. Church, J. P. Gardiner.

Reports from laborers in foreign fields being made the order of the meeting, W. C. White spoke of the work in the Central European field. The workers there are of good courage; their efforts have been blessed in the conversion of souls, and the plans of those who have had charge of the work in that locality have been greatly extended during the past year and a half. This field embraces Switzerland, Germany, France, Italy, etc. The workers may be increased without increasing the call for means from this country. The outlook is very hopeful.

O. A. Olsen spoke of the Scandinavian work, embracing Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. He has met with less difficulty than he anticipated, and the success attending the efforts put forth has been far beyond his expectations. Denmark has nine churches of seventh-day observers; Norway, four; and Sweden, ten. The aggregate membership of the three conferences is 810. They have found it difficult to furnish from their office of publication, books in sufficient quantities to meet the orders of canvassers. The work in this branch is self-sustaining; and the speaker had only words of courage and good cheer to offer concerning the cause there.

S. H. Lane spoke in regard to the work in England, which has now been in progress about nine years, and with which he has been connected some two years. He briefly recapitulated the work that has been done there, and related some interesting incidents which have occurred in connection with the progress of the cause in that field. There are four churches and 115 members, with enough isolated observers of the seventh day to bring the whole number up to 185. He was certain that a great work is to be done in the British Isles in the near future.

J. O. Corliss spoke respecting the work in Australia. There are three churches and 150 observers of the seventh day there. He gave many interesting statements concerning the peculiarities of that field, and suggestions in reference to the further prosecution of the work there.

The remarks of all were full of interest, and the Conference was well entertained during the meeting.

On motion, the chairman appointed a committee of three, consisting of W. C. White, A. R. Henry, and C. H. Jones, to take into consideration the subject of the Yearbook for 1888, and to suggest a plan for its publication.

W. C. White requesting to be released from the Committee on Resolutions, on account of so many other pressing duties, his request was granted, and E. J. Waggoner appointed in his place.

Adjourned to call of chair.

FIFTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 16, 1887, 3 P.M.

P. H. Cady led in prayer. Minutes approved.

Reports from missionaries being continued, S. Fulton spoke of the work in Florida, where he has been laboring the past year. He thinks Florida a good field, on account of the large influx of visitors during the winter months. Some striking conversions from this class have already taken place. The summers there are not so oppressive as in some portions of the North, on account of the ocean and gulf breezes, and the summer is a more favorable time to use the tent than the winter, when a stove would be needed much of the time. Four places have been entered, and between sixty and seventy conversions have taken place.

The chairman spoke in regard to the work in Alabama and Mississippi.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following partial report:--

Your committee appointed to consider what subjects should come before this Conference in the form of resolutions, would respectfully submit the following:--

WHEREAS, There has been, during the past year, steady and tangible progress in all departments of our work, notwithstanding increased obstacles thrown in its way, and more active opposition than heretofore on the part of those who desire to hinder its progress; therefore,--

1. RESOLVED, That we recognize in this prosperity an evident token of God's willingness to respond to the prayers and efforts of his people, and a prophecy that his counsel will guide, and his hand defend, this his work in the future.

WHEREAS, The increasing demands for our publications have rendered it necessary that both the Central and Pacific Publishing Associations should increase their facilities by enlarging the offices of publication at Battle

Creek and Oakland to nearly double their former capacity; therefore,--

2. RESOLVED, That we commend the prompt action of the managers of both these Associations, in making this provision to meet the demands for our books and periodicals; and we regard this great increase in the circulation of our literature as cheering evidence that this message is soon to arrest the attention of this generation.

3. RESOLVED, That we hail with pleasure the addition to our other periodicals, of a paper in the Holland [Dutch] language; and we are particularly grateful to God for the success which has so far attended its publication, and for the marked progress of his work among that people.

WHEREAS, The great religio-political crisis in which will be involved the last conflict between truth and error, is even now overshadowing our land; and,--

WHEREAS, In these troublous times the Lord by the prophet (Dan. 12:1) has assured protection to those only whose names are written in the book of life, and whose robes are washed in the blood of the Lamb; and,--

WHEREAS, The success of the cause of truth depends not upon human efforts, but solely upon the power of God,--which power can be secured only by bringing ourselves into such harmony with his will that we may become partakers of the divine nature; therefore,--

4. RESOLVED, That we will, by the help of God, strive as never before to heed the injunction of the Scriptures, "Be ye holy; for I am holy," and so separate ourselves from all sin and impurity of heart and life, that the divine counsel may guide, and the divine power attend, all our efforts.

WHEREAS, The General conference Association is a legally incorporated organization, capable of holding property and transacting business in any part of the world, and is therefore the proper body to look after the financial interests of all our missions, and other pioneer enterprises; and,--

WHEREAS, This Association, in order to do the important work it is designed to accomplish, must have funds; therefore,--

5. RESOLVED, That we recommend those who have means to donate to the general advancement of the cause, or money which they can loan temporarily, without interest, to deposit such means with this Association, rather than with any other of our institutions which are more local in their designs and operations.

WHEREAS, The opening of missions in foreign lands involves much expense, and is attended with many difficulties; therefore,--

6. RESOLVED, That we hail with much gratitude the progress of the work in the different countries of Europe, as seen in the organization of four conferences, the establishment of three offices of publication, and the large interest that has been awakened all over Europe.

7. RESOLVED, That we approve of the efforts made in Central Europe, Scandinavia, and Great Britain in holding mission schools for the purpose of educating canvassers and colporters; and we hereby express our gratitude for the success of the canvassing work in those countries, as a potent means of bringing the truth before the masses.

8. RESOLVED, That we approve of the removal of the office of publication

in England from Great Grimsby to London, and the opening of a depot for our publications in Paternoster Row; and we bid the mission workers there Godspeed in their efforts to establish the cause on a firm basis in the very heart of the English-speaking world.

9. RESOLVED, That a standing committee of five be appointed by the chairman, to confer with other committees which should be appointed in the various conferences, in reference to the defense of those who may suffer persecution under oppressive Sunday laws, and also to direct in efforts that may be needed in various states to oppose the passage of such Sunday laws.

Signed, Committee on Resolutions.

On motion to adopt, many interesting remarks were made on the subjects introduced, especially on resolution four, with its preambles. Resolution five was deferred to a subsequent meeting for a more full presentation of the subject.

The consideration of resolution nine was not reached when the hour of adjournment arrived.

Adjourned to call of chair.

SIXTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 17, 1887, 3 P.M.

After singing, prayer was offered by the secretary. Minutes read and approved.

The discussion of resolution nine pending at the last adjournment, was taken up. A. T. Jones spoke at some length in reference to the character of the work being done by the National Reform Association, and the attitude we should take in reference to it. As Protestants we should oppose the enactment of all Sunday laws. When we assent to the enactment of Sunday laws, even those which make exceptions in our favor, we recognize the right of Sunday legislation. All Sunday laws are oppressive. There should be protest-ants once more. Christ separated from the civil government all that pertained to our duty to God. The speaker gave quotations from prominent members of the association, showing the deceptive nature of its work, that it is committed to the proposed measures of the papacy, and the real attitude of the National Reform party toward Seventh-day Adventists, and their relation to Seventh-day Baptists. The question was further spoken to by E. J. Waggoner, who anticipated the deceptive work of Spiritualism and infidelity in connection with the popular movement in favor of Sunday laws; also by L. T. Nicola, R. M. Kilgore, D. H. Lamson, D. T. Jones, J. M. Rees, S. H. Lane, and E. W. Farnsworth.

The remarks and questions were pointed and interesting, and served to shed much light upon the evidences of the rapidly approaching crisis which awaits

the truth of God and the people of this generation; and the machinations of those who are the willing or unwilling agents of the enemy of truth and religious freedom.

The chairman proposed to the Conference the practical question as to what would be duty for Sabbath-keepers in places where stringent Sunday laws exist, in reference to working or refraining from work upon the first day of the week. It was suggested by the chair that steps be taken to bring out a proper answer to this question.

It was voted that the chair appoint a committee of nine, to whom shall be referred the consideration of the question involved in resolutions four and nine, and an arrangement for a class discussion of the whole question, and the preparation of such a statement of the subject as will properly define the position which Sabbath-keepers should occupy in the various contingencies which may arise under the enforcement of Sunday laws. The chair appointed as said committee, U. Smith, A. T. Jones, E. J. Waggoner, L. McCoy, D. T. Jones, J. M. Rees, J. N. Loughborough, E. W. Farnsworth, and A. R. Henry.

The question of adoption of all resolutions discussed, except those deferred, being placed before the meeting, it was unanimously carried.

Adjourned to call of chair.

SEVENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 18, 1887, 3 P.M.

Prayer by Elder J. H. Cook. Minutes read and approved.

The Committee on Distribution of Labor made the following recommendations:--

1. That S. H. Lane take charge of the work in Florida and Georgia.
2. That O. C. Godsmark accompany Elder Lane to this field of labor.
3. That a conference be organized, embracing the states of Florida and Georgia, at as early a date as may be consistent.
4. That J. M. Rees continue to have charge of the work in North Carolina, devoting as much of his time to that field as can be spared from his duties in Tennessee.
5. That J. P. Henderson, of Indiana, be recommended to go to Arkansas, to make that his field of labor.
6. That Victor Thompson make Indiana his field of labor.
7. That G. G. Rupert labor in Michigan, as the committee of that conference may direct.
8. That G. C. Tenney spend three or four months in the office of the Pacific Press, in the editorial and subscription book department, and then

proceed to Australia to engage in the publishing work there.

9. That A. D. Olsen take the place in Minnesota made vacant by G. C. Tenney.

10. That W. B. White, of Minnesota, take the place in Dakota made vacant by A. D. Olsen.

11. That J. W. Raymond act as president of the Pennsylvania Conference and Tract Society; and that L. C. Chadwick take the place on the Conference Committee made vacant by Elder Raymond.

12. That D. E. Lindsey, of Ohio, labor in Delaware and Maryland.

13. That in view of his state of health, E. H. Gates, of Ohio, labor in Colorado, and act as president of that conference.

14. That C. P. Haskell go to Ohio to labor, and fill the position on the conference committee made vacant by the removal of Elder Gates.

15. That R. A. Underwood act as president of the Ohio Tract Society.

16. That Samuel Fulton labor in the North Pacific Conference.

17. That E. W. Farnsworth be released from the recommendation that he go to England, which was adopted at the last session of this Conference.

18. That J. M. Erickson remove to Sweden, and make that his field of labor.

19. That C. Norlin labor in Wisconsin the coming year.

20. That H. R. Johnson take the lead of the Scandinavian work in Iowa and South Dakota.

These recommendations were duly considered, and separately adopted, except Number 12, which, at Elder Lindsey's request, was referred back for further consideration.

Adjourned to call of chair.

EIGHTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 20, 1887, 9 A.M.

Prayer by E. S. Griggs. Minutes read and approved.

The Committee on Nominations presented the following:--

For president, George I. Butler; secretary, U. Smith; corresponding secretary,* Mrs. M. J. Chapman; treasurer, A. R. Henry; Conference Committee, George I. Butler, W. C. White, S. N. Haskell, O. A. Olsen, R. A. Underwood, U. Smith, R. M. Kilgore.

The report was adopted as a nomination simply.

MOVED, by W. C. White, That the Constitution of the General Conference be so amended as to provide for a foreign mission secretary, a home mission secretary, and an educational secretary. Carried.

*W. H. Edwards, Battle Creek, Michigan, was subsequently appointed to this

position by the General Conference Committee.

R. A. Underwood spoke of the enterprise started at Mount Vernon, Ohio, in establishing a health institute; and referring to the advantages which he thought might accrue therefrom to the cause in Ohio, and at large, in favor of the health and temperance movement, he asked the Conference to interest itself in the providing of suitable physicians to take charge of the same. D. E. Lindsey offered a few remarks in behalf of the same enterprise.

MOVED, by R. A. Underwood, That the chair appoint a committee of seven to take this matter into consideration, and to make such recommendations to this Conference as in their judgment may seem best. Carried.

The following brethren were named as this committee: R. A. Underwood, J. H. Kellogg, J. N. Loughborough, A. R. Henry, J. Fargo, William Covert, and J. W. Raymond.

By vote, the Nominating Committee were instructed to nominate the three secretaries called for in the preceding vote on a change in the Constitution.

The Committee on the Yearbook submitted the following report:--

WE RECOMMEND, That the size, style, general arrangement, and contents be the same as last year, with the following changes and additions:--

1. That the sketches of our different institutions, missions, etc., be grouped under one main head, with appropriate sub-heads, the main head to be, "Progress of the Work During the Year 1887;" that the reports on organization, etc., be brief, but specifying minutely the changes and improvements that have been made during the past year, and the advance steps that have been taken.

2. That the book contain the articles of incorporation of the General Conference Association, the Act under which it was incorporated, its constitution and by-laws, together with a statement of the object and scope of the Association.

3. That the headings under "General Directory," etc., be set in bolder type than last year.

4. That the running title state as nearly as possible the contents of the page.

WE FURTHER RECOMMEND, That a committee of three be appointed to collect reports and take charge of this work, and to push it forward to an early completion; that the societies represented bear a share of the expense of publication, so that the book can be furnished at retail at the nominal price of ten cents. That the book be published at the Review and Herald Office, Battle Creek, Michigan.

We would suggest that F. E. Belden, G. W. Morse, and M. J. Chapman constitute said committee.

Your committee would also suggest the propriety of having some person or

persons appointed to engage in gathering up reports, statistics, etc., for the Yearbook for 1889, so that there may be no delay in its publication.*

*The following named persons were subsequently appointed to act in this capacity during the year 1888:--

F. E. Belden, W. C. White, H. P. Holser, G. W. Morse, M. A. Steward.

This report was amended, making provision for instruction to be given in reference to deeding property to the General Conference Association.

MOVED, That the Yearbook for 1888 be issued by January 1, and that an edition of 10,000 be issued, and proportioned to the tract societies. The motion was lost.

The treasurer presented his report as follows:--

RECEIPTS

Cash on hand, November 1, 1886-----	\$ 4,566.48	
Received to October 31, 1887-----	15,923.50	
Total-----		\$20,489.98

EXPENDITURES

Paid to ministers-----	\$18,499.68	
Paid for sundries-----	739.69	
Total-----		\$19,239.37
On hand October 31, 1887, to balance-----		\$ 1,250.61

Meeting adjourned to call of chair.

NINTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 22, 1887, 10:30 A.M.

Prayer by Elder O. Hill. Minutes approved.

The Committee on National Reform reported through their secretary, A. T. Jones. As the committee had not completed their work, the report was only a report of progress. Sister White followed with an instructive address. Remarks were also made by A. T. Jones, L. McCoy, M. J. Church, and E. J. Waggoner.

The Committee on Distribution of Labor made the following additional recommendations:--

21. That we recognize the good services of A. LaRue in the ship missionary work on the Pacific Ocean and its islands, and that he continue in the same.

22. That H. P. Holser go to Central Europe to act as treasurer of the mission publishing house, and to take charge of the book sales department and the counting-room; to teach canvassers, colporters, and Bible workers; to help in the general work and in the field, as he may have opportunity; and also to act on the Mission Board as alternate in the absence of B. L. Whitney.

23. That A. Barry, of Kentucky, go to Michigan, to labor in that conference.

24. That D. A. Robinson go to London, to labor in that mission.

These recommendations were adopted, and the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

TENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 22, 1887, 4 P.M.

Prayer by Elder R. M. Kilgore. Minutes approved.

The Committee on Distribution of Labor continued their report, as follows:--

25. That I. J. Hankins go to South Africa, to take the place in the mission there made vacant by the removal of D. A. Robinson.

26. That William Arnold, now in Australia, go to England to help in establishing the canvassing work there.

27. That John fulton and wife be requested to spend a year at the Rural Health Retreat, at St. Helena, California.

28. That Samuel Fulton take the place made vacant in the North Pacific Conference by the removal of John Fulton to St. Helena.

29. That D. T. Bourdeau go to New Orleans, and spend the winter in labor in that city.

These recommendations were all adopted.

The committee on the missionary ship reported as follows:--

Your Committee appointed to consider the matter of securing a ship for missionary work among the islands of the sea, would respectfully submit the following report:--

We believe that such a ship is needed; we deem the enterprise a noble one, and well worthy of the support of all our people; but i view of the fact that some of our missions are now in actual distress for means which they must have in order to do properly the work which must be done; and as the International Sabbath-school Association has devoted its contributions for 1888 to the London Mission, and as it would be most profitable to our people that all should take part in the missionary ship enterprise when it is decided upon; therefore,--

WE RECOMMEND, That the enterprise of setting afloat a missionary ship be postponed till the next annual session of the General Conference.

WE WOULD FURTHER RECOMMEND, That a committee of five, consisting of three brethren from east of the Rocky Mountains, and two from the Pacific Coast, be appointed to take charge of this matter during the year 1888, to report at the next annual session of this Conference; and further, that donations to this enterprise may be received during the year, from any who feel disposed to make such donations.

After a series of lively remarks and propositions, the report was adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following:--

WHEREAS, Our increasing publishing interests in different parts of the world are in reality but one, whose object is to extend the glorious truths of the Third Angel's Message; and,--

WHEREAS, United counsel and concert of action relative to the production of our publications is necessary to insure willing and harmonious efforts on the part of our people to extend their circulation, and also that God's Spirit may abundantly attend the work in the future; therefore,--

10. RESOLVED, That an International Publishing Committee, for the coming year, be chosen by this Conference, consisting of thirteen persons, whose duty it shall be at this session of the Conference, and as often thereafter as possible during the year, to confer together relative to the general interests of the publishing work as a whole, the improvement of our subscription books in particular, and the advisability of issuing other works that are suggested as necessary in the canvassing field.

11. RESOLVED, That we suggest the names of the following persons as members of this committee for the year 1888, the first to act as chairman of the committee:--

For Central Europe, W. C. White; Scandinavia, O. A. Olsen; Review and Herald, A. R. Henry, C. Eldridge; Pacific Press, C. H. Jones, E. J. Waggoner; Health Publishing Co., J. H. Kellogg; South Lancaster Academy Press, A. T. Robinson; Salesmen, E. M. Morrison, F. E. Belden; Field at Large, E. W. Farnsworth, D. T. Jones, L. C. Chadwick.

WHEREAS, There is a great lack of uniformity of closing the reports presented to the Auditing Committee, which causes such committee much labor and perplexity, and opens the way for injustice to be done either to the Conference or to those laboring in its employ; therefore,--

12. RESOLVED, That the General Conference year begin October 1 and terminate September 30 of each year, and that hereafter all reports of labor and bills of expense close at the latter date.

WHEREAS, There is a great lack of uniformity in making out reports; and,--

WHEREAS, Facts are frequently omitted which are essential to an intelligent and satisfactory audit; therefore,--

13. RESOLVED, That a blank be prepared and furnished to each employee of

the general conference, in time for his annual report; and we recommend further that a circular letter accompany each blank, giving ample instruction for filling out the same.

14. RESOLVED, That the president of the General Conference is hereby empowered to appoint a committee of three to carry into effect the provisions of the two preceding resolutions.

These resolutions coming up in the ordinary way for discussion, after some remarks on resolution ten, it was referred to a committee of five, to be appointed by the chair, and the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

This committee was subsequently named as follows: U. Smith, W. C. White, O. A. Olsen, F. E. Belden, and R. A. Underwood.

ELEVENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 24, 1887, 3 P.M.

Prayer by Elder H. Nicola. Minutes approved.

The regular business being the consideration of the report of the Committee on Resolutions, resolutions thirteen and fourteen were discussed, and laid on the table.

The Committee on Resolutions reported further, as follows:--

WHEREAS, With our present plan of auditing, the time of several delegates is occupied for a large part of each session with merely clerical work, and the time of the session is too short to allow them to do the auditing in a manner satisfactory to themselves; therefore,--

15. RESOLVED, That this Conference authorize the president to appoint the Auditing and Finance Committees a sufficient length of time before any session of the Conference to allow them to do at least the greater part of their work before the beginning of the session; and, further,--

16. RESOLVED, That in order to carry out the provisions of the above resolution, we recommend that each state send a list of its delegates to the president by the first of September preceding the Conference session.

WHEREAS, The different parts of our work are so connected, and the state conferences and local institutions are so related to the General Conference and the work at large as to make our work one individual whole; and,--

WHEREAS, The counsels of the president of the General Conference, who has the oversight of the whole work, with the officers of the state conferences and local institutions, are indispensable to unity of plan and harmony of action in all places and in all departments of the work; and,--

WHEREAS, Local cares and responsibilities placed upon the president will not only overburden him, and deprive the Conference prematurely of his valuable services, but will also deprive other conferences and local institutions, equally needy and equally deserving, of his oversight and counsels;

therefore,--

17. RESOLVED, That this Conference respectfully but emphatically protest against overburdening the president of the General Conference with cares and responsibilities of state conferences and local institutions, thus endangering his health and drawing his attention from the general work.

Resolutions fifteen and sixteen were laid upon the table. Resolution seventeen was lost.

Adjourned to call of chair.

TWELFTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 15, 1887, 12 NOON

Prayer by Elder J. F. Hanson. Minutes approved.

The Committee on distribution of Labor further reported, as follows:--

30. That W. B. White act as president of the Dakota Sabbath-school Association.

31. That we renew the recommendation that D. E. Lindsey go to Maryland and Delaware.

32. That J. E. Swift, of New York, go to Ohio, to labor in the Cleveland Mission.

33. That the province of New Brunswick be united to the Maine Conference.

34. That J. F. Hanson labor in San Francisco and elsewhere in California, under the direction of the California Conference Committee.

35. That Wyoming Territory be united to the Colorado Conference.

36. That E. Hilliard go to Minnesota as soon as the General Conference Committee can relieve him from the work in New Orleans.

37. That as soon as convenient, Carrie Irwin change her field of labor from New Orleans to the Washington Mission.

38. That O. A. Johnson, of Nebraska, visit Montana next summer, and engage in tent labor if the way should open.

39. That G. E. Langdon, of Nebraska, go to New Zealand, to labor in connection with Elder Daniells.

40. That J. E. Robinson, of Pennsylvania, go to labor in the Brooklyn Mission, under the direction of A. T. Robinson.

41. Inasmuch as the San Francisco Church has presented to this committee an urgent request for help in that city, we recommend that the California Conference Committee take this matter into favorable consideration, and do all that may seem consistent in supplying ministerial help for missionary work in this important city.

42. That Jacob Reiswig,* of Dakota, go to Colorado for his health.

*Deceased.

These recommendations were duly considered and adopted.

The committee appointed to present recommendations for a general book committee being called upon, submitted the following:--

WHEREAS, Our growing publishing interests in different parts of the world are one in purpose, and should ever be united in action; therefore,--

RESOLVED, That this Conference elect a standing committee of thirteen persons for the coming year, to be known as the Book Committee, whose duty it shall be to labor for the improvement and wider circulation of our denominational literature.

RESOLVED, That it shall be the duty of this committee to hold a meeting in the spring, and another in the fall of the year, at the most convenient place for a majority of the committee to meet.

RESOLVED, That questions as to the establishing of new printing offices, the duties and privileges of the smaller offices now in operation, all questions that may arise between our publishing associations or general agents, shall be referred to this committee, whose decisions, after receiving the approval of a majority of the General Conference Committee, shall be considered as the voice of this people.

RESOLVED, That the members of this committee for the coming year be nominated by the Nominating Committee of this Conference.

U. Smith,
W. C. White,
O. A. Olsen,
F. E. Belden,
R. A. Underwood,
Committee.

This report was adopted, and the Conference adjourned to call of chair.

THIRTEENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 16, 1887, 7 P.M.

Prayer by Elder A. T. Robinson. Minutes approved.

The Committee on City Missions reported as follows:--

Your committee appointed to consider the general interests of the city missions and canvassing work, respectfully submit the following report:--

WHEREAS, The growth and importance of the city mission and general Bible work demand that broader and more careful plans be laid for carrying it forward; therefore your Committee recommend--

1. That the managers of our educational institutions located at Battle Creek, Healdsburg, and South Lancaster, secure in the Biblical and Missionary Departments more thorough instruction in the manner of preparing, and in METHODS of giving, Bible readings.

2. That the teachers in said departments spend a portion of each year at one of our principal city missions, to gain a practical experience in and knowledge of Bible work.

3. That as far as possible, all who would enter city missions, should first attend one or more terms of preparatory instruction in one of our educational institutions.

4. That each of the following conferences conduct a city mission training-school, so as to accommodate workers from other conferences that may be selected to receive a thorough preparation in all branches of this work; namely, New England, Michigan, Illinois, and California; and that these schools begin courses of instruction, and receive students, January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1, of each year, unless in exceptional cases where other arrangements are deemed advisable.

5. That only such persons be sent to these schools as the various state conference committees shall recommend after consultation with the mission director, and that they shall pass a satisfactory examination before an examining board of three, two to be appointed by the General Conference Committee to act with the mission director.

6. That the conferences from which these individuals are sent become responsible for their support pro rata, not covered by profits on PUBLICATIONS sold by them while at the school, until such time as the director and state conference committee shall deem it advisable to remove them for whatever cause, or make other arrangement for their support in case they remain at the mission.

7. That mission training-schools should not be started without competent persons to manage them, and that in all cases the General Conference Committee should be consulted as to the establishment of new training-schools, or the continuance of those already started. And further, that in conferences where it seems advisable, training-schools or institutes be conducted during three months of the year.

8. That the Home Mission Secretary arrange the program for such institutes, and provide the necessary help by advice of the General Conference Committee.

9. As experienced managers and thorough workers are few, and as missions are a financial burden, and, if not properly conducted, may result in injury to the cause; therefore, caution should be exercised in establishing city missions.

10. That the Home Mission Secretary devote his time principally to the furtherance of the city mission work during the coming year, both by visiting the missions and by awakening an interest among our people generally in behalf of the Bible work.

WHEREAS, The steps which have been already taken to systematize the canvassing work have resulted in great good; and,--

WHEREAS, The present status of the work demands that still further steps be taken in this direction; therefore,--

RESOLVED, That the General Conference Committee appoint an agent who shall

work in the general interests of the canvassing work in the United States.*

*F. E. Belden was subsequently appointed.

RESOLVED, that said general agent shall arrange for institutes especially in the interests of the canvassing work, at such places as may be selected by the General Conference Committee and conference committees of those states interested.

This report was adopted.

The Committee on National Reform reported as follows:--

The preamble and resolution referred to us, we would resubmit with our approval, and in addition to this would present the following:--

WHEREAS, The teachings of Christ entirely divorce the Church and the State; and,--

WHEREAS, The State has no right to legislate in matters pertaining to religious institutions, and Sunday is only a religious institution; therefore,--

1. RESOLVED, That we as a people do oppose by all consistent means the enactment of Sunday laws where they do not exist, and oppose the repeal of exemption clauses in Sunday laws which already exist.

2. RESOLVED, That we recommend that a pamphlet be prepared, (1) Showing the true relation which should exist between the Church and the State; (2) Exposing the organized efforts now being made to unite Church and State by changing the Constitution of our country; (3) Showing the real effect of unmodified Sunday laws, in places where they have been in force; and that said pamphlet be placed in the hands of all members of legislative bodies where efforts are or shall be made to secure the enactment of Sunday laws.

WHEREAS, To quietly and peaceably do our work six days in the week, as well as to keep the seventh day as the Sabbath of the Lord, is duty toward God, and an inalienable right, and that with which the State can of right have nothing to do; therefore,--

3. RESOLVED, That there is no obligation resting upon any observer of the seventh day to obey any law prohibiting labor on the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday.

4. RESOLVED, That while asserting this right, and while practicing the principle avowed in this resolution of working the six working-days, the resolution is not to be so construed as either to sanction or approve any arrogance on the part of any, or any action purposely intended to offend or impose upon the religious convictions or practices of any person who observes the first day of the week.

WHEREAS, We deem it essential to the proper work of the Third Angel's Message that the true relation existing between the Church and the State, and the relation that exists between what men owe to God and what they owe to civil government, should be understood; therefore,--

5. RESOLVED, That we recommend that this subject be made a part of the

regular course of Bible study in all our colleges; and that special attention be given to it by all our ministers in the field.

These resolutions were under discussion when the Conference adjourned.

FOURTEENTH MEETING, NOVEMBER 27, 1887, 7 P.M.

Prayer by Elder N. C. McClure. The question before the meeting being the discussion of the resolutions on National Reform, it was moved and voted that these resolutions be made the special order of the meeting to be held at this place on the evening of December 3, at 7 o'clock.

The Committee on Finances presented their report, as follows:--

1. WE RECOMMEND, That the mission property in Central Europe be transferred by deed to the General Conference Association.

2. That the General Conference Association employ a financial agent to travel and labor in its own interests, and in those of the missions and other associations.

WHEREAS, The General Conference Association was created a legal corporation for the especial purpose of holding property for the general interests of the cause; therefore,--

3. WE RECOMMEND, That those who desire to give real estate or personal property by deed, bequest, or otherwise to the general interests of the cause, should give it to the General Conference Association.

4. WE FURTHER RECOMMEND, That our people everywhere literally carry out the advice of the apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 16:2: "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him." As a weekly free-will offering in behalf of the foreign mission work, this is to be laid aside each week at home, and at the end of each quarter to be paid to the tract society officers, to be sent to the general treasury.

WHEREAS, Some of our people have made pledges in one state, and have changed their residences and paid their pledges in another state, thereby embarrassing their brethren in the former state, who have undertaken enterprises upon the strength of these obligations; therefore,--

5. RESOLVED, That it is the voice of this Conference that those who make pledges for any purpose should pay them where they are made.

WHEREAS, In the past many pledges have been made to various objects in the cause, some of these being for large amounts, and conditional upon selling farms or other property; and,--

WHEREAS, Many of these persons have felt unwilling to make other donations in view of their old pledges still unpaid; thus standing year after year where they do little or nothing to help the cause with their means, because they cannot sell their property; therefore,--

6. RESOLVED, That this Conference earnestly request every one of those

who have made these pledges, whether conditional upon selling property or otherwise, to pay what they can of these pledges, and receive credit for what they pay.

7. RESOLVED, That our conference and tract society officers in every conference make earnest efforts to induce those who have made these unpaid pledges, to pay what they can on them, and thus help the cause in this time of its great need.

8. RESOLVED, That we request each person having unpaid pledges to the foreign missions, to make payment in full or in part on Christmas; and we recommend that these payments be put in with the Christmas offerings; provided that they are accompanied with a written statement, specifying that they are in payment of certain pledges.

9. RESOLVED, That those who have no pledges now due to foreign missions, and who are not prepared to make cash donations on next Christmas, may make such pledges to those missions, which may be received as Christmas offerings.

10. RESOLVED, That it shall be the duty of Tract and Missionary Society officers, and church clerks and treasurers to co-operate with the financial agent of the General Conference Association in carrying out the plan suggested in the foregoing resolutions.

11. RESOLVED, That this Conference cordially indorse the action of the General Conference Committee in appointing a Week of Prayer to be followed by Christmas donations to our needy foreign missions, and the General Conference Association. And we urge our people most earnestly everywhere throughout this country to be liberal in their gifts on that occasion, and lift the burden of indebtedness crippling our foreign work, and thus encourage the hearts of our sacrificing laborers who have for the love of christ left their homes and friends to labor among strangers.

The report was adopted.

O. A. Olsen made a report of the workings and present condition of the publishing work in Christiana, which was by vote accepted.

The Committee on Distribution of Labor made a final report, recommending the following:--

43. That R. A. Hart go to Norway, to assist in the publishing work in Christiana for a year, or until efficient help can be educated.

44. That Carrie Mills go to Portland, Oregon, to take a position in the school, and to assist in Bible work.

45. That W. W. Sharp take the place on the Wisconsin Conference Committee made vacant by the removal of H. R. Johnson.

46. That Oscar Hill and wife go to Alabama and Mississippi to labor.

47. That furnishing labor for the Pacific islands be referred to the General Conference Committee, with the recommendation that help be sent at the earliest possible date, to supply the urgent needs of that field.

These recommendations were all adopted.

The Committee on Nominations completed their report by presenting the following names:--

For Foreign Mission secretary, W. C. White; Home Mission Secretary, E. W. Farnsworth; Educational Secretary, W. W. Prescott; book Committee, G. I. Butler, U. Smith, W. C. White, J. H. Kellogg, C. Eldridge, F. E. Belden, C. H. Jones, E. J. Waggoner, E. M. Morrison, J. G. Matteson, E. W. Farnsworth, R. M. Kilgore, A. T. Robinson; Labor Bureau, A. R. Henry, C. Eldridge, H. W. Kellogg.

The report was adopted.

The chairman, in harmony with a previous action, announced as the committee for the consideration of the matter of securing a ship to be used for missionary purposes, the following persons: C. Eldridge, C. H. Jones, J. N. Loughborough, W. C. Sisley, A. T. Robinson.

The Committee on Credentials and Licenses made recommendations as follows:--

For Credentials: G. I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, O. A. Olsen, W. C. White, R. A. Underwood, U. Smith, R. M. Kilgore, Mrs. E. G. White, B. L. Whitney, D. T. Bourdeau, A. A. John, J. H. Matteson, E. W. Whitney, E. G. Olsen, J. H. Durland, A. C. Bourdeau, L. R. Conradi, S. H. Lane, William Ings, M. C. Israel, D. A. Robinson, C. L. Boyd, E. W. Farnsworth, H. Shultz, W. D. Curtis, W. H. Saxby, J. F. Hansen, A. G. Daniells, S. Fulton, T. H. Gibbs, S. H. Kime, L. P. Hodges, J. C. Laubhan, J. M. Rees, G. C. Tenney, H. P. Holser, Ira J. Hankins, D. E. Lindsey, O. C. Godsmark, G. G. Rupert, N. Orcutt, Victor Thompson, J. P. Henderson, J. M. Erickson, M. Enoch, N. Clausen, O. Hill.

For License: C. Eldridge, W. Baird, N. B. England, A. Barry, A. LaRue, Henry Scott, L. H. Crisler, J. I. Tay, G. E. Langdon, Mrs. Ruie Hill.

Report was adopted.

The resolution concerning the General Conference Association, deferred at a previous meeting, was now adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following:--

WHEREAS, In the providence of God the South Lancaster Academy has been established in the New England Conference for the purpose of qualifying men and women to labor in the cause of God; and,--

WHEREAS, Many are now successful laborers who were not such before

entering the Academy, thus showing its usefulness in the cause; and,--

WHEREAS, A printing establishment has been connected with the Academy to qualify individuals in that department, which has given evidence of its usefulness; and,--

WHEREAS, The freight on publications from our other offices of publication to the Eastern states is quite large, and there are many large cities where our publications are to fall like the leaves of autumn; therefore,--

18. RESOLVED, That the General Conference recommend that the Book Committee permit the tracts and pamphlets used in the Eastern societies, to be printed at South Lancaster; and further,--

19. RESOLVED, That the Review and Herald and Pacific Press publishing houses be requested to furnish at reasonable rates, the plates for said purpose, of such tracts and pamphlets as may be desired.

WHEREAS, Our Saviour has laid down the one sole ground on which parties once married can be divorced; and,--

WHEREAS, The practices of society have become most deplorable in this respect, as seen in the prevalence of unscriptural divorces; therefore,--

20. RESOLVED, That we express our deprecation of this great evil, and instruct our ministers not to unite in marriage any parties so divorced.

21. RESOLVED, That we exhort our own people, when about to contract matrimonial alliances, to bear in mind, and give due weight to the injunction of the apostle, "only in the Lord."

Resolutions eighteen and nineteen were referred to the Book Committee, and the remainder of the report was adopted.

Requests being presented for the location of the next General Conference, after several motions and some discussion it was--

VOTED, That the next session of the General Conference be held in South Lancaster, Massachusetts. It was further--

VOTED, That the time fixed be sometime between the middle and the close of October, 1888, as the Conference Committee may decide.

Adjourned to meet again December 3, at 7 p.m.

FIFTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 3, 1887, 7 P.M.

Prayer by Elder J. N. Loughborough. Minutes approved.

The resolutions presented by the Committee on National Reform being the special order for the evening, the resolutions were read, and spoken to by E. J. Waggoner and A. T. Jones.

It was moved to amend the resolutions by inserting the word "oppressive"

before the words "Sunday laws," so as to read "oppressive Sunday laws," instead of simply "Sunday laws."

The amendment was spoken to by J. H. Morrison, R. A. Underwood, D. E. Lindsey, D. T. Jones, J. I. Tay, G. K. Owen, and R. M. Kilgore.

The amendment was lost. The resolutions were then adopted.

C. W. Flaiz was appointed by vote to fill the vacancy on the Kansas Conference Committee, caused by the removal of O. Hill.

The Committee on Credentials and Licenses offered an additional report, recommending that credentials be granted to J. O. Corliss, and licenses to W. L. H. Baker, Mrs. H. Enoch, and George R. Drew; which report was adopted.

G. C. Tenney offered the following resolution, which, after remarks from different ones, cordially indorsing the sentiments expressed, was unanimously adopted:--

RESOLVED, That we hereby express our earnest thanks to the Oakland Church for the cordial reception and generous entertainment which they have extended to the delegates to this Conference.

Adjourned to meet in Battle Creek, Michigan, at the call of the chair.

SIXTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 11, 1887, 10 A.M., AT BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN

Prayer by the president. Minutes approved.

Quote a large congregation having assembled, the president occupied considerable time in remarks upon the doings of the Conference while upon the Pacific Coast, setting forth the interesting phases of the work presented in that field, and the encouraging tokens which are apparent in different branches of the work everywhere.

The great question of national reform which came so prominently before the Conference, was briefly reviewed, as well as the financial problem involved in the future progress of this cause, and the progressive and expansive foreign work, as exhibited in the European and other fields.

Elder Corliss gave an interesting account of the work as now going forward in the islands of the Pacific.

R. M. Kilgore, C. Eldridge, and W. C. Sisley were appointed to take the place of the three absent members on the Auditing Committee.

Adjourned to call of chair.

SEVENTEENTH MEETING, DECEMBER 12, 1887, 4 P.M.

Prayer by H. W. Miller. Minutes approved.

The business of this meeting being the election of a Board of Trustees for the "General Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists," the chair was empowered to appoint a nominating committee to present the names of five persons to act as said Trustees for the coming year.

J. B. Goodrich, J. O. Corliss, and H. W. Miller were appointed as this committee, who, after a brief consultation submitted their report, nominating G. I. Butler, A. R. Henry, R. A. Underwood, U. Smith, and R. M. Kilgore, to constitute the said Board of Trustees.

The report was adopted.

A. R. Henry then introduced the following resolution:--

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the General Conference Association of the Seventh-day Adventists, now existing under the provisions of "Chapter One Hundred and Seventy-eight of Howell's Annotated Statutes of the State of Michigan," be instructed and required to re-incorporate said Association under the provisions of "Act Number Three Hundred and Ten, of the Public Acts of 1887."

This resolution was adopted; and the Conference then adjourned sine die.

George I. Butler, President.
U. Smith, Secretary.

THE REORGANIZATION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

At the close of the late General Conference, as the reader will see by the foregoing report, it was voted to avail ourselves of the benefits to be obtained by reorganizing the "General Conference Association of the Seventh-day Adventists." We will explain this statement briefly, by saying that at the time this Association was first organized, a year ago, the then existing law of Michigan under which such an association had to be made, was not nearly as favorable as one could reasonably ask. Many questions which were before left in doubt and uncertainty, are by this law made clear. The present law was passed to provide specially for such charitable associations as ours, which were designed to be used to forward religious and missionary work for the good of mankind. The law is an honor to the State of Michigan.

The "General Conference Association of the Seventh-day Adventists" has now been fully reorganized under this new law, and its Trustees duly elected. These are Uriah Smith, A. R. Henry, R. A. Underwood, R. M. Kilgore, and George I. Butler. These were elected with special reference to their being accessible, or within reach of one another, so that they could be called together in case of any unexpected emergency arising which might demand it. The officers elected by this Board were as follows: President, George I. Butler; Secretary, Uriah Smith; Assistant Secretary, W. H. Edwards; Treasurer, A. R. Henry.

In the reorganization of this Association, the previous one is simply merged into the present one, carrying with it all property possessed by the former, and all rights and privileges possessed by it; its name also, and its indebtedness. The new law fully provides for this transition. All these are now covered by the provisions of the new law.

Great care has been taken under the advise of good legal counsel, to have everything done strictly according to the provisions of the law. This "General Conference Association of the Seventh-day Adventists" we consider now to stand on fully as reliable a basis as any of our legal institutions. It is prepared to do business, hold property, and extend its work in every part of the world where the local laws will permit of it.

The importance of this Association and its work in connection with the progress of this cause, will be very great. It will be legally equipped to guard properly the financial interests of the General Conference. It will furnish a safe receptacle for all the many property deeds, wills, and bequests which our people desire to bestow for the use of the General Conference. The General Conference is that representative body which takes in the whole of this cause. Its supervision embraces all its interests in every part of the world. There is not an institution among us, not a periodical issued, not a conference or society, not a mission field connected with our work, that it has not a right to advise and counsel and investigate. It is the highest authority of an earthly character among Seventh-day Adventists. It has a special superintendency over all missionary fields outside of organized conferences.

The General Conference Association is really the financial department of the General Conference incorporated. It was at first proposed to incorporate the General conference itself. But this was considered hardly best, even if practicable. So this plan of incorporating this Association was substituted, possessing, as it does, all the practical benefits of the former, and avoiding some objections. Our people, therefore, should consider this as virtually forming a part of the General Conference, and as being the representative of

the great cause of present truth itself. Hence all their gifts, loans, bequests, donations, deeds of property, etc., which they wish to go to the general interests of the cause, should be intrusted to the "General Conference Association of the Seventh-day Adventists."

We feel sure that our people will everywhere see that this arrangement is far more consistent than it is to do as we have been doing in the past,--making our publishing associations, and other institutions which were incorporated for a more limited or local purpose, the custodian of our funds for the general interests of the cause. Take, for instance, our Publishing Association at Battle Creek. It was organized, of course, for the purpose of printing books, pamphlets, tracts, and periodicals in the interests of this cause. Its legal authority was given it for this express purpose. Any one, therefore, can see that it would be hardly consistent to extend its province over various other matters of a wholly different character in all parts of the world. It might well be questioned whether it had the legal authority to do this. So of other institutions.

In the past we have been almost forced, because of the lack of some general corporation, to use these merely local organizations in a too general way. But there is a necessity for this no longer. Steps are now being taken to put this General Conference Association into full operation.

At the adjourned meeting in Battle Creek, held since the session at Oakland, some very important moves were made in this direction. A committee was appointed to consider the whole question, and make proper recommendations. The following report was brought in and adopted by the General Conference Committee, five of the members of which were present:--

Your committee appointed to devise an improved financial system in connection with the workings of the General Conference and the General Conference Association of the Seventh-day Adventists, would respectfully recommend,--

1. That the following plan be adopted:--

(1) That the position of corresponding secretary of the General Conference be conferred upon some person who can devote his entire time to General Conference work, and can also act as assistant secretary of the General Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists.

(2) That said assistant secretary occupy apartments adjacent to the office of the president of the General Conference, and also that a proper safe be furnished him for the keeping of all books, records, and important documents pertaining to the office.

DUTIES OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

(1) To send the necessary blanks to those whose accounts are to be audited by the General Conference, and secure from such laborers full and

complete reports, each quarter, of their labor, receipts, and expenses, and an annual report at the close of the Conference year, containing a summary of the same.

(2) To keep an individual account with the persons above specified.

(3) To secure from all home, city, and foreign missions, under the control of the General Conference, itemized monthly statements of all receipts and expenditures, and, at the close of the Conference year, an annual summary of the same, and such other items as will show the financial standing of the mission, together with the amount of work done and results accomplished.

(4) To ascertain, as experience may suggest, what blanks may be necessary to facilitate the proper performance of his duties, and to prepare the same.

(5) To ascertain the amount of tithes collected by each state conference quarterly, and secure a tithe of the same for the General Conference treasury, within six weeks after the close of each quarter.

(6) To present to the General Conference, at each annual meeting, a summary of the workings and growth of the cause in connection with the different missions.

(7) To keep the president of the General Conference informed of any remissness of duty in making reports and remittances on the part of those specified in items 1, 3, and 5 of the foregoing, and any other information he may be able to impart which will assist the said president in his duties.

(8) To countersign all orders upon the treasurer, in order that an accurate account may be kept of all the funds expended.

(9) To perform such other duties as may be assigned him by the president of the General Conference.

(10) To keep all the books and accounts, and to be the custodian of all deeds and legal papers belonging to the General Conference Association of the Seventh-day Adventists, and to see that they are legally recorded.

We recommend:--

2. That A. R. Henry and C. Eldridge assist said assistant secretary in arranging a general plan upon which the accounts of this Association shall be kept, and in securing books for the same.

3. That the fiscal year of the General Conference, and the General Conference Association of the Seventh-day Adventists, close on the 30th day of June of each year.

4. That W. H. Edwards be appointed as said assistant secretary.

It was also recommended that each one of our mission boards appoint a treasurer for their mission, whose duty it shall be to make the monthly and annual reports above referred to, to whom money shall be sent from the General Conference Association, when sent at all, and with whom the assistant secretary, as already given, shall communicate in his official duties. Mary Heilesen was appointed treasurer of the Scandinavian Mission; Henry Holser, of the Central European Mission; and Elder Haskell was requested to appoint one for the British Mission. The Australian and South African Missions, also, will be

expected to make such appointments. Thus it will be seen that we shall soon have the necessary machinery in operation to make this Association efficient.

George I. Butler, President, General Conference Association.
Uriah Smith, Secretary, General Conference Association.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST STATISTICS--1887

In the columns for ministers and licentiates is given the actual number expected to labor in each conference during the coming year, according to the recommendations of the General Conference, and not the number receiving credentials or licenses, as heretofore.

NAMES OF CONFERENCES	DATES OF ORGANIZATION	PRESENT NUMERICAL STANDING				Tithes recd. during year
		Ministers	Licen.	Churches	Members	
California-----	Feb. 15, 1873	17	11	31	1,900	\$ 30,831.76
Canada-----	Aug. 16, 1880	2	----	5	137	471.00
Colorado-----	Sept. 26, 1883	4	3	8	229	4,310.28
Dakota-----	Sept. 16, 1880	4	3	20	632	6,261.88
Denmark-----	May 30, 1880	4	2	9	220	100.00
Illinois-----	June 9, 1871	6	5	26	783	8,404.59
Indiana-----	Sept. 20, 1872	9	4	51	1,121	6,770.51
Iowa-----	Sept. 20, 1863	12	7	76	1,756	11,981.50
Kansas-----	Sept. 10, 1875	9	22	57	2,000	11,762.74
Kentucky-----	May 20, 1876	2	1	8	125	1,460.66
Maine-----	Nov. 1, 1867	4	4	20	436	2,640.61
Michigan-----	Oct. 5, 1861	30	23	119	4,355	30,313.97
Minnesota-----	Oct. 4, 1862	13	14	64	1,689	12,352.04
Missouri-----	June 2, 1876	7	4	29	862	4,383.19
Nebraska-----	Sept. 25, 1878	9	7	39	700	4,900.40
New England-----	Aug. 24, 1871	3	5	26	729	8,252.05
New York-----	Oct. 25, 1862	9	4	30	810	6,492.32
North Pacific---	Oct. 25, 1877	2	6	16	370	3,787.98
Norway-----	June 10, 1887	3	1	4	205	10.00
Ohio-----	Feb. 22, 1863	7	7	47	1,173	7,650.16
Pennsylvania----	Sept. 17, 1879	5	2	38	780	5,584.93
Sweden-----	March 12, 1882	3	----	10	288	110.00
Switzerland-----	May 26, 1884	8	10	19	402	2,596.62
Tennessee-----	-----1880	3	1	6	162	1,141.09
Texas-----	Nov. 18, 1878	1	6	12	390	2,100.00
Upper Columbia-----	-----1880	5	3	9	290	2,404.47
Vermont-----	June 12, 1863	4	7	17	452	2,300.00
Virginia-----	Aug. 5, 1884	5	2	5	118	412.14
West Virginia---	Sept. 15, 1887	2	----	2	92	346.72
Wisconsin-----	June 22, 1871	11	7	54	1,665	9,299.90

MISSIONS

Australian-----	3	2	4	180	1,647.00
British-----	5	1	5	115	625.00
Central American-----	----	----	----	5	-----
General Southern-----	13	5	18	400	1,000.00
New Zealand-----	1	1	2	89	-----
Other Pacific Islands-----	----	2	2	130	-----
South African-----	2	----	1	26	-----
South American-----	----	----	----	25	15.48
Total-----	227	182	889	25,841	\$192,720.99
Given last year-----	213	166	798	23,111	\$146,936.78
Gain-----	14	16	91	2,730	\$ 45,784.21

TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

HELD AT MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, OCTOBER 17 TO NOVEMBER 4, AND AT

BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN, NOVEMBER 8, 1888*

S. N. Haskell, Presiding Officer; U. Smith, Secretary

*For convenient reference, the business of the session has been classified, instead of preserving the daily order. Generally, however, the date of adoption follows each item. All motions, resolutions, and reports appear in the form

in which they were finally adopted, amended passages being either explained in brackets or indicated by underlining. No "dead" business appears anywhere in this report. Adopted items which did not originate with the committee in whose report they appear, are placed there for the sake of classification. The origin of such is given, if known.

The president, George I. Butler, being absent on account of illness, the secretary, U. Smith, called the meeting to order, and S. N. Haskell was chosen as presiding officer for the session. after appropriate introductory remarks by the chair, with reference to the loss sustained by the Conference through the absence of the president, prayer was offered by the secretary, followed by the presentation of credentials from the--

DELEGATES

California--W. C. White, S. N. Haskell, A. T. Jones, C. H. Jones, E. J. Waggoner.
 Colorado--E. H. Gates, C. P. Haskell.
 Dakota--W. B. White, N. P. Nelson, Valentine Leer.
 Illinois--George B. Starr, A. O. Tait.
 Indiana--William Covert, Victor Thompson, B. F. Purdham, R. B. Craig.
 Iowa--J. H. Morrison, C. A. Washburn, H. Nicola, W. R. Smith, H. R. Johnson, W. H. Wakeham.
 Kansas--C. A. Hall, J. W. Bagby, L. J. Rousseau, C. C. McReynolds, N. P. Dixon, S. S. Shrock, C. H. Parsons.
 Kentucky--C. W. Flaiz.
 Maine--J. B. Goodrich.
 Michigan--I. D. Van Horn, J. Fargo, G. G. Rupert, H. W. Miller, J. N. Brant, C. Eldridge, H. S. Lay, William Ostrander, F. D. Starr, W. W. Prescott, W. H. Hall.
 Minnesota--A. D. Olsen, L. Johnson, H. Grant, C. C. Lewis, Allen Moon, F. L. Mead.
 Missouri--D. T. Jones, J. W. Watt, J. B. Becker.
 Nebraska--J. P. Gardiner, W. C. Boynton, W. N. Hyatt.
 New England--A. T. Robinson, E. E. Miles.
 New York--M. H. Brown, M. C. Wilcox.
 North Pacific--T. H. Starbuck, J. E. Graham.
 Norway, Sweden, and Denmark--J. G. Matteson.
 Tennessee--J. M. Rees.
 Texas--T. T. Stevenson.
 Upper Columbia--H. W. Decker.
 Vermont--T. H. Purdon.
 Virginia--R. D. Hottel.
 West Virginia--W. J. Stone.
 Wisconsin--A. J. Breed, W. W. Sharp, W. S. Hyatt, B. M. Shull, P. H. Cady, F. H. Westphal.
 Central Europe--L. R. Conradi.
 Great Britain--S. N. Haskell.
 Louisiana and Central America--T. H. Gibbs.
 South America--G. G. Rupert.
 General Conference Laborers--A. R. Henry, R. M. Kilgore, U. Smith, J. F. Hansen, D. E. Lindsey, E. W. Farnsworth, D. T. Bourdeau, W. H. Edwards, F. E. Belden, S. H. Lane, O. C. Godsmark, C. W. Olds.

CONFERENCES ADMITTED

Arkansas

Organized May 21, 1888. Ten churches, 226 members. Historical sketch given by Dan T. Jones and J. P. Henderson [Oct. 17].

Australia

Organized September, 1888. Five churches, 266 members. Reported by correspondence [Oct. 17].

SPECIAL COMMITTEE,

To Advise Relative to Appointment of Additional Delegates

W. C. White, A. T. Robinson, and Dan T. Jones constituted this committee, who subsequently reported as follows:--

Your committee find by examination of the General Conference Constitution, that "the Conference shall be composed of delegates from the State Conferences, of the officers of the Conference, and of such ministers as shall have been in the employ of the General Conference during any part of the year." Also that "such delegates may be selected by the [State] Conference, or appointed by its executive committee." And we find no provision in the Constitution for the reception of delegates not holding credentials.

1. We therefore report that it is the opinion of your committee that the Conference cannot legally receive delegates not authorized by the Constitution.

And whereas, persons properly chosen to represent conferences and mission fields, sometimes come to the Conference without credentials in regular form,--

2. We therefore recommend that a committee be appointed at the beginning of each Conference, to whom all such cases shall be referred. It shall be the duty of this committee to examine the claims of all such applicants, and recommend for seats in the Conference all such as in its judgment are entitled to the same.

3. We further recommend that this committee shall select from the delegates at large, persons specially to represent those fields that are not represented by delegates of their own election. [Oct. 18].

The General Conference committee subsequently adopted the following rule:--

4. RESOLVED, That the General Conference Committee shall issue credentials at least one month before the opening of the General Conference, to such laborers in the general field as, in their judgment, should attend the General Conference, to represent their respective fields at the expense of the General Conference, and that those coming without credentials shall come at their own expense [Nov. 24].

COMMITTEES FOR THE SESSION
(Appointed by the Chair)

On Credentials of Delegates--I. D. Van Horn, H. Grant, P. H. Cady.
On Nominations--J. Fargo, Dan T. Jones, J. B. Goodrich.

On Resolutions--R. A. Underwood, A. T. Robinson, L. R. Conradi. E. J. Waggoner, E. H. Gates.

On Credentials of Ministers--R. M. Kilgore, I. D. Van Horn, H. Nicola.

On Distribution of Labor--To act with the General Conference Committee, E. W. Farnsworth, A. J. Breed, Lewis Johnson, G. G. Rupert, C. H. Jones.

On Auditing--To act with the General Conference Committee, A. R. Henry, C. Eldridge, J. W. Raymond, J. Fargo, H. W. Miller, A. T. Robinson.

On Finances--To act with the presidents of conferences who are present, C. H. Jones, Harmon Lindsay, A. R. Henry, C. Eldridge, A. T. Jones.

On Order of Exercises--R. M. Kilgore, R. A. Underwood, J. B. Goodrich.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Missionary-ship Committee for 1888

Members of committee: C. Eldridge, C. H. Jones, J. N. Loughborough, W. C. Sisley, A. T. Robinson, who reported as follows:--

Your committee appointed to take into consideration the matter of securing a ship to be used for missionary purposes, after thorough investigation on the Atlantic Coast, find that a vessel of 100 tons, Government measurement, built of white oak, with a cabin to accommodate sixteen passengers, thoroughly equipped

and ready for sea, will cost between \$8,000 and \$9,000. Second-hand vessels of from 40 to 100 tons, and from three to five years old, could be purchased at from \$2,000 to \$6,000. We find that on the Pacific Coast a vessel of 75 tons, Government measurement, built of oregon pine, fully equipped and ready for service, will cost about \$8,000. With steam auxiliary, the vessel will cost about \$15,000. The cabin of this ship would accommodate fifteen persons.

Further than this, your committee learn that elder A. J. Cudney, who was instructed by the General Conference Committee to proceed with Brother J. I. Tay to Pitcairn Island as soon as possible, after seeking in vain to secure passage direct from San Francisco, sailed to Honolulu, from whence, after laboring a short time with the church in that place, he expected to sail to Tahiti, there to meet Brother Tay, who was to sail direct from San Francisco, at the first opportunity, from whence they hoped to find passage to Pitcairn Island. On reaching Honolulu, and finding no means of transport, Elder Cudney accepted the offer of Brother N. F. Burgess, who proposed to purchase a schooner, then offered at forced sale, if Elder Cudney would fit it up, man it, and use it in the missionary work, among the islands of the Pacific. This schooner is 45 tons' burden, capable of accommodating ten persons besides the crew, and costs only \$1,100. Brother Burgess makes no charge for the use of the vessel on this trip, and if desired, will sell it to the Conference for what it cost him. The cost of fitting up this schooner was about \$900, which is to

be returned to the Conference, if the vessel is sold to other parties.

Elder Cudney secured a crew, consisting of a captain, a mate, two sailors,

and a steward, and July 31 started for Pitcairn, intending to proceed first to Tahiti, to take on board Brother Tay, who sailed from San Francisco, July 5. We hope soon to hear of their safe arrival at Pitcairn Island. In view of these facts,--

1. We recommend that, if this vessel, after thorough examination, is found to be sound, and well-adapted to our needs, it be purchased, according to the liberal offer of Brother Burgess, and used till the work demands a larger one. [Oct. 19].

2. RESOLVED, That the General Conference express its appreciation of the generous act of Brother N. F. Burgess, of Honolulu, in providing the missionary ship for Elder Cudney to go to the islands of the Pacific; and we pray the blessing of God upon him and his, and upon the ship and her crew, and that she may have a prosperous voyage throughout [A. T. Jones, Oct. 31].

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

This committee, consisting of R. A. Underwood, A. T. Robinson, L. R. Conradi, E. J. Waggoner, and E. H. Gates, reported during the session as follows:--

INTRODUCTORY

Gratitude to God for Prosperity

WHEREAS, The Lord in his mercy has gone before us during the past year, directing and aiding in the establishment of new missions in distant parts of the world, and also blessing and advancing the work in those already established; therefore,--

1. RESOLVED, That we herewith express anew our gratitude for God's goodness, and our confidence and faith in the Third Angel's Message, and that we pledge ourselves to support and further its dissemination in whatever way Providence directs, whether it be in the starting of new missions, or the advancing of the work in those missions already established [Oct. 23].

Appreciation and Sympathy

WHEREAS, Our much esteemed brother, Elder George I. Butler, who has occupied the position of president of the General Conference for many years, and borne other heavy burdens in connection with the cause, now feels compelled, on account of failing health, to lay off these heavy responsibilities; therefore,--

2. RESOLVED, That we express our appreciation of his faithful labors in the past, and our heart-felt sympathy with him in his present affliction, and hope and pray that he may be raised up to his former health, and be spared to the cause which needs his counsel, gained by valuable experience. [After adoption by the delegates, this resolution was unanimously indorsed by a rising

vote of the congregation. Oct. 31.]

CHURCH WORK
Instruction Needed by Ministers and People

WHEREAS, There has been a lack of instruction to church officers, and a consequent failure in our churches on the point of proper discipline, and a lowering of the standard of membership; therefore,--

3. RESOLVED, That we urge the officers of the various state conferences to provide at camp-meetings and all general meetings, instruction on what the Bible teachers as to church discipline, and on the duties of church officers and members; that all young ministers may be fully instructed on these subjects before being sent out to teach; and that it be considered the duty of ministers to give to companies about to be organized, thorough instruction on the duties which, according to the Scriptures, the members owe to one another [Motion to refer back was lost.].

Monthly Counsel Meetings

WHEREAS, Many souls are lost to the cause of God for lack of proper encouragement, exhortation, or reproof from those whose duty it is to look after the flock; therefore,--

4. RESOLVED, That we strenuously urge the officers of every church, and of the Sabbath-school, and the missionary society connected therewith, to meet together for prayer and counsel, as often as once a month; and that proper steps be taken by the officers to ascertain the standing, both spiritual and temporal, of every member, so that assistance may be rendered when necessary [Oct. 23].

HEALTH AND TEMPERANCE
Prohibition

WHEREAS, We recognize temperance as one of the Christian graces; therefore,--

5. RESOLVED, That we heartily indorse the principles of the American Health and Temperance Association, in protesting against the manufacture and sale of all spirituous and malt liquors, and in discarding the use of tea, coffee, opium, and tobacco, and that we urge upon all people the importance of these principles. [Motion to add the words "as beverages," after the word "liquors," was lost.]

Without Religious Legislation

6. RESOLVED, That while we pledge ourselves to labor earnestly and zealously for the prohibition of the liquor traffic, we hereby utter an earnest protest against connecting with the temperance movement any legislation which

discriminates in favor of any religious class or institution, or which tends to the infringement of anybody's religious liberty; and that we cannot sustain or encourage any temperance party or any other organization which indorses or favors such legislation [Oct. 23].

Missionary Nurses

WHEREAS, King nursing and the alleviation of pain by the wise use of simple remedies, is one of the surest ways of reaching the hearts of people; therefore,--

7. RESOLVED, That we recognize the fact that a wide and promising missionary field is open before trained nurses who have a knowledge of Bible truth, together with tact and consecration; and further,--

Sanitarium Training-School for Nurses

8. RESOLVED, That, recognizing the good work which the Medical and Surgical Sanitarium is doing in its training-school for nurses, we recommend that the officers of the various conferences seek out suitable young persons, and encourage them to attend the Sanitarium Training-school, in order to fit themselves for this branch of missionary work [Oct. 28].

Study Recommended

WHEREAS, The principles of health and temperance reform are an important and essential part of the Third Angel's Message; and,--

WHEREAS, The Health and Temperance Association is engaged in active efforts to promulgate these principles; therefore,--

9. RESOLVED, That we hereby urge upon all our people the duty of becoming intelligent upon these subjects, by the careful reading of the Testimonies and other literature, and of putting into practice the principles taught; and,--

Co-operation Desired

10. RESOLVED, That we encourage the organization of health and temperance societies, and urge our people to join them and to co-operate with the efforts made to advance this branch of present truth [Oct. 31].

NATIONAL REFORM Circulate the American Sentinel

WHEREAS, We see in the fast-increasing strength and influence of the National Reform Party, a menace to religious freedom in this country, and also a proof of the correctness of our positions; and,--

WHEREAS, Many are not aware of the results which will follow when this party shall secure its aims; therefore,--

11. RESOLVED, That we will awake to the importance of this question, and will put forth greater exertion to scatter the light of Bible truth upon it, by circulating the American Sentinel, and other literature of a similar nature; further,--

Duty to Become Informed

12. RESOLVED, That we believe it to be the solemn duty of our ministers and laborers to qualify themselves to present the correct views of the relationship between religion and the State, in their labors everywhere [Oct. 24].

A New Book on Religion and the State

WHEREAS, Many have not the books of reference necessary to obtain full information on the subject of National Reform; and,--

WHEREAS, We deem the instruction given on this subject by Elder A. T. Jones very important; therefore,--

13. RESOLVED, that we request that the same, or the principal part of it, be furnished in pamphlet form.* [Oct. 24].

*This valuable work of 176 pages, entitled Civil Government and Religion, has just been issued. Price, 25 cents. Sold by all tract societies.

Union of Church and State

The substance of the following preamble and resolution (14) was introduced by E. J. Waggoner in behalf of the California delegation; said resolution having been adopted at the last session of the California Conference of Seventh-day

Adventists, together with a request to the General Conference that the committee referred to in Resolution 15 be appointed.

WHEREAS, The Blair Amendment to the National Constitution, dated May 25, 1888, and entitled, "A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, respecting establishments of religion and free public schools;" and also the accompanying national Sunday bill, dated May 21, 1888, and entitled, "A bill to secure to the people the enjoyment of the first day of the week, commonly known as the Lord's day, as a day of rest, and to promote its observance as a day of religious worship," are opposed to the common interests of humanity, and the freedom of religious worship intended to be guaranteed to the citizens of this great republic by its founders and defenders; therefore,--

14. RESOLVED, That the adoption of said bills would mark a broad and distinct advancement toward the union of church and state.

Delegation to Senate Committee

15. RESOLVED, That this Conference appoint a delegation of three, of

which A. T. Jones shall be one, to appear before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, at the next session of Congress, and in the interests of religious liberty, to use every reasonable effort to secure the defeat of the Blair Bill [Oct. 31].

S. N. Haskell and E. W. Farnsworth were subsequently appointed by the General Conference Committee, as the two remaining members of the delegation called for in the resolution.*

*A full and interesting report of the argument, questions, and answers pertaining to the hearing before the Senate Committee, will soon be issued in pamphlet form, entitled "The National Sunday Law." Price, 25 cents.

Work for Qualified Speakers

The General Conference Committee subsequently took the following action on this question:--

16. RESOLVED, That we recommend the Conference Committee of the different states to select from among their ministers those best suited for the work, and encourage them to become thoroughly informed regarding the true principles of civil government as relating to the church, and the principles of the National Reform movement now coming so prominently before the public; and that such men be encouraged to go from city to city, and from town to town, exposing the principles of the National Reform Association, and preaching the Third Angel's Message [Nov. 20].

THE PUBLISHING WORK American Branches

WHEREAS, We believe that the work of the Third Angel's Message should ever be progressive, reaching out to and filling unoccupied fields; therefore,--

17. RESOLVED, That we heartily approve the action of the Pacific Press Publishing Company, in establishing a branch office in New York, and also the proposal of the Review and Herald Office to establish branch offices in Chicago, Toronto, and other points [Oct. 31].

London Branch

WHEREAS, Books and tracts published in America, besides being more expensive, do not meet with the favor in England and the British colonies that the same publications would if they were published in England; and,--

WHEREAS, The British Mission is not prepared to assume the burden of general publishing; therefore,--

18. RESOLVED, That we recommend the immediate establishment by the Review and Herald Office of a branch office in London, in order to relieve the British Mission of the burden of publishing books and tracts, and to facilitate their general circulation.* [Oct. 31].

*The Review and Herald Board subsequently requested the Pacific Press Publishing Company to establish and conduct the publishing work in London, which they have decided to do.

French and German Periodicals

WHEREAS, The experience of the past year has demonstrated that our publications can successfully be sold in the Central European field; and,--

WHEREAS, We find that the present subscription price for our French and German periodicals is above the reach of many of the common people in Central Europe; and,--

WHEREAS, The circulation depends greatly on the tract societies; therefore,--

19. RESOLVED, That these papers be only eight-page semi-monthlies, and the price be lowered accordingly, thus securing a larger circulation, and giving more time for the preparation of books and tracts.* [Nov. 1].

*The yearly subscription price for Les Signes des Temps and for the European edition of Herald der Mahrheit is Fr. 3.50 (70 cents). The German paper for America has also been reduced to eight pages, and the price established at 75 cents.

General Conference Daily Bulletin

WHEREAS, A daily Bulletin of the proceedings of the General Conference is now felt by the delegates to be a necessity; and,--

WHEREAS, There are thousands of our people who cannot attend General Conference, who anxiously desire to know what is done from day to day, and who desire more full accounts than a secretary's report of the business transactions; therefore,--

20. RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this body that the General Conference Daily Bulletin should be published at every session of the Conference; that it should be of a size sufficient to admit the insertion not only of a full account of all the business meetings, but also of an outline of the principal sermons preached, and the general instruction given; and that early in each year the General Conference Committee choose an editor, and make all other necessary arrangements for the Bulletin, so that the price may be published, and a subscription list secured in advance [Oct. 31].

THE CANVASSING WORK

21. RESOLVED, That we express our gratitude to God for the success of the canvassing work during the past year [Oct. 31].

Life-long Canvassers

WHEREAS, We believe that the seeds of present truth must be sown beside all waters; and,--

WHEREAS, The canvassing work is one of the best means by which this may be accomplished; therefore,--

22. RESOLVED, That we recommend our ministers everywhere to encourage suitable persons to devote their lives to this branch of the Lord's work; and further,--

Knowledge of Canvassing Valuable to All Classes of Workers

23. RESOLVED, That we recommend, as far as reasonable, a practical experience in the canvassing field before persons are encouraged to enter the Bible work or the ministry. [F. E. Belden, Nov. 1].

FOREIGN FIELDS

To Be Visited Once in Every Two Years

WHEREAS, The prosperity of our foreign missions depends very largely upon the perfect understanding which our people have of their workings, as well as of the understanding which the missionaries have of the plans that are devised for them; therefore,--

24. RESOLVED, That we deem it an actual necessity that some member of the General Conference Board visit all the missions at least as often as once in two years; and further,--

25. RESOLVED, That we request Elder George I. Butler to visit the missions the coming year, if it is agreeable to his wishes, and his health will permit;

and that if for any reason Elder Butler cannot go, another member of the Committee be chosen [Nov. 2].

Hamburg City Mission

WHEREAS, Hamburg is the most important sea-port on the continent of Europe, the chief commercial city of the German Empire, and one of the principal ports of emigration; therefore,--

26. RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this Conference that a ship and city mission should be established there as soon as possible [Oct. 31].

Committee on Organization of Foreign Mission Board

27. RESOLVED, That the chair be authorized to appoint a committee to make suggestions at the next General Conference, respecting a better organization of the Foreign Mission Board.

The following persons were named: S. N. Haskell, E. W. Farnsworth, A. T. Robinson, R. M. Kilgore, A. T. Jones, W. C. White, S. H. Lane [Nov. 4].

The following recommendations (28-30) were made by the General Conference Committee after the Conference adjourned:--

Jurisdiction of the Central European Conference

28. That the Central European Conference embrace Russia, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Servia, Bulgaria, Turkey, and Greece, and we advise that all Seventh-day Adventist churches raised up in these countries, be encouraged to unite with the Central European Conference until such time as the prosperity of the cause warrants the organization of other conferences [Nov. 15].

Foreign Conferences and Missions to Audit Accounts of Their Laborers

29. That the Conference Committee or Mission Board of each foreign field audit all accounts of the laborers in their respective fields, fixing the time and expense of all laborers, and setting the wages of all subordinate laborers, and suggesting the proper wages for the others; and that a complete abstract of their work be forwarded to the General Conference Auditing Committee for examination and approval, and to fix the wages of the principal laborers [Nov. 24].

30. That W. C. White, Dan T. Jones, and W. H. Edwards present such a plan for reporting as will enable the committee to obtain a clear understanding of what is being done in the various fields [Nov. 24].

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION OF FOREIGN LABORERS

L. R. Conradi, C. Eldridge, J. F. Hansen, H. Shultz, and D. T. Bourdeau constituted this committee, who reported as follows:--

Yearly Institutes in America

Your committee appointed to consider the educating of persons of foreign nationalities for missionary work, find a great need in this direction, and would recommend the following:--

WHEREAS, The laborers for the Old Country, where the work is but just begun, are principally supplied from the United States; and,--

WHEREAS, Laborers raised up in Europe are often obliged to leave their native land on account of the military service; and,--

WHEREAS, Many fields in America have never been entered, and we are doing but little for the multitudes that are continually streaming into our country; and,--

WHEREAS, The lack of missionary instruction in foreign languages has caused many of the young people of different nationalities in this country to

be educated in the American mission for work among the Americans, whereby much talent is lost to the foreign work; therefore,--

1. RESOLVED, That institutes for the instruction of laborers in the foreign languages be held from year to year in this country, those for the coming year to be located as follows:--

One for the Scandinavians in Chicago; one for the Germans in Milwaukee; also that a French department be connected with the American Mission in St. Louis, as soon as suitable help can be secured.

Management, Instruction, etc.

2. RESOLVED, That these institutes shall be under the supervision of the General Conference Committee, and that the direct management of each should be in the hands of a committee of five, of whom the president of the conference in which the institute is held, and the principal teacher, sent by the General Conference Committee, shall be members.

3. RESOLVED, That all persons applying for admission shall be recommended by their respective conference committees.

4. RESOLVED, That the following branches shall be taught: the Bible, missionary work in general, canvassing, reading, grammar, and book-keeping.

5. RESOLVED, That the students pay for their board and lodging, and be permitted to have the profits from their canvassing; and,--

6. We further recommend, That similar institutes be held in the different missions of Europe.

Mission Schools in Europe

7. We recommend, That whenever it is deemed necessary by the Mission Board and the General Conference Committee to establish permanent schools in such places as Christiana, London, and Basel, appropriations be made by the Committee, from the mission funds, as may be necessary, to assist in securing rooms for these schools, and teachers for those departments organized especially to educate and train laborers for the various branches of mission work.

Encourage Home Missionary Work Among Foreigners

WHEREAS, There are, in all parts of our country, families and individuals capable of doing missionary work for those speaking foreign languages, but who, on account of their isolation from others of their tongue, are doing little or nothing; therefore,--

8. RESOLVED, That we recommend that an earnest effort be made by our ministers, conference officers, and tract society officers, to search out all such, and put them in communication with the corresponding secretary of the International Tract Society, who shall, through her assistants and members of her class of foreign secretaries, encourage them to engage in some branch of

missionary work. [Nov. 1.]

FUNDS FOR THE EDUCATION OF FOREIGN LABORERS

The committee appointed to consider this subject,--L. R. Conradi, T. H. Gibbs, George B. Starr, Lewis Johnson, D. T. Jones,--presented the following report:--

Trained Workers Needed

Your committee appointed to consider the matter of raising funds for the education of persons of foreign tongues, would respectfully submit the following report:--

WHEREAS, There is a great need for native workers in the various languages, who can be depended upon to translate correctly, and carry forward properly the work in their own tongue; and,--

WHEREAS, The evidences are multiplying that God is raising up such persons, who with proper training could supply these wants; and,--

WHEREAS, Means expended in these directions in the past have brought most gratifying results; and,--

WHEREAS, At the present time but limited provision is made among us for the assistance and education of such persons; therefore,--

A Fund to Be Raised

9. RESOLVED, That our people raise a liberal fund for this purpose, and that a committee of five be appointed annually by the General Conference Committee to take charge of the raising and disbursement of the same.
[Nov. 2.]

COMMITTEE ON CITY MISSIONS

The persons appointed on this committee were R. A. Underwood, E. W. Farnsworth, W. C. White, C. Eldridge, and G. G. Rupert. Their report was referred to a committee consisting of H. W. Miller, George B. Starr, E. W. Farnsworth, S. H. Lane, and F. E. Belden, whose report was an indorsement of the following resolutions, one to nine inclusive, adopted at the 1887 session of the General Conference, with the exception of an amendment to Resolution 5, indicated by underlining:--

Instruction in Our Colleges

WHEREAS, The growth and importance of the city mission and general Bible work demand that broader and more careful plans be laid for carrying it forward; therefore your committee recommend--

1. That the managers of our educational institutions located at Battle Creek, Healdsburg, and South Lancaster, secure in the Biblical and Missionary departments more thorough instruction in the manner of preparing, and in methods of giving, Bible readings.

City Mission Training Schools

2. That the teachers in said departments spend a portion of each year at one of our principal city missions, to gain a practical experience in and knowledge of Bible work.

Preparation Necessary for Bible Work

3. That as far as possible, all who would enter city missions, should first attend one or more terms of preparatory instruction in one of our educational institutions.

4. That each of the following conferences conduct a city mission training-school, so as to accommodate workers from other conferences that may be selected to receive a thorough preparation in all branches of this work; namely, New England, Michigan, Illinois, and California; and that these schools begin courses of instruction, and receive students, January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1, of each year, unless in exceptional cases, where other arrangements are deemed advisable.

Applicants to be Recommended, and Pass Examination

5. That only such persons be sent to these schools as the various state conference committees shall recommend after consultation with the mission director, and that they shall pass a satisfactory examination before an examining board of three, or on blanks furnished by them, two to be appointed by the General Conference Committee to act with the mission director.

Support of Persons at Training Schools

6. That the conferences from which these individuals are sent become responsible for their support pro rata, not covered by profits on publications sold by them while at the school, until such time as the director and state conference committee shall deem it advisable to remove them for whatever cause, or make other arrangement for their support, in case they remain at the mission.

Consultation Before Establishing Training Schools

7. That mission training-schools should not be started without competent persons to manage them, and that in all cases the General Conference Committee

should be consulted as to the establishment of new training-schools, or the continuance of those already started.

Special Three-Month Institutes

8. That in conferences where it seems advisable, training-schools or institutes be conducted during three months of the year, the home mission secretary to arrange the program for such institutes, and provide the necessary help by advice of the General Conference Committee.

Caution in Starting City Missions

9. As experienced managers and thorough workers are few, and as missions are a financial burden, and, if not properly conducted, may result in injury to the cause; therefore, caution should be exercised in establishing city missions.

A Fund Necessary

10. RESOLVED, That we urge upon all our conferences the necessity of raising a city-mission fund sufficient for the education of workers, and for carrying forward mission work, as recommended in the foregoing resolutions.

The Central Bible Training-School

11. RESOLVED, That we indorse the action of the Illinois Conference in the erection of the new building in Chicago, suitable for a central training-school for city and foreign missionaries, in harmony with the advice of the General Conference Committee.

12. RESOLVED, That we recommend the states adjacent to Illinois, that have not already been advised by the General Conference to establish general training-schools, to give their encouragement and support to the Chicago Mission Training-school, by sending suitable persons there to be educated for labor in different fields. [Nov. 1.]

COMMITTEE ON FINANCES

C. H. Jones, Harmon Lindsay, A. R. Henry, C. Eldridge, and A. T. Jones, with such state conference presidents as were present, constituted this committee. The following is their report of October 24, 25:--

Your committee appointed to take into consideration the financial wants of the cause, find that it requires not less than \$50,000 a year to carry on the missions already established in different parts of the world. These missions have been established in the providence of God, and must be

supported by free-will offerings from our people; and as we are permitted to carry the light of the third angel's message to the world, and sustain this important work by our means and our prayers, we offer the following suggestions:--

Christmas Program

1. That a committee be appointed to make out a program of Christmas exercises to be sent to all our churches.

F. E. Belden, C. C. Lewis, and Jessie F. Waggoner were subsequently appointed.

Christmas Offerings

2. That on Monday evening, December 24, or on Christmas Day, our people everywhere assemble in their respective places of worship, prepared to manifest their love for God and interest in his work, by making liberal donations to foreign missions.

First-Day Offerings

WHEREAS, From all parts of the world, calls for work and laborers multiply, and missions in operation are suffering at present from lack of means and help; therefore, we recommend,--

3. That we herewith anew call the attention of our people everywhere to the provision made in the word of God in 1 Corinthians 16:2; also to the resolution passed at our last General Conference [number 4 of this report], and most heartily recommend its execution.

Channel for First-Day Offerings

A resolution concerning the channel through which the first-day offerings should reach the treasurer of the General Conference, having been referred to the Finance Committee, their report sustained the following recommendation, adopted at the session of 1887, the point in question being underlined:--

4. That our people everywhere literally carry out the advice of the apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 16:2: "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God has prospered him." As a weekly free-will offering in behalf of the foreign mission work, this is to be laid aside each week at home, and at the end of each quarter to be paid to the tract society officers, [not to the church treasurer] to be sent to the general treasury. [Nov. 27, 1887; Nov. 4, 1888.]

Week of Prayer

WHEREAS, The plan adopted for the last two years, of having a week of prayer in December, with important instructions to be read each day to our people, has proved a great spiritual blessing to all our churches which have carried out the plans suggested; therefore we recommend,--

5. That December 15-22, 1888, be set apart by all our churches as a week of prayer.

Days of Fasting and Prayer

WHEREAS, We recognize that the harvest is great and consecrated laborers are few, and the cause is languishing for devoted persons to fill responsible positions in all branches of the work; therefore we recommend,--

6. That Wednesday and Thursday, December 19, 20, be set apart as days of humiliation, fasting, and prayer, that God may raise up faithful laborers, and sustain those already in the field. [Substitute for a resolution recommending that December 15 be a day of fasting and prayer.]

Day of Praise and Thanksgiving

7. That Sabbath, December 22, be observed as a day of thanksgiving and praise to God for blessings and mercies received during the past year; and that praise services be held in all our churches. [Substitute for a resolution recommending that December 22 be a day of fasting and prayer.]

Readings for Week of Prayer

8. That appropriate articles or Bible readings be prepared to be read in all our churches, setting forth more definitely the wants of the foreign missions, and the dangers and duties of the present time.

R. A. Underwood, R. M. Kilgore, and E. W. Farnsworth were afterward appointed as a committee to secure readings.

9. That a council of church, Sabbath-school, and Tract and Missionary officers be held on Sabbath, December 8, prayerfully to consider this matter, and to lay definite plans to carry out the same successfully.

Miscellaneous

Two Series of Sabbath-School Lessons Recommended

10. We further recommend that the Executive Committee of the International Sabbath-school Association be requested to furnish a series of Sabbath-school

lessons, to continue one quarter, or more, bearing upon the principles of love and sacrifice as exemplified by the life of Christ, and those whom God has made prominent in past ages in the work of saving men; also a series setting forth the Bible plan of supporting the ministry. And we further urge that these lessons appear as soon as consistent with arrangements already made.

Laborers to Become Better Informed

11. That we urge upon all our ministers and conference laborers the importance of becoming familiar with the work being carried on in foreign fields, in order to be able to set the matter before our people in the proper light.

12. That they take a special interest in the Sabbath-school, and tract and missionary work, becoming familiar with all the details, so as to give practical instruction on these important matters.

Expense Attending This Conference Session

WHEREAS, The expenses attending this Conference have been unusually heavy upon the Minnesota Conference; therefore,--

13. RESOLVED, That we recommend that each conference donate what it shall feel disposed to, toward the Minnesota school, at Minneapolis, Minnesota. [R. A. Underwood and C. C. Lewis, October 31.]

14. RESOLVED, That the chair appoint a committee of three, to whom all money donated by the delegates or visitors, to the Minnesota Conference School, shall be paid, to be presented by said committee to the Minnesota Conference Committee. [L. C. Chadwick, Nov. 1.]

S. H. Lane, M. B. Miller, and E. H. Gates were appointed as the committee.

Transportation Committee for the Year

15. RESOLVED, That this Conference appoint a committee of five to act as our agents in the matter of railroad and steam-boat transportation, to represent us as a people before these companies, and negotiate with them in reference to such courtesies as they may be disposed to grant. [Nov. 4.]

A. R. Henry, W. C. Gage, C. H. Jones, A. T. Robinson, and T. A. Kilgore were appointed as said committee.

COMMITTEE ON BIBLE STUDY

Members of committee: George B. Starr, D. T. Jones, L. C. Chadwick, C. Eldridge, and L. R. Conradi. They reported November 4, as follows:--

Your committee appointed to devise a plan for a wider range of Bible

study, would respectfully submit the following:--

WHEREAS, In view of the light given us by the Spirit of God, calling on us to lay plans for a more thorough investigation of the Scriptures, and to give such instruction as will qualify our laborers to do more efficient work in every department of the cause; therefore,--

Yearly Institute in Each State

1. WE RECOMMEND, That each state conference hold an institute, or normal school, at least once a year, for a more thorough study of the truths of the third angel's message, and to give instruction in church, tract society, Sabbath-school, health and temperance, and canvassing work; to be conducted under the management of the conference committee.

Special, General Institutes

2. WE RECOMMEND, That the General Conference hold similar institutes, at such times and places as the General Conference Committee may decide.

How New Theories Shall Be Presented

3. WE RECOMMEND, That persons holding views different from those commonly taught by us as a denomination, present them to the conference committee of their respective states; and if thought proper, the conference committee present them to the state institute; and if considered of sufficient importance by the state institute, it shall recommend them for consideration at the General Conference Institute, a report of all such cases to be sent at the close of the state institute to the General Conference Committee.

COMMITTEE ON DISTRIBUTION OF LABOR*

This report includes such additions and changes as were afterward found necessary by the General Conference Committee. All recommendations made by them since the Conference adjourned, are followed by a star ().

This committee consisted of the General Conference Committee, and E. W. Farnsworth, A. J. Breed, Lewis Johnson, G. G. Rupert, and C. H. Jones. Their report during the session embraced the following recommendations:--

1. That J. W. Bagby, of Kansas, go to North Carolina, and make that his field of labor.
2. That T. H. Gibbs, of Louisiana, labor in the Nebraska Conference.
3. That J. M. Rees, of Tennessee, make Indiana his field of labor.
4. That William Covert, of Indiana, go to Tennessee to take the place made vacant by Brother Rees, and to take the oversight of the work in Kentucky.
5. That S. H. Lane, of Georgia, go to New York and labor in that

conference.

6. That M. G. Huffman, of Virginia, occupy the field made vacant by Brother Lane.

7. That B. F. Purdham, of Indiana, make Louisiana his field of labor.

8. That G. H. Rogers, of Illinois, labor in the Upper Columbia Conference.

9. That F. D. Starr go to Indiana and take the presidency of the conference and tract society.

10. That W. A. Colcord, of Iowa, go to Battle Creek to connect with the Review and Herald Office.

11. That H. R. Johnson, of Iowa, return to Wisconsin, and make that state his field of labor.

12. That O. A. Johnson, of Nebraska, attend Elder Matteson's training-school in Chicago, and then make Iowa his field, and labor exclusively in the Scandinavian language.

13. That John Covert, of Indiana, connect with the Michigan Conference, and labor in that field.

14. That C. O. Flaiz, of Kentucky, make Minnesota his field of labor.

15. That in harmony with the request of J. H. Durland, now laboring in England, we recommend him to return to this country, and labor in Ontario, under the direction of the Michigan Conference.

16. That E. W. Whitney, now in Basel, make Great Britain his field of labor, as soon as he can be spared from his work in Basel.

17. That J. D. Comte fill the vacancy in the Central European Conference caused by the death of B. L. Whitney.*

18. That J. S. Shrock, of Pennsylvania, go to Germany to labor in that country.

19. That L. R. Conradi spend several months in this country, holding institutes for the instruction of German canvassers and workers.

20. That Nova Scotia be placed under the direction of the Maine Conference Committee.*

21. That John Gibson, of California, go to London as bookkeeper, and to assist in the management of the office there.

22. That R. F. Andrews, of Illinois, labor in Indiana.

23. That T. M. Steward labor under the direction of the Maine Conference Committee.*

24. That W. S. Hyatt, of Wisconsin, go to Texas to take the presidency of the conference and tract and missionary society there.

25. That O. C. Godsmark, of Georgia, make Illinois his field of labor.

26. That C. P. Haskell, of Colorado, labor in the Kansas Conference.

27. That E. P. Auger, of Central Europe, return to this country to labor in the French canvassing field.

28. That D. T. Bourdeau go to Canada, to labor among the French in that country.

29. That the General Conference give the Kansas Conference a new 45 or 50 foot tent, provided that conference will send a man with it to open up the work in New Mexico.*

30. That A. T. Jones, if the way opens, visit Boston, Chicago, and other

points where local conferences can secure suitable places to reach the masses of the people, and present the subject of religious liberty.

31. That S. N. Haskell and E. W. Farnsworth be the remaining members of the committee to represent us before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, at Washington.*

32. That B. M. Shull, of Wisconsin, engage in the Scandinavian work, under the direction of the General Conference, and that, if possible, he go to Norway within six months, to labor in the publishing house there.

33. That Rasmus Peterson, of Minnesota, spend a season at the Review and Herald Office, with a view, after the benefit of such experience, to connect himself with the printing-house in Christiana, Norway.

34. That M. C. Wilcox, of New York, go to the Pacific Press Office, to assist in editing the Signs of the Times.

35. That J. W. Scoles, of Idaho, go to Oakland, California, to connect with the Pacific Press Office.

36. That May Taylor, of Central Europe, go to England, to labor in the Bible work.

37. That Elder J. F. Hansen attend the training-school in Chicago, and then go to Denmark to labor in the great Scandinavian field.

38. That the canvassing company in Iowa, consisting of M. W. Lewis and wife, Arthur Hur, N. P. Long, Willis Adams, Lewis Starr, and Laura Farris, make Maryland and Delaware their field of labor during the coming year, beginning work in the city of Baltimore; and that M. W. Lewis act as state agent.

39. That S. F. Reader and E. Robb, with their wives, move from Kansas to West Virginia, there to engage in the canvassing work, S. F. Reader to act as state agent.

40. That C. D. Wolf and wife, and J. E. Frazee, of Kansas, remove to North Carolina to engage in the canvassing work; C. D. Wolf to act as state agent.

41. That A. F. Harrison and wife, J. B. Thayer, Thomas Stewart, George Winn, and Moses Edwards remove from Kansas to Louisiana, there to engage in the canvassing work; A. F. Harrison to act as leader of the company. And we further recommend that I. Q. Reynolds and wife, of New Orleans, connect with this company.

42. That Charles F. Curtis devote his entire time to the canvassing work, acting as state agent for Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina; and that Charles E. Giles and William Fenner, of Michigan, and Luther Harmon, of Indiana, make Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina their field of labor.

43. That J. H. Dortch devote his entire time to the interests of the canvassing work in Tennessee.

44. That Indian Territory be given to Kansas, as a canvassing field.

45. That William Arnold return to Great Britain in the early spring.

46. That D. T. Jones, of Missouri, go to Battle Creek to assist the acting president of the General Conference in his correspondence and in his labors in the interests of the cause at large.

47. That E. A. Merrill, of Minnesota, go to Illinois to labor in that

conference.

48. That C. H. Bliss, of Illinois, make Minnesota his field of labor.

49. That M. H. Gregory, of Minnesota, go to Kansas to labor.

50. That J. O. Beard, of Iowa, go to the Upper Columbia Conference, and make that his field of labor.

51. That John I. Tay act as treasurer and financial manager of the Missionary ship.*

52. That Nellie Webber and Florence Westphal go to the Washington Mission.*

53. That Ella A. Carman, Hattie Annes, and H. May Stanton work in the Indianapolis Mission.

54. That W. C. Wales and wife, of Michigan, go to Indiana, to labor principally in the Indianapolis Mission.

55. That Gilbert Wilson, of Michigan, labor in the West Virginia Conference. 56. That Bernard Robb, of Victoria, attend Battle Creek College, to fit himself to labor among the people of Holland.

57. That A. G. Daniells be elected as the first member of the New Zealand Mission Board, and that the Auckland and Kaeo churches each be requested to elect two members of said mission board.*

58. That C. L. Boyd, I. J. Hankins, and Peter Wessels constitute a mission board for the South African Mission.*

59. That Lewis Johnson, of Illinois, go to Scandinavia to take the place of Elder O. A. Olsen.

60. That H. R. Johnson occupy the place on the Wisconsin Conference Committee made vacant by the removal of W. S. Hyatt.

61. That Alexander Paton occupy the place on the Wisconsin Conference Committee made vacant by the removal of B. M. Shull.

62. That Robert Vickery occupy the place on the Illinois Conference Committee made vacant by the removal of Lewis Johnson.

63. That C. W. Olds labor in Wisconsin.

64. That J. J. Graff occupy the place on the Minnesota Conference Committee made vacant by the removal of Lewis Johnson.

65. That Paul E. Gros labor at present among the French in Wisconsin.

66. That Professor W. H. McKee give his time to the work of reporting at our general meetings, and the education of other reporters, in connection with our educational institutions, and elsewhere.

67. That John P. Zirkle take the place made vacant on the Virginia Conference Committee by the removal of M. G. Huffman.

68. That H. P. Holser, J. H. Waggoner, E. W. Whitney, L. R. Conradi, and J. Erzenberger constitute a board of managers for the Central European Publishing House, the publishing committee to consist of J. H. Waggoner, H. P. Holser, L. R. Conradi, A. Kunz, and J. Vuilleumier.*

69. That O. A. Olsen, Lewis Johnson, N. Clausen, C. Melin, and J. M. Erickson be the publishing committee for the Scandinavian Publishing House.*

70. That S. N. Haskell, D. A. Robinson, and J. H. Durland constitute a managing board for the British Mission, and that S. N. Haskell, D. A. Robinson, and A. Smith act as a publishing committee.*

71. That C. Eldridge act as general canvassing agent for the denomination.*

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATION

Members of committee: J. Fargo, Dan T. Jones, J. B. Goodrich. Their report as amended [October 31 to November 8] stands as follows, the names substituted for those originally presented being underlined:--

General Conference

Executive Committee.--O. A. Olsen, S. N. Haskell, W. C. White, R. A. Underwood, R. M. Kilgore, E. W. Farnsworth, Dan T. Jones.

Officers.--President, O. A. Olsen; Recording Secretary, Dan T. Jones; Corresponding Secretary, W. H. Edwards; Home Mission Secretary, George B. Starr; Foreign Mission Secretary, W. C. White; Educational Secretary, W. W. Prescott; Treasurer, Harmon Lindsay.

General Conference Association

Trustees.--O. A. Olsen, U. Smith, A. R. Henry, J. Fargo, Harmon Lindsay.

Book Committee

President, W. C. White; Secretary, F. E. Belden; U. Smith; R. M. Kilgore; W. W. Prescott; A. T. Jones; E. J. Waggoner; C. Eldridge; J. H. Kellogg; E. W. Farnsworth; J. G. Matteson; A. T. Robinson; C. H. Jones.

Labor Bureau

A. R. Henry, C. Eldridge, H. W. Kellogg.

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS OF MINISTERS

The report of this committee, consisting of R. M. Kilgore, I. D. Van Horn, and H. Nicola, stands amended [Nov. 1, 2] as follows:--

For Credentials

George I. Butler, S. N. Haskell, U. Smith, O. A. Olsen, W. C. White, R. M. Kilgore, R. A. Underwood, E. W. Farnsworth, Dan T. Jones, Mrs. E. G. White, A. T. Jones, George B. Starr, J. G. Matteson, H. Shultz, D. T. Bourdeau, W. H. Saxby, J. E. Robinson, D. E. Lindsey, N. Orcutt, J. W. Bagby, M. G. Huffman, I. E. Kimball, L. H. Crisler, Oscar Hill, B. F. Purdham, S. H. Kima, D. A. Robinson, A. A. John, E. W. Whitney, Lewis Johnson, J. F. Hansen, E. G. Olsen, J. M. Erickson, L. R. Conradi, H. P. Holser, J. S. Shrock, J. C. Laubhan, C. L. Boyd, Ira J. Hankins, A. G. Daniells, Robert Hare, A. J. Cudney.

For License

W. W. Prescott, C. Eldridge, William M. Baird, N. B. England, Mrs. Ruie Hill, Arthur Hunt, D. C. Babcock, George R. Drew, A. Smith, A. La Rue, J. I. Tay.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

General Conference Constitution

1. Article II, Section 2, of the General Conference Constitution, was amended to read:--

"And to appoint, in connection with the president and secretary of the International Tract Society, a general canvassing agent." [Substituted (Nov. 2) in place of a motion by E. W. Farnsworth, to the effect that the general canvassing agent be one of the officers of the General Conference.]

C. Eldridge was appointed as said agent, November 15.

General Conference Association Constitution

2. Article VII of the Articles of the Association of the General Conference Association was amended to read:--

"NAME: General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventists, which is an unincorporated body.

"DENOMINATION: Seventh-day Adventist." [E. J. Waggoner, Nov. 8.]

CLOSING

1. VOTED, that we extend to the church in Minneapolis a vote of thanks for their generous entertainment of the delegates of this Conference. [Nov. 4.]

2. VOTED, That the appointment of the place at which the next annual session of the General Conference shall be held, be left with the General Conference Committee. [Nov. 4.]

REPORTS FROM HOME AND FOREIGN FIELDS

General Southern Field

Georgia and Florida

S. H. Lane gave an interesting and encouraging account of his work in these new fields, stating that while as a general thing the people were poor, they were generous and hospitable. A church has been organized in Atlanta during the year, and an effort is being made to support the mission there by the sale

of publications. A state tract society and Sabbath-school association have also been organized. Though the work in Florida has been greatly hindered this year by yellow fever, there are enough believers in that state and Georgia for a conference organization; but on account of the fluctuating character of the population in Florida, it would be best not to organize it at present. The tithe paid by both states was about \$700 for the year.

North Carolina

The progress of the work in this state since it was entered as a mission field three years ago, was briefly outlined by J. M. Rees, who stated that there were now about eighty believers, mostly in the western part of the state. A state tract society and Sabbath-school association have been organized, and a good campmeeting held during the year.

T. H. Gibbs reported for Central America and Louisiana, C. W. Olds for Alabama, and others in behalf of the Southern field in general, numerous questions being asked and answered relative to the customs of the people, methods of labor among them, etc.

South America and the West Indies

G. G. Rupert spoke concerning his experience in these fields, especially in British Guiana, where the people are mostly connected with the Church of England. At Georgetown, one quarter of the people are whites, of all nationalities. Nine tenths of those who attended the meetings in the city were colored. He baptized thirty there, and organized them into a church. George King, who accompanied him, sold eight hundred dollars' worth of books in four months. It is a good place for missionary work. The West Indies, he thought, would compare favorably with Australia, as a canvassing field.

[GET TWO TABLES CONCERNING WORK OF CITY MISSIONS]

CITY MISSION SUMMARY

According to the preceding tabular report, there are 131 workers engaged in Bible work, or have been some time during the year. They have made 43,021 visits, with 10,353 families. London and Liverpool were included in the report last year, but this year are included in the report of foreign missions. Sixteen of the missions report 526 converts since they were started, and almost one half, 258, during the last nine months, the time covered by this report.

There have been held 12,037 Bible readings, with 16,399 persons. During the nine months past, the canvassers have obtained 4,475 yearly subscriptions for our periodicals, and 644 for less than a year, making 5,119 in all. They have sold 2,359 subscription books, and sold, loaned, and given away 1,560,111 pages of books and tracts, and in different ways have distributed 24,237

periodicals. The amount of sales on books, \$7,674.40; paid for rent, \$4,453.47; for other expenses, not including board of workers, \$7,121.32; the amount of tithes paid by the missions, including mission workers and those who have embraced the truth through them, \$4,997.20. The amount of donations to other enterprises is \$1,855.25, making \$6,852.45, in all. Fully 1,000 persons have been converted since these missions began their work.

The Central Bible Training-School

It has been about four years since this school was opened in Chicago. Over one hundred laborers who have received more or less instruction therein, are now working in eighteen different states and in six countries.

Over one hundred persons have through this means accepted the truths taught by Seventh-day Adventists, and a large number are now interested. The church in Chicago numbers ninety-two members.

The mission has donated to foreign mission work, \$1,263.96; to home work--Chicago building fund, etc.--\$1,224.65; and has paid about \$1,200 tithe. During the last year, there were 1,500 subscriptions taken for Good Health.

The present plans are to receive as Bible workers principally ladies, and men and their wives. These persons must have a good experience at home first. They must be converted, give evidence of devotion, and show some ability to teach. The mission is not a place to send unconverted youth to get them under a good influence. The workers must not be burdened with this kind of work.

Systematic visiting of the sick and poor has been connected with the Bible work. There are four weekly tract societies in the city, and one at Pullman. Home and foreign missionary work is attended to through correspondence, also outside missionary work of every kind.

Regular instruction will be given by competent nurses from the Sanitarium, in the treatment of common diseases, also a series of lessons in physiology and hygiene, public and private Bible readings, practical religion, morning talks, and readings on the subjects of repentance, conversion, and faith.

A new building has just been erected at Nos. 26 and 28 College Place. It contains about thirty rooms, one a chapel, 28x40 feet, capable of seating about 300 people. The building is heated by steam, with passenger elevator. The water for the entire house and elevator is furnished free by the city. There will be no state or city tax upon the property.

Sixteen, or about one fifth of the whole number of converts, are devoting their entire time, and three a portion of their time, to some branch of the work. [Oct. 28.]

STATISTICS OF HOME AND FOREIGN CONFERENCES AND MISSIONS (Report of U. Smith, Recording Secretary of the General Conference)

In the columns for ministers and licentiates is given the actual number expected to labor in each conference during the coming year, according to the recommendations of the General Conference, and not the number receiving

credentials or licenses from each conference. Otherwise the report is for eight months only, ending June 30, 1888.

HOME AND FOREIGN CONFERENCES	DATES OF ORGANIZATION	NUMERICAL STANDING			TITHES	
		Ministers	Licen.	Chur.	PAID IN	
1. Arkansas-----	May 21, 1888---	1	2	10	226	\$ 119.30
2. Australia-----	Sept., 1888----	3	5	5	266	3,426.34
3. California-----	Feb. 15, 1873--	18	10	31	2,000	25,350.06
4. Canada-----	Aug. 16, 1880--	2	1	3	143	298.47
5. Central Europe--	May 26, 1884---	8	1	25	716	2,461.75
6. Colorado-----	Sept. 26, 1883-	5	---	9	300	3,587.97
7. Dakota-----	Sept. 16, 1880-	3	4	22	652	5,455.71
8. Denmark-----	May 30, 1880---	4	2	10	244	537.29
9. Illinois-----	June 9, 1871---	7	3	26	805	4,836.05
10. Indiana-----	Sept. 20, 1872-	8	7	47	1,135	6,000.00
11. Iowa-----	Sept. 20, 1863-	10	5	69	1,594	13,731.57
12. Kansas-----	Sept. 10, 1875-	9	17	57	1,883	4,095.16
13. Kentucky-----	May 20, 1876---	--	---	---	-----	186.00
	(Now under Tenn.)					
14. Maine-----	Nov. 1, 1867---	5	4	20	436	1,244.37
15. Michigan-----	Oct. 5, 1861---	27	28	119	4,355	20,310.26
16. Minnesota-----	Oct. 4, 1862---	12	6	67	1,754	12,471.95
17. Missouri-----	June 2, 1876---	7	4	24	677	2,827.16
18. Nebraska-----	Sept. 25, 1878-	7	6	34	670	7,827.78
19. New England----	Aug. 24, 1871--	7	6	24	766	5,426.00
20. New York-----	Oct. 25, 1862--	8	5	29	803	3,546.26
21. North Pacific---	Oct. 25, 1877--	4	8	21	542	6,962.31
22. Norway-----	June 10, 1887--	3	---	4	197	373.21
23. Ohio-----	Feb. 22, 1863--	8	4	47	1,062	6,460.69
24. Pennsylvania---	Sept. 17, 1879-	7	7	41	843	4,868.48
25. Sweden-----	March 12, 1882-	2	---	10	325	674.81
26. Tennessee-----	1880-	5	---	8	158	627.59
27. Texas-----	Nov. 18, 1878--	2	6	13	----	1,878.40
28. Upper Columbia--	1880-	6	7	13	366	2,998.08
29. Vermont-----	June 12, 1863--	5	2	18	457	1,898.98
30. Virginia-----	Aug. 5, 1884---	3	---	5	121	561.61
31. West Virginia---	Sept. 15, 1887-	1	1	5	106	456.70
32. Wisconsin-----	June 22, 1871--	10	7	59	1,766	6,882.94
MISSIONS	Total-----	207	158	875	25,378	\$158,383.25
British-----		3	2	6	152	700.00
General Southern-----		8	4	18	400	1,000.00
New Zealand-----		2	---	2	130	852.06
Other Pacific Islands-----		1	1	---	----	-----
South African-----		2	---	---	27	2,193.92
Not elsewhere counted-----		9	3	---	25	-----
Total-----		232	168	901	26,112	\$163,129.23

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE
(Report of A. R. Henry, Treasurer of the General Conference,
for Eight Months, Ending June 30, 1888)

Cash on hand, November 1, 1887-----	\$ 1,250.61	
Received to June 30, 1888-----	<u>25,383.97</u>	
Total-----		\$ 26,634.58
Paid to ministers-----	\$17,514.06	
Paid to sundries-----	<u>1,602.73</u>	
Total-----		<u>\$ 19,116.79</u>
Balance on hand June 30, 1888-----		\$ 7,517.79
Tithe for 1888 (8 months)-----		\$ 25,383.97
Tithe for 1887 (12 months)-----		<u>15,923.50</u>
Increase-----		\$ 9,460.47

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION
(Report of A. R. Henry, Treasurer of the General Conference Association,
for Eight Months, Ending June 30, 1888)

Due from missions-----	\$28,271.98	
Due from Pacific Press-----	5,119.78	
Due on notes (bills receivable)-----	100.00	
Due on personal accounts-----	9,589.22	
Real estate (mission and other property)-----	<u>60,031.35</u>	
Total-----		\$103,112.33
Due to funds-----	\$12,585.74	
Due to Review and Herald-----	9,386.66	
Due on notes (bills payable)-----	19,453.46	
Due on personal accounts-----	1,655.12	
Present worth-----	<u>60,081.35</u>	
Total-----		\$103,112.33

Financial Statement of Echo Publishing House, Australia, June, 1888

Publishing house plant-----	\$ 5,417.82	
Inventory (publications, persl. accts., etc.)	15,584.10	
Bank deposits and cash-----	<u>2,633.67</u>	
Total-----		\$ 23,635.59
Personal accounts-----	\$10,456.68	
Net worth above all indebtedness-----	<u>13,178.91</u>	
Total-----		\$ 23,635.59

Financial Statement of the Central European Publishing House,
Basel, Switzerland, June, 1888

Real estate-----	\$32,756.50	
Inventory (machinery, publications, stock, furniture, etc.)-----	<u>25,663.69</u>	
Total-----		\$ 58,420.19
Notes payable-----	\$ 2,942.31	
Mortgages-----	3,723.27	
Overdraft at bank-----	12,714.37	
Personal accounts-----	7,312.32	
Net worth above all indebtedness-----	<u>31,727.92</u>	
Total-----		\$ 58,420.19

Financial Statement of the Scandinavian Publishing House,
Christiana, Norway, April, 1888

Real estate-----	\$26,881.72	
Inventory (machinery, publications, etc.)----	<u>34,418.92</u>	
Total-----		\$ 61,300.64
Bills payable-----	\$ 1,961.52	
Mortgages-----	13,978.48	
Personal accounts-----	34,586.12	
Net worth above all indebtedness-----	<u>10,774.52</u>	
Total-----		\$ 61,300.64

Financial Statement of the English Mission, April, 1888

Due on personal accounts-----		\$ 14,379.01
Inventory (machinery, fixtures, furniture, publications, etc.)-----	\$ 5,967.12	
Due from personal accounts-----	5,583.36	
Present indebtedness-----	<u>2,828.53</u>	
Total-----		\$ 14,379.01

Financial Statement of the South African Mission, June, 1888

Expense of starting mission, sending tents, publications, etc.-----		\$ 6,963.30
Donations paid in to date on this fund-----		<u>6,155.84</u>
Present indebtedness-----		\$ 807.46

At the date of this report, the International Sabbath-school Association had in its possession several thousand dollars belonging to the mission. This money was not paid over in time to appear in the June report.

EDUCATIONAL WORK

(Report of W. W. Prescott, Educational Secretary, for the Year 1888)

At the session of the General Conference held in 1887, the Constitution of that body was so amended as to provide for an Educational Secretary, and the present incumbent was elected to fill the office thus created. The objects sought in this step were that there might be a greater unity of purpose and action in the educational work among Seventh-day Adventists. It is hoped that some progress has been made in this direction, though the Secretary has been able to give but little time exclusively to the duties of his new office, owing to the fact that his other duties were in no way lightened.

In May, 1888, he spent about ten days at the South Lancaster Academy, South Lancaster, Massachusetts. This was rather a critical time in the history of that institution, as influences had been at work for some time tending to draw the school away from the special purpose for which it was founded. Several addresses upon educational topics, and especially upon the relation of religion to education, were delivered, and much time was spent in council with the Board of Trustees as to the future of the school. Subsequent developments seem to justify the wisdom of the course taken and the suggestions made at that time.

After the meeting at South Lancaster, the Secretary visited General Armstrong's school for colored students and Indians, at Hampton, Virginia. At this institution, as much as at any other in the United States, and perhaps more, labor and study are combined; and it was to see the practical working of this plan, and to become familiar with its details, that this visit was made. A cordial reception and hospitable entertainment were given, and the occasion was rich in new ideas and suggestions which it is hoped have been of benefit to our general work.

In the latter part of May, and during the month of June, the Secretary attended camp-meetings in Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, speaking several times in English upon educational topics, and also, through an interpreter, to the Scandinavians, making especially prominent the position which religious instruction should occupy in the plan of character development. Later in the season, he also attended camp-meetings in Ohio and in Michigan, laboring in much the same line. The general results of these efforts seemed to be to arouse a stronger interest on the part of old and young in the topics presented, and to settle in the minds of many the necessity of establishing and maintaining our own denominational schools wherever practicable. At the annual meeting of the Minnesota Conference, held in connection with the campmeeting in that state, it was voted to open a conference school as soon as possible, and the president of the conference, Elder A. D. Olsen, at once made application to the Secretary for a principal and two assistant teachers. This demand was met by sending Professor C. C. Lewis, who was released by the Trustees of Battle Creek College from his engagement in that institution for that express purpose, and Miss Sarah E. Peck and Miss Elsie M. Westphal, who graduated at Battle Creek College in June, 1888. The Secretary attended the General Conference held at Minneapolis, Minnesota, in November, 1888, spoke once upon the subject of education, and had opportunity to counsel with the school committee of the Minnesota Conference with reference to the opening of

their school, and also to advise with the Kansas Conference Committee, who had in the meantime decided to open an English school in their conference, a German school having been in session one year.

At the suggestion of members of the General Conference Committee, it was determined to hold at Battle Creek, Michigan, a general teachers' institute at the close of the school year in June, 1888. The following report of that gathering, prepared by the secretary of the Institute, Professor C. C. Lewis, will give an outline of the work done:--

"A Seventh-day Adventist Teachers' Institute was held at Battle Creek, Michigan, June 21-26, 1888, conducted by the Educational Secretary, W. W. Prescott. There were about thirty teachers in attendance, including representatives from Battle Creek and Healdsburg colleges, South Lancaster Academy, and the Oregon and Upper Columbia Conference schools. Elder Butler was present at nearly all the meetings, taking an active part in the exercises; and Elders Smith and Kilgore attended some of the sessions and joined in the discussions. Two sessions, of three hours each, were held each day, besides one evening meeting. The following were the principal topics considered:--

- " 1. Relation of our educational work to the third angel's message.
- " 2. What object should guide us in the education of our young people?
- " 3. Church schools--their necessity, establishment, management, grade, and support.
- " 4. Relation of primary schools to our higher educational institutions.
- " 5. What provision should be made, if any, for a more special theological training, for the benefit of those who desire to labor publicly?
- " 6. To what extent should students be encouraged to take long courses of study, and to graduate from our institutions?
- " 7. What position shall we take with reference to the granting of degrees?
- " 8. To what extent can religious instruction be given consistently and profitably in connection with the school work?
- " 9. In what way can instruction in methods of labor in our cause be best given to those who desire it?
- "10. What proportion of teachers to the number of students can be employed, in harmony with reasonable economy and the best interests of our schools?
- "11. Is it advisable to establish a course of reading and study for the intellectual and spiritual improvement of our people, to be conducted somewhat after the plan of the Chautauqua reading circle?
- "12. What should be the general plan of discipline? and on what principles should it rest?
- "13. By what means can we best promote the spiritual interests of our schools.
- "14. What is the best plan for teaching the English Bible?
- "15. How shall manual training be best carried on in connection with our schools?
- "16. How can our students' homes be so managed as to secure the best results socially and morally?

"17. What is the best plan for the management of domestic labor in connection with our students' homes?"

"It will be seen from a perusal of the foregoing topics, that the matters usually considered at teachers' institutes, such as methods of teaching, etc., were not taken up. It was designed at this institute to dwell only upon those points concerning which our teachers would not be likely to gain information elsewhere,--questions connected with the educational problem in our own denomination. The objects of the institute, as stated by the president in his opening address, were to discuss questions of interest arising in our educational work, to lay plans for carrying in on, to unify the work, and to become more thoroughly imbued with the spirit of our special work,--the proclamation of the third angel's message.

"Concerning church schools, it was the unanimous opinion that schools should not be established until teachers are well prepared to take charge of them, and the people are ready to support them, both with their sympathies and with their means. The burden of the responsibility of church schools should be assumed by the Conference under a general supervision, and should not be left to private responsibility and management.

"With reference to long courses of study, it was thought best not to encourage persons well advanced in years to take them; but it was thought that we need a more extensive course for those whose mental capacity would warrant it, and who could finish such a course at from twenty-two to twenty-five years of age. Men of thorough education are greatly needed. Men who are loyal to the truth, and who have a thorough knowledge of Greek, Latin, Hebrew, German, and other languages, to make original research in libraries of those languages, with the view of gaining historical evidence bearing upon the different points of our faith; nor ought we to be obliged to fall back upon worldly institutions for the preparation of teachers to give instruction in these languages.

"The subject of a course of reading brought out a very interesting discussion, which resulted in the passing of the following resolution:--

"RESOLVED, That it is the opinion of this Institution that a course of general reading and study, to meet the wants of Seventh-day Adventists, ought to be adopted, and that the General Conference be requested to take the matter under consideration at its next session.

"These are but a few of the conclusions reached by the Institute, but they will serve to give some idea of the nature of the work done. All felt that the Institute had been a profitable one."

Seventh-day Adventists believe in education. Their belief that the second coming of Christ is near has not been pleaded as an excuse on their part that they should not make the most of all the time which was granted them, in order to secure the proper development of their own powers and those of their children. Indeed, the very consideration of the shortness of time has been an incentive to them to redeem the time in this as well as in other respects. Believing, as they do, that religious instruction should have a prominent place in the education of youth, and recognizing the fact that this

could not properly be expected of the public schools, and that even if it could, the kind of religious instruction would not accord with what they regard as the true teaching of the Bible, they began as early as 1872 to agitate the question of denominational schools. In 1874, Battle Creek College was opened to students, and since that time the number of such schools has increased until there are eight now maintained in this country, besides special schools of short duration, which might more properly be termed institutes. Time has amply proved the wisdom of this course, and the Educational Secretary would recommend that conference and church schools be established as rapidly as suitable persons can be found to take charge of them. The developments of the past year emphasize the need of such schools. Whatever may be their excellencies in other directions, when the religion of the majority is taught by law in the public schools, Seventh-day Adventists will feel the need of other facilities for the education of their children. It is the part of wisdom to provide beforehand for emergencies whose coming can be plainly observed.

FOREIGN CONFERENCES AND MISSIONS

(Report of W. C. White, Foreign Mission Secretary)

The work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, in other countries than the United States and Canada, has employed, during the year 1888, twenty-six ministers of the gospel, seven lay preachers (licentiates), ten editors, one hundred colporters, fifteen Bible-readers, five teachers and business managers, and not less than seventy-five translators, printers, and binders. Forty of these laborers have been sent to these fields from the United States, twenty-eight of whom have been wholly supported by the American churches. Of the one hundred colporters, there are about seventy-five who are wholly self-supporting, and twenty-five who receive some aid from the society. Twelve of the American laborers, and fifteen of the twenty-five native preachers, translators, and Bible-readers, are wholly supported by contributions from the churches where they labor; while the remaining ten are supported partly by American, and partly by native, contributions.

During the past year, a large part of the time of those of most experience in mission work, has been devoted to the education and training of younger laborers, and to the writing, or revision and translation, of books indispensable to the colporters, and necessary to the success of the work. Scandinavia

Sweden.--The past year has witnessed some increase in the number of Sabbath-keepers in Sweden. A tent-meeting has been held by J. M. Erickson, which was largely attended, and some eighteen or twenty have commenced to keep the Sabbath. Two churches have been organized during the year, one at West Body, with sixteen members, and one at Geffle, with fourteen members. The whole number baptized during the year was forty-seven. A good degree of interest to hear the truth is manifested in many places. Since the close of the mission school, twenty-eight colporters have been at work, and have had

a good degree of success, so that with a little assistance they have paid their own way. The aggregate amount of book sales up to September 1, amounts to \$5,410.09. Sweden seems to be a good field for labor, but we lack both men and means to push the work as would be desirable.

Denmark.--Here also an increase of interest is manifest. A tent-meeting has been held at Holbek the past summer, with a good degree of interest. Quite a number have commenced to obey the truth. One new church was added to the conference. The whole number baptized was forty. Since the close of the mission school, fourteen colporters have been at work. The book sales amounted to about \$558. In Denmark we find many calls for labor, and a rising interest in a number of places. The obstacles in the way of the canvassing work are very great, as the laws of the land are unfavorable to our plan of selling books.

Norway.--Since the close of the Conference, K. Brorsen has labored in the northern part of the kingdom, where he has met with very encouraging success. On different islands there, he has found people very anxious to hear. In one place eighteen had commenced the observance of the Sabbath at his last writing. There are also Sabbath-keepers at other places. In Southern Norway, also, we find an interest is being awakened at different places. Much could be done if we only had the needed laborers, and means with which to carry the work forward. We have in Norway seven active colporters. Since the close of our mission school, their book sales have amounted to about \$1,461.21. All of them are of good courage, and some of them are meeting with excellent success for this country.

Summary.--There are now in Scandinavia twenty-four churches against twenty-one last year, with a membership of 766, showing an increase of fifty-three members since last report. Scattered Sabbath-keepers, not yet organized into churches, number 265, making a total of 1,031 believers. Tithes and donations, \$1,585.31, against \$593.38 last year. The number of ministers is eight; colporters, forty-nine. Book sales for the year, \$8,063. Books printed during the year: Life of Christ, in the Swedish language, 4,000; in the Danish, 4,000; besides 4,000 Home Hand Books in each of these languages. Number of tracts and pamphlets in both languages, and of all sizes, from a four-page tract to the largest pamphlet, 135,000 copies. Periodicals printed: Tidende (Danish religious journal), 24,000; Harolden (Swedish religious journal), 24,000; Danish health journal, 90,000; Swedish health journal, 50,000; with about 4,000 subscribers to each.

Central Europe

In Central Europe we have witnessed the development of some very encouraging features during the past year. Obstacles have presented themselves on every hand, and have seemed to hedge up the progress of the work in every direction; but the providence of God has opened the way, amidst all the difficulties, for the work to advance and gain strength. A goodly number

of believers have been added to our churches, especially in Switzerland and Russia.

The greatest opposition is met in Russia, yet the work advances more rapidly there than in any other field under the care of this Conference. There are now in the Crimea, the Caucasus, on the Volga, and in Southern Russia, 255 Sabbath-keepers in all. The only laborer in that field is C. Laubhan. The Russian laws are growing more oppressive to Protestants, so that at present a Protestant minister is not allowed to enter Russia, or even pass through her territory.

Some interest has been awakened in Austria; but the papacy has such complete control there that none of the later Protestant sects, such as the Methodists, can hold public meetings in the empire, and in case they meet with private families, only such are allowed to attend as get permission to do so from government officials. At present but little can be done in this field, except with reading matter.

The most encouraging feature of the work in Central Europe during the past year, is the success of the colporters. Until our first subscription book adapted to the European field, the Life of Christ, appeared in the German and French languages about a year ago, the colporters had not been able to make their work self-supporting, and could only be kept in the field at a constant expense; but during the past year, the work has been made self-supporting in Germany and Switzerland, and a goodly number of workers have been kept in the field. At present there are six companies in the field, numbering thirty-two canvassers. These have sold during the year ending October 1, 1888, about 7,000,000 pages of reading matter, at a retail price of \$17,000. Aside from the time spent on the journals and a few tracts, our presses have been crowded, and about thirty-five printers and binders have been kept busy to supply the demand for books. The larger companies have regular hours for study each day, when the leader gives instruction in the work, and on Bible topics. Much interest has been manifested in Bible readings. As soon as means can be provided for it, doubtless much can be done by city mission labor.

Another feature which is of special encouragement, is the success of the first campmeeting held in Central Europe. Much prejudice existed against such meetings, many preferring to travel in the beaten track of centuries rather than take a new and unpopular way. But notwithstanding, the meeting was appointed to be held at Tramelan, Switzerland, August 17-27, and the Lord signally blessed the effort. The meeting was attended by more than two hundred of our people from France, Germany, and Switzerland. The best of order prevailed, and besides being a great blessing to those present, the meeting had a widespread influence abroad for the good of the cause. This was the largest gathering of Sabbath-keepers ever held in Europe by our people.

Our publishing house in Basel is increasing in facilities, and enjoys a good reputation and credit in business circles. During the past year, more than ten million pages of reading matter were printed, as compared with

a little more than three millions of pages issues the preceding year. As our workers extend the circulation of reading matter, the attention of the nations about us is called more and more to our work.

During the past season, the mission has also witnessed the establishment of its first school. All children in this country are compelled to attend school until the age of fourteen; and so far, all efforts have failed to secure their exemption from attending school on the Sabbath. The only way to accomplish this is to have schools of our own. As a private enterprise, some of our brethren have erected a dwelling, with the first story fitted for school purposes. In these rooms, a primary school has been opened, where our children can enjoy the benefits of an education without attending school on the Sabbath. As soon as facilities can be provided, it is hoped to extend the school, that our people may receive a higher education in the various branches of the work.

The Sabbath-keepers in this field now number not less than 314 in Switzerland, 55 in France, 53 in Germany, 15 in Holland, 26 in Italy, 255 in Russia, 3 in Roumania, and 5 in Corsica, making a total of 726.

On the whole, we have reason for deep gratitude to God for what has been accomplished in this field during the past year, and we trust that his guiding hand will be over the work in the future.

England

For centuries England has been the battle ground of Protestantism and Catholicism, conformists and non-conformists, truth and error. It is an old country, and the customs of its people are stereotyped, notwithstanding its being filled with controversies. Though the Episcopal Church is the established religion, other denominations are at liberty to present their views if they choose. A person is just as free in England as in America, to pitch a tent and hold meetings for the purpose of teaching any religious views he may desire; but notwithstanding this freedom, England is a very hard field of labor, owing to the castes in society. Many of those who would be benefited by attending meetings, will not come. This caste makes London the hardest field of labor in all England. Yet it is advantageous in one respect; namely, when a family become interested in the truth, the light extends to their friends in different parts of the city, so there is no limit to the field, or the demand for laborers.

It is estimated that the average annual increase of houses in London, is over fifteen thousand. In 1883 there were added 22,110 new houses to the vast aggregate of dwellings, forming 368 new streets and one new square, and extending a distance of sixty-six miles. It has an average of forty miles of street opened yearly. It has four hundred daily and weekly newspapers. It is estimated that one thousand ships and ten thousand sailors are in its ports every day.

Such is the city in which our work is centered. The printing-office, in which Present Truth is published semi-monthly in an edition of five

thousand copies, was removed from Grimsby to 45 Holloway Road, London, in September, 1887; and a business office was opened at 48 Paternoster Row in April, 1888. A training school was also opened at the Chaloners, Anson Road, Tufnell Park, London, N., in charge of Elder D. A. Robinson and wife, just returned from Africa.

The opening of the work in Paternoster Row is a move which has contributed largely to the interest of the work in London. The church now numbers thirty-three, with a usual attendance on the Sabbath of fifty or sixty. The Sabbath-school has about fifty members. During the past summer a tract society has been organized, and is meeting with much encouragement in sending out publications.

Not a few letters are received from different parts of the kingdom, expressing a deep interest in the reading matter received, and, as a result, a few have accepted the truths which we teach.

In June, 1888, Brother William Arnold arrived from Australia, and spent a few weeks canvassing for Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation. His efforts were attended with marked success. The willingness to read on the subjects presented in the Bible readings which have been held, is continually increasing, and many families have become interested in different parts of the city.

Several soldiers at the barracks at Southampton have embraced the truth principally by reading.

Small companies of Sabbath-keepers and isolated believers are scattered all over Great Britain. There are a few in Ireland, a few in Scotland, and a few in Wales. In 1888, one meeting-house was build at Ulceby, capable of seating about two hundred. Believers in England are conscientious about paying their tithe, and are ready to cooperate in any advance move among our people.

Australia

Prosperity has attended the work in this field the past year. Three laborers have been employed, two of whom have labored largely in Tasmania. A company of thirty embraced the truth in Hobart, the capital of that colony, and about seventy in other parts of Australia. Two canvassers have been in that field, who have sold a great many books. Three hundred copies of Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation were sold in one town alone.

The printing work had grown so that the quarters first occupied became too small, and as a building suitable for such work could not be rented, ground was bought and a building erected, 33x65 feet, with press room 22x36 feet. The main building is three stories high, the upper one of which is, for the present, to be occupied as a meeting room for the Melbourne Church. The cost of the property will be not far from \$13,000. Nearly one half of this amount has been subscribed in stock, and fifty per cent of the subscriptions paid.

The Bible Echo is now regularly on file in many of the libraries of the colonies, and already the reading of that paper is bearing some fruit. Until

January of the present year, this paper was a monthly, but is now issued semi-monthly. Through missionary efforts, a few are now keeping the Sabbath in Sydney, the capital of New South Wales, and that city is being worked by our canvassers. During a portion of the past year, the great Melbourne Exposition has been in progress, which has given a favorable opportunity to distribute reading matter. Space was secured in which to exhibit our publications, and in this way the Bible Echo was quite freely distributed. The work done at the Exposition has been somewhat expensive, but we think it will pay in the end.

Since the organization of the Australian Conference the latter part of last year, the demands for laborers in that field have been increasing, and we pray that God will raise up more workers to carry on the work to its final consummation.

New Zealand

This colony, though a field by itself, is nevertheless much like that of Australia, as far as our work is concerned. As in Australia, the truth has prospered in this field during the past year. In Auckland, the largest city of the North Island, a meeting house has been built, and the church there placed on a permanent footing. In Napier, where the last tent effort was made, a deep interest was manifested, and a good company identified themselves with the work of the third angel's message. There are now three churches in the North Island.

In numerous localities an interest has been created through the reading of the Bible Echo, and by the distribution of tracts. An excellent opportunity is afforded in Auckland for doing missionary work on ships and steamers, as many leave that port for the principal islands of the Pacific, as well as the ports of Europe and America. Two ministers are laboring in this colony, besides quite a number of experienced Bible workers. We have reason to be greatly encouraged by what has been done in New Zealand since the work was opened there.

South Africa

The work for the past year in South Africa has many encouraging features. Through the efforts of those sent from America, aided by two native laborers, about sixty have commenced the observance of the Sabbath, making the whole number of believers about one hundred persons. In one place a church has been organized with a membership of thirty-six, and a missionary society numbering forty-five. The tithe for the past year amounted to \$1,472.50, making a larger average per member than any other church in the denomination.

The reports show that the brethren in South Africa are heartily interested in evangelical work. They have given 407 Bible readings, made 2,380 visits, and written 390 letters. Of books, pamphlets, and tracts, 1,466,452 pages have been distributed by colporters, and 577,484 pages by members of the tract society. The number of periodicals given away has amounted to 8,598, and 513

subscriptions have been obtained. The sale of publications has amounted to \$1,682.66.

Two libraries have been furnished with bound books, twenty reading rooms have been supplied with religious journals, and three with health and temperance literature.

Tent meetings have been held in several places, and in some instances the churches have been opened for the use of our ministers. Especially has this been the case when the subjects of health, temperance, and practical religion have been the chief topics presented. The curse of drink has had a blighting influence upon Africa, and the need and value of temperance work are keenly felt by those who have the genuine well-being of society at heart.

The canvassing work has been especially prosperous, and hundreds of our books are now in the hands of earnest searchers for truth.

Support of Foreign Work

The amount received for foreign missions by the treasurer of the General Conference Association for the year ending June 30, 1888, was as follows:--

Conferences	a	b	Conferences	a	b
Michigan-----	\$5,990.56	\$ 378.93	Tennessee-----	98.15	5.00
California-----	4,655.71	-----	Texas-----	65.65	6.65
Iowa-----	2,019.84	177.06	Canada-----	65.52	----
New England-----	1,502.00	124.22	West Virginia----	10.00	----
Minnesota-----	1,515.22	93.90	Virginia-----	45.75	----
Illinois-----	1,000.00	68.79	Kentucky-----	45.15	6.59
Kansas-----	1,253.76	42.50			
New York-----	821.79	49.58	Not organized into		
Wisconsin-----	762.00	50.46	conferences		
North Pacific----	788.48	44.55			
Ohio-----	585.29	??	Florida-----	64.76	----
Dakota-----	606.41	34.29	Dist. of Columbia	58.00	----
Pennsylvania-----	704.85	45.64	Alabama-----	56.00	----
Vermont-----	663.17	-----	Georgia-----	54.75	----
Missouri-----	496.94	34.86	Louisiana-----	-----	----
Nebraska-----	568.34	20.65	Mississippi-----	5.00	----
Indiana-----	513.13	10.10	Maryland-----	1.60	----
Colorado-----	238.94	12.25	Miscellaneous----	102.75	11.05
Maine-----	233.70	-----	Total-----	\$25,589.81	\$1,231.46

aChristmas offerings.

bWeekly offerings, quarter ending March 30, 1888.

Special gifts and payment of pledges amounted to \$11,891.48, making a total of \$38,712.75. Other amounts, such as the Sabbath-school contribution to missions, and the weekly offerings for the second quarter, which were not reported in time to appear in this report, would show the total amount raised during the year in America for our missions, to be \$45,000. This, divided by 25,000, the probable membership of the Seventh-day Adventist churches in America, shows an average of \$1.80 per member.

The amount received up to June 30, nearly \$39,000, was appropriated to the several missions as follows:--

Central European-----	\$14,000
Scandinavian-----	12,000
British-----	10,000
Australian and Pacific-----	3,000

But these amounts have not been sufficient to carry forward the work, and to furnish an ample stock of books for the colporters; therefore the treasurer has borrowed such sums as seemed absolutely necessary to carry forward the work.

From a study of these figures, and of the work laid out for the present year, we conclude that something more than \$60,000 will need to be raised in America for our foreign missions. This amount will probably be furnished as follows:--

Christmas donations-----	\$28,000
Sabbath-school contributions-----	12,000
Weekly (first-day) offerings-----	20,000

This will leave the large gifts and the payments on pledges, to meet the debt incurred during the past four or five years of building and stocking our mission printing houses.

The question sometimes arises as to how far the work in these foreign countries may become self-supporting. In Switzerland, aside from the publishing house, the work has been self-supporting for nearly three years. In New Zealand, all the expenses of the work are met by home contributions, except the transportation of laborers from America. In South Africa, the friends of the mission propose to meet its expenses from this time forward. In Victoria, Australia, the tithes from the churches meet the expenses of all employed in that colony. But in close proximity to each of these, with perhaps the exception of New Zealand, there are extensive mission fields, calling loudly for help. Victoria is but one of the five Australian colonies, and we cannot expect the churches of that colony to bear the burden of sending the message to New South Wales, to south australia, to West Australia, and to Queensland. This illustrates the situation in Central Europe and other foreign countries. Our churches in other lands are fully as faithful and self-sacrificing, in the support of the gospel, as the churches in America, and are as liberal, according to their ability, in contributing to missionary enterprises. But we cannot wait for these churches to gain strength to carry the message to the wide mission fields beyond. It is evidently our duty largely to increase the number of trained laborers, and the volume of contributions from the United States.

The question of our mission printing-houses' becoming self-sustaining, must receive a similar answer. The subscriptions to the journals fall short, about one fourth, of meeting the expense of their publications. The larger books, which are sold by the trained colporters, meet the expense of publications, and are a source of small profit. Some of the smaller works, while quite necessary, have not sufficient sale to meet the expense of their publication. Should we continue the publishing work as it is, without

enlargement, it would nearly pay its way. But this we cannot do.

There is now an urgent call for tracts and pamphlets in Russian, Polish, Hungarian, Armenian, Finnish, Portuguese, Spanish, Greek, Chinese, Indian, Hawaiian, and the native languages of the Pacific Islands. Besides the considerable expense of translating and publishing a few small works in each of these languages, the greater part of which must be distributed gratuitously, larger works are demanded in the French, German, Dutch, and Scandinavian languages. To translate and publish such a work as The Life of Christ, the History of the Sabbath, or Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation, in four languages, requires the investment of five to eight thousand dollars, to bring the books to completion, and as long as the sale of any work is active, considerable capital must be employed in printing it.

A considerable part of the money expended in our foreign work for the last four years, has been devoted to building and equipping the printing-houses, and in furnishing supplies of books for the colporters. The present value of our mission printing houses and book depositories, above all indebtedness, is not far from \$65,000. As our foreign work enters new fields, new books will be demanded, and as the publication of each new work calls for capital, we shall need each year to set apart a liberal sum for this purpose.

We earnestly hope that the friends of this work will carefully consider the facts and figures given above, and thereby discern how small our efforts have been, compared with the magnitude of the work, with the efforts of older and stronger societies, and with what we may do, if each member of the church will take hold of the work in earnest.

Attest: Uriah Smith, Secretary,
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.