

Union Conference Record

"Be strong all ye people, saith the Lord, and work; for I am with you."

VOLUME VI.

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NUMBER VI.

"The Sea and the Waves Roaring," a Token of the Approaching End.

THE details of that dreadful storm and tidal wave which, during the month of January, suddenly wrought ruin and desolation throughout the low islands of the eastern Pacific are still fresh in our minds.

The following, relative to the recent furious gale on the Atlantic, we clip from the *Daily Telegraph*.

Wild Weather in Britain.

A succession of hurricanes in the Atlantic has compelled many battered steamers to return to Queenstown, with numbers of injured seamen on board.

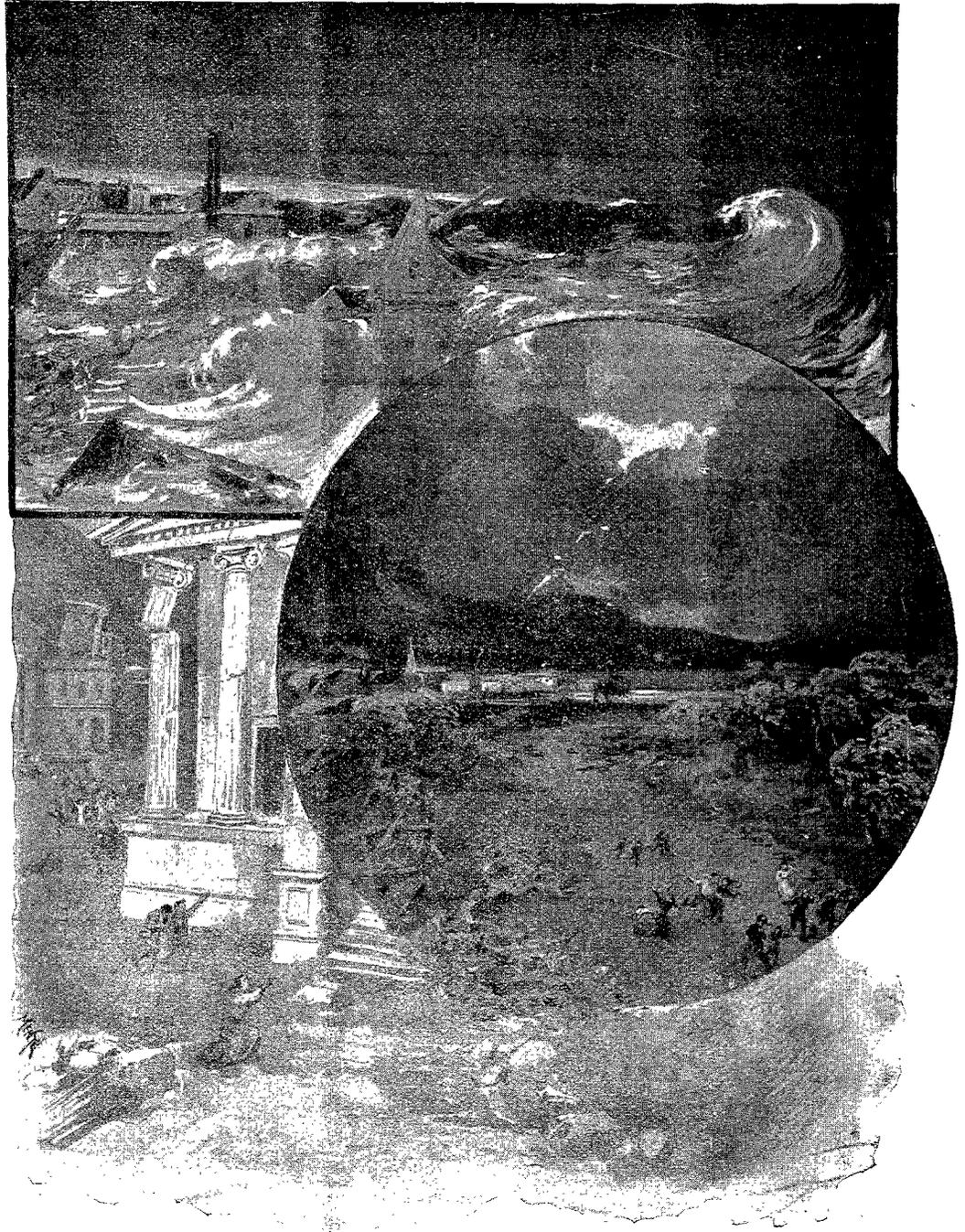
Thirty-three vessels were wrecked, and the damage done to churches, factories, and farms is estimated at hundreds of thousands of pounds sterling.

Ten more bodies have been recovered from the wreck of the collier *Ottercamp*, which was wrecked off Cape Finisterre.

Notice how literally the Word of God is being fulfilled by these events.

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; THE SEA AND THE WAVES ROARING; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth. . . . And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21: 25-28.

The following solemn prophetic words were written by the servant of the Lord during 1901, and were published in the *Signs of the Times*, of October 9 of the same year. Since then we



have been witnessing in widespread calamities by sea and by land their fulfillment.

"The restraining Spirit of God is even now being withdrawn from the world. Hurricanes, storms, tempests, disasters by sea and by land, follow one another in quick succession. The signs thickening around us, telling of the near approach of the Son of God, are attributed to any other than the true cause. Men cannot discern the sentinel angel restraining the four winds, that they shall not blow until the servants of God are sealed; but when God shall bid His angels loose the winds, there will be such a scene of strife as no pen can picture.

"The time is right upon us when there will be sorrow in the world that no human balm can heal. Even before the last great destruction comes upon the world, the flattering monuments of man's greatness will be crumbled in the dust. God's retributive judgments will fall on those who in the face of great light have continued in sin. Costly buildings, supposed to be fireproof, are erected. But as Sodom perished in the flames of God's vengeance, so will these proud structures become ashes. I HAVE SEEN VESSELS WHICH COST IMMENSE SUMS OF MONEY WRESTLING WITH THE MIGHTY OCEAN, SEEKING TO BREATHE THE ANGRY BILLOWS. BUT WITH ALL THEIR TREASURES OF GOLD AND SILVER, AND WITH ALL THEIR HUMAN FREIGHT, THEY SANK INTO A WATERY GRAVE. Man's pride will be buried with the treasures he has accumulated by fraud. God will avenge the widows and orphans who in hunger and nakedness have cried to Him for relief from oppression."—*Mrs. E. G. White.*

"Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord."

An Appeal for Unselfish Effort.

IF our ministers realised how soon the inhabitants of the world are to be arraigned before the judgment seat of God, to answer for the deeds done in the body, how earnestly they would work together with God to lead men and women to accept the truth. How untiringly they would labor to advance God's cause in the world.

"Prepare to meet thy God," is the message we are everywhere to proclaim. The trumpet is to give a certain sound. Clearly and distinctly the warning is to ring out, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen. . . . Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

John writes, "And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities."

The words of this scripture are to be fulfilled. Soon the last test is to come to all the inhabitants of the earth. At that time prompt decisions will be made. Those who have been convicted under the presentation of the Word, will range themselves under the blood-stained banner of Prince Emmanuel. They will see and understand as never before that they have missed many, many opportunities for serving God. They will realise that they have not worked as zealously as they should to seek and save the lost, to snatch them, as it were, out of the fire.

Our work has been marked out by our heavenly

Father. Taking our Bibles, we are to go forth to warn the world. We are to be God's helping hand in saving souls. We are to be channels through which His love can flow to the perishing. A realisation of the greatness of the work in which we have the privilege of taking part, ennobles and sanctifies the true worker. He is filled with the faith that works by love and purifies the soul. Nothing is drudgery to the one who submits to the will of God. "Doing it unto the Lord" is the thought that throws a charm over the work that God gives him to do.

The Lord's servants are to be "not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord." Listlessness and inefficiency are not piety. When we realise that we are working for God, we shall have a higher sense of the sacredness of spiritual service than we have ever had. This realisation will put persevering energy into the discharge of every duty. True religion is intensely practical. In the saving of souls nothing but earnest, whole-hearted labor will avail. We are to make our every-day duties acts of devotion, constantly increasing in usefulness because we look at our work in the light of eternity.

Only a little longer will the voice of mercy be heard; only a little longer will the gracious invitation be given, "If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink." God sends His warning message to people everywhere. Let the messengers He sends work so harmoniously, so earnestly, that all will take knowledge of them that they have been with Jesus. Let them speak the words of "truth and soberness," words of reason and good sense.

My brethren, do you realise your responsibility? Are you doing the work that God has given you to do? Is the love of Christ abiding in your hearts, softening and subduing your words? Do you seek for the Holy Spirit's power, humbling yourselves before God? Have you surrendered yourselves to Him for purification and sanctification? Do you pray earnestly for the heavenly power that alone can quell the quick-rising anger and check the hasty words? Have you put away all self-seeking? Are you doing your work faithfully? Are you drawing with all your might for Christ? Do you give such evidence that you are working with Christ that no one can justly question the worth of your labor?

Draw your power from the highest Authority, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will aid you in your efforts to save those who are out of the fold. Remember that you are working for God, not for man. Plead earnestly for the power of God. Show a constantly increasing devotion to His service, and leave with Him the measurement of your work.

God will carry on His work through wholly consecrated workmen. If His ministers fail of representing Christ, He will turn to others, many of whom have not been prepared for the work by a regular course of study, and will put a message into their lips, even the last message of warning. He will call men from their various employments, and at His bidding they will go forth to proclaim present truth. — *Mrs. E. G. White.*

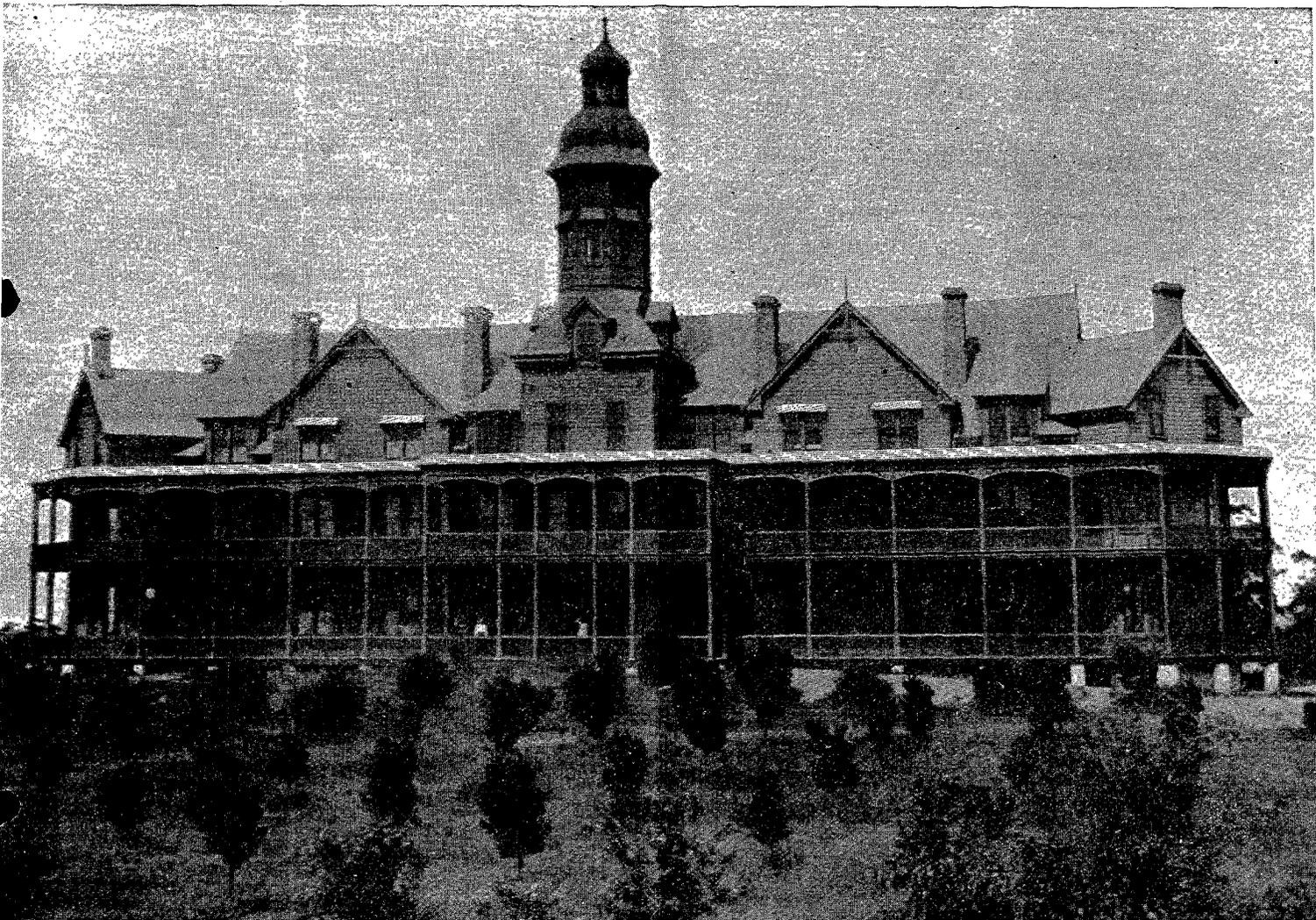
BRETHREN A. G. Daniells and W. C. White left Nashville, Tennessee, January 18, for Mexico. They plan to visit the great city of New Orleans on the way. Brother W. T. Knox, the president of the Pacific Union Conference decided to join these brethren in Mexico, and they will together consider the interests of the work in that field.

THE SYDNEY SANITARIUM, ITS WORK.

THE formal opening of the Sydney Sanitarium took place on January 1, 1903.

We have not been able to complete fully the interior of the building, or to furnish it throughout. We have studied economy in every department and have done the best with the means at our command. We are now ready to receive patients, and give them the attention and treatments needed.

appointed at the simple command, "Go, and wash in Jordan seven times." He reasoned, if there is any virtue in water, the water of Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, surpass the waters of the Jordan. He said, "May I not wash in them and be healed? So he turned, and went away in a rage. His servant came near and spake unto him, and said, If the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then when he saith to thee,



MAIN BUILDING OF THE SANITARIUM.

Our brethren in the field can greatly help us by their prayers and influence. Do you know of some sufferer who could be benefited by a course of treatment and a corrected dietary? There are many such, but we are unacquainted with them, and cannot reach them. We must depend upon you to form the connecting link between them and our Sanitarium. The little maid that was taken a captive from the land of Israel to Syria said to her mistress, whose husband was a leper, "Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria, for he would recover him of his leprosy." Through her influence this man was inspired with confidence and persuaded to visit the prophet. He was somewhat dis-

wash and be clean. Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God, and he was clean." The waters of Abana and Pharpar may have been clearer, better, but healing power is not in the water. "I am the Lord that healeth thee." God only can heal.

We learn also from this simple narrative that healing depends somewhat upon the one who makes the prescription or gives the command. To be effective and accomplish the most good, the prescription or command must be given by a man of God. Worldly institutions making use of the same external remedies can never do the work for which this institution was brought

into existence. God's special blessing will attend the efforts put forth to restore the afflicted to health through this instrumentality, and there is health in His blessing.

We trust that our people everywhere will interest themselves in the sick in their neighborhood, and do all that is wise to do to aid them in receiving proper attention.

D. H. KRESS, M. D.

"Sell That Ye Have, and Give Alms."

WHEN shall we sell? This will be made plain to every one who makes the Lord *first*, and *last*, and *best*, in everything. Every one who seeks first the kingdom of God and His righteousness will know. Those who make self first can never understand when the time is for them to sell. Therefore it is important for every one to know that all has been placed upon the altar, that God is first.

When shall we sell?—When God's cause is languishing, when His institutions are crippled and not able to do the work for which they were called into existence, on account of indebtedness or a lack of appropriate appliances. When these conditions exist, God speaks in unmistakable tones to His faithful ones, "Sell that ye have." It is then God inquires of every one, "Lovest thou Me more than these" houses and lands that I have entrusted you with for such a time as this? One pound at such a time is of more value than ten pounds will be in the near future or in times of prosperity. Our property will decrease in value rapidly from this time forward, as far as doing good with it is concerned. The world may place a higher estimate upon it, but the actual estimate is yearly diminishing. We are living near the end. We are nearing the year of jubilee when every thing will go back to its original owner. We cannot remain long in possession of our goods. Shall we wait, and cling to our property until it is valueless to the cause, before we sell?

A heavy indebtedness rests upon some of our institutions. All this may be the result of poor management on the part of some one, but God has permitted such a state of things to be brought about evidently to test our loyalty. We are living in the testing time. These institutions are His institutions still, *and they are in debt*. The time has come when liberty should be proclaimed to these instrumentalities. *It may be so*. There is means sufficient somewhere.

Our Sanitarium needs help. Our food factory needs help. The following is found in "Testimonies to the Church," Vol. 33, page 262:—

"I can say to those to whom God has entrusted goods, who have lands and houses, commence your selling and give alms. Make no delay. God expects more of you than you have been willing to do. We call upon you who have means, to inquire with earnest prayer, 'What is the extent of the divine claim upon me and my property?'"

D. H. KRESS.

THE International Tract Society, during the past five years, has published a paper in Calcutta, India, for circulation among the English speaking portion of the inhabitants of that great field. The paper is a sixteen page monthly, and is called the *Oriental Watchman*. It is gratifying to note that the circulation of this advocate of present truth has doubled during the past year.

With Nature.

PRINGLE'S VALLEY is a pretty spot situated among the mountains, about eight miles distant from Avondale School. To this seclusion, one bright morning in February, the geography class of the Avondale School repaired with their teacher, to study more fully the things about which we had been learning from books.

Driving along in the waggon, on every hand were scenes of interest and pleasure to us. Especially attractive were the beautiful fields of waving corn, which, from its healthy appearance, indicated the fertility of the soil in many places. With the exception of an orchard or two, this seemed the main article of cultivation. Tall grass trees with their peculiar tufts of grassy growth on the tops of rough, dark trunks; she oaks, with their needle-shaped leaves; graceful palms, and many varieties of tall forest trees, called forth expressions of wonder and admiration. Blackberries detained us for a little time. Growing in such quantities as they were, covered with rich, ripe fruit, it is not to be wondered at that we all alighted and spent a pleasant time gathering them.

On arriving at the valley, we turned the horses free, and went in search of a place to leave our goods and later to have lunch. A picturesque little spot beneath the shade of tall trees, with a clear stream of water in which were reflected the neighboring ferns and shrubs, was voted by all as suitable. From this spot we began to explore along the creek, in search of anything of interest. Over rocks, dead trees, and pools of water we bounded or clambered, on all sides finding evidences of the growths about which we had studied. The number of parasitic plants was surprising. For instance, on one tree alone, nine distinct specimens were growing, the tree itself being alive. Great rocks, covered with plant life, lined our course as we followed the stream. Examples of the workings of water on rocks were quite numerous in the form of little channels and holes. A miniature waterfall among the rocks and trees, by its gentle trickling, produced a cooling sensation, hot as was the day. Stratified rocks were abundant; and in two or three places good specimens were examined. In one instance, the formation was in a very early stage, the soft clay-like substance being easily broken off, and closely studied. We tried to imagine the process through which it would have to pass in order to be like its tall, hard neighbor.

Numbers of brightly and delicately tinted butterflies and gaily plumaged little birds flitted about among the green ferns and boughs.

After a long ramble, we returned to our pleasant seclusion, where, with sharpened appetites, we did justice to a tempting lunch. We then sang a hymn, and read a few statements from the "Testimonies," enabling us to comprehend something of the greatness of Adam's mind when he fitted to each animal of God's creation a name suiting its characteristics.

During another short ramble, we discovered a moth haunt where dozens of great, dark moths dwelt peacefully until disturbed by one of our naturalists. A beautiful, bright orange-colored fungus growth was procured from one of the trees.

Towards evening we started homeward, our conveyance gaily decorated with palm leaves and ferns, an advertisement of our excursion and its success, palm leaves denoting triumph.

L. A. BROWN.

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD.

REPORT OF NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE.

THE thirteenth annual session of the New Zealand Conference was held in conjunction with the camp-meeting at Dunedin, from January 15-26, 1903. The president of the conference, Elder W. L. H. Baker, had charge of the meetings, and he was assisted by Brethren Farnsworth, Kress, and Johanson, of the Union Conference. Very material help in counsel and otherwise was rendered by these brethren, and it is to be hoped that their encouraging efforts will be productive of much fruit during the coming year.

Over thirty delegates were present, but owing to the great expense of travelling in this colony only about half of our churches were represented. Those who were able to be present realised that the Lord had gone before to prepare a most beautiful site. Then, although the tents had to be pitched very largely in the rain, during the whole time of the camp-meeting proper we were favored with delightful weather. The gracious manner in which the Lord answered our prayers in restraining the elements and the passions of wicked men softened our hearts and will help us to treasure up pleasant memories of our Dunedin experiences against the time to come. While there was not a large attendance of the outside public, yet there was quite a deep interest shown in the different phases of the Third Angel's Message. The adversary endeavored to draw us into controversy, but the counsel so timely sent by the Lord through His servant, Sister White, effectually thwarted his plans. We fully believe that a considerable accession of members to the little church at Dunedin will result from this effort.

The reports of the conference work, the sanitarium and health foods work, the tract society and the canvassing work, showed that while many difficulties had been encountered during the year, yet the good hand of the Lord has been over His work. One special source of blessing had been the work of selling "Christ's Object Lessons," and it was realised that the promises of the Lord had been fulfilled to those churches and individuals that had taken hold of the work.

Nominating Committee's report:—

FOR PRESIDENT: W. L. H. Baker.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT: G. A. Wantzlick.

FOR SECRETARY: W. J. Smith.

FOR TREASURER: N. Z. Tract Society.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE; W. L. H. Baker, G. A. Wantzlick, W. J. Smith, A. Mountain, C. A. Paap.

GENERAL AGENT: A. Mountain.

TRACT SOCIETY SECRETARY: Mrs. J. L. Baker.

TRACT SOCIETY TREASURER: Miss W. Greenfield.

SABBATH-SCHOOL SECRETARY AND TREASURER: Mrs. J. L. Baker.

EDUCATIONAL SECRETARY: W. J. Smith.

TRUSTEES OF PROPERTY BOARD: G. Wright, A. Mountain.

SANITARIUM BOARD: W. L. H. Baker, presiding physician, W. J. Smith, S. H. Amyes, W. H. Covell.

The committee on Credentials and Licenses presented the following report:—

FOR CREDENTIALS: W. L. H. Baker, G. A. Wantzlick, G. C. Tenney.

FOR ORDINATION (as soon as practicable) AND CREDENTIALS: F. E. Lyndon.

FOR LICENSES: C. A. Paap, W. H. Pascoe, W. J. Smith.

FOR MISSIONARY LICENSES: A. Mountain, Mrs. J. L. Baker, Mrs. M. Caro.

The Committee on Plans and Recommendations presented the following report:—

1. That this conference increase its number of periodical workers; that these workers be appointed by the Conference Committee; that they be subsidised to the extent of fifteen dozen *Echoes* and three dozen *Good Healths* weekly, and that they be under the direction of the State agent, and report to the tract society weekly.

2. That in all our churches the members be encouraged to do all in their power to increase the circulation of the *Bible Echo* and *Good Health* by personal work from house to house.

3. That our regular canvassers be encouraged to handle the *Good Health* as a help in connection with their subscription book work.

4. That the importance and advantage of resident canvassing be prominently brought and continually kept before our churches, and that an effort be made to place a resident canvasser in each of the large centres in New Zealand.

5. That each church encourage one or more of its numbers to engage in canvassing for our large books under the direction of the State agent.

6. That these agents furnish their churches with the names and addresses of their subscribers, and that the churches follow up the work by correspondence, periodicals, and tracts.

7. That as far as consistent, canvassers' institutes be held at every church, and that the Conference plan with the general agent for ministerial help for these meetings.

8. That time be devoted to presenting the interest and importance of our publishing work at our general assemblies and camp-meetings.

9. That the workers in the State tract society lay plans whereby the work of our churches may be so organised that some definite missionary work is assigned to each member.

10. That our State tract society secretary furnish a monthly statistical report to the Union Conference secretary of missionary correspondence, tracts and papers mailed or in other ways distributed, also a monthly report of items of interest in connection with the work, for publication in the UNION CONFERENCE RECORD.

11. That Brother C. A. Paap engage in work among the Maoris as soon as it is expedient for him to leave Dunedin.

12. That the New Zealand Tract Society supply its agents and conference workers with tracts for judicious distribution, at one-half the cost price.

13. That a fund be established for the free distribution of tracts to meet special issues that may arise from time to time. That for this purpose the Home Mission Fund be maintained by a collection every fourth Sabbath, half the sum obtained to go to the general tract society and half to the local tract society.

14. That the New Zealand Conference appoint a week early in the year when every Seventh-day Adventist in this colony shall do his utmost to dispose of the remaining portion of our quota of "Christ's Object Lessons."

15. Whereas we have been shown from the Spirit of Prophecy that our children should not attend the public schools, therefore, *Resolved*, That we do all we can to establish church schools in New Zealand wherever practicable, under the advice of the New Zealand Conference Committee; and further, that the Executive Committee of the Conference be recommended to appoint one of its most experienced men as an educational secretary to develop this work throughout the Conference.

16. That steps be taken immediately to secure to the Christchurch Sanitarium Board the sole agency of our health foods in New Zealand, and that the Christchurch Sanitarium Board take steps to push vigorously the sale of these foods throughout the colony.

W. L. H. BAKER, *President*.

W. J. SMITH, *Secretary*.

THE official organ of the Central Union Conference is called the *Central Advance*. The editor of this bright little sheet is our old co-worker, Pastor W. A. Colcord.

THE TASMANIAN CAMP-MEETING.

It has been decided to hold a camp-meeting at West Devonport during the Easter holidays, April 9-19. Tickets at holiday rates may be purchased Thursday morning, April 9, good to return Monday, April 20.

A tent meeting is now being held in West Devonport with a good attendance and interest. A number have already embraced the truth, and it is thought that a camp-meeting will make a good finish to the work. We would like to see a good attendance of our people who are desirous of seeing the work well established in this growing district. Write for tents to E. Hilliard, Devonport W. Price, 10 x 12, 10/-; 12 x 15, 12/6.

Pastor E. W. Farnsworth, J. Johanson, and the Conference ministers are expected to be present.

E. HILLIARD,

For Tasmanian Conference Committee.

WALHALLA, VICTORIA.

DEAR FELLOW-WORKERS,—I entered this town during the past week, and in canvassing from house to house I have met with several families who have two or more of our works, and they speak very highly of them.

Two or three times I have been asked, "Is that from the Echo?" And when I have said yes, they say, "I like their books, they give you something good, straight from the Word." This did my heart good, and I thought that surely those who sold these books would be pleased to hear it. Some have said, "While we do not see just as you see, yet there is something good in the books, that in reading you cannot fail in getting blessed."

This, indeed, is very encouraging, and should help us to press on in the good work of scattering the printed page. God has told us that many will be brought to a saving knowledge of the truth through this means, that will not hear the living preacher. Then let us take hold afresh of God's work and His promise to be with us, and press the battle to the front. The time will not be long, and "he that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved."

F. W. REEKIE.

Notes on the Canvassing Work.

AN appeal in behalf of the canvassing work has recently been received from Sister White by our brethren in America, one significant statement of which is, "I have been instructed that the canvassing work is to be revived, and that it is to be carried forward with increased success. It is the Lord's work, and a blessing will attend those who engage in it with earnestness and diligence."

"THE effort to circulate 'Christ's Object Lessons' has demonstrated what can be done in the canvassing field. This effort is a never-to-be-forgotten lesson on how to canvass in the prayerful, trustful way that brings success."

"THE larger books, 'Patriarchs and Prophets,' 'Great Controversy,' and 'Desire of Ages,' should be sold everywhere. These books contain truth for this time,—truth that is to be proclaimed in all parts of the world. Nothing is to hinder their sale."

"SISTER WHITE is not the originator of these books. They contain the instruction that during her life-work God has been giving her."

West Australia Sabbath Schools, Quarter ending Dec. 31.

[The following report did not arrive in time for insertion in the former issue with the other reports.]

Name of School.	Membership.	Total Contributions.	Donations to Work in Queensland.
Upper Preston	12	£5 12 6	£4 10 6
Perth	63	5 3 8	2 19 10
Bunbury	26	2 10 9	2 0 9
Capel	22	3 3 7	1 19 3
Bokara	28	2 4 7	1 13 1
State School	10	1 10 0	1 5 11
Cookernup	13	1 13 1	13 11
Collie	10	1 5 4	1 0 10
Udoc	5	2 11 0	2 1 0
Spring Valley	4	8 0	6 3
Plympton	15	2 16 1	
Total...	208	£28 18 7	£18 11 4
Special Donations to Sydney Ship Mission Work,		£2 2 11	
Tithes paid by schools,		2 16 11½	

MRS. L. V. FINSTER, Sec.

SOUTH AMERICA.

THE work is onward in South America. There are encouraging reports from every field. In a letter from Elder Ketring, of Chile, he states that Sabbath-keepers seem to spring up spontaneously, and adds that when people there keep the Sabbath, they are not ashamed to make it known to others. A goodly number of canvassers have gone out in Argentina, and at present are devoting their time mostly in selling and taking subscriptions for *El Faro*. They are meeting with quite good success. Several have begun keeping the Sabbath as a result of the recent camp-meeting and the work following. Since the meeting seven have been baptised, and several more are awaiting baptism. The latest reports from Brazil were encouraging.

As evidence of the Lord's working, I would especially mention the following cases: A young school-teacher from Germany heard the truth several years ago, and was favorably impressed with it, but did not obey. Shortly before our camp-meeting, a brother visited him, watering the seed sown. The school teacher and his wife promised to attend the meeting. But owing to a misunderstanding of the time of the meeting, they did not come; so several of the brethren visited them to induce them to attend. Before the last Sabbath the woman came, and at once began to keep the Sabbath. Her husband succeeded in getting a half-day's vacation on Sabbath, and came at once to the meeting. During the services Sunday afternoon he was the picture of despair. As soon as the meeting closed, he left the ground. A brother followed him to the train, and tried to dissuade him from leaving, but could not. He went to the next city; and, since he was addicted to the use of intoxicants, it was feared that he would drown his conscience in drink. Instead, he sought a room, and there wrestled with the Lord that night in prayer. I met him at the train the next morning, a changed and happy man. Ere this reaches the readers, he will, with his wife, no doubt have been baptised. Although there is bitter feeling among his constituents against the truth, they have retained him as teacher another year. Since his conversion, he has discarded intoxicants, meat, and other unwholesome foods.

A sister who had kept the Sabbath for some time, but could see no light in baptism, finally became discouraged, and because she could go no further with this people, thought she might as well remain away from our meetings. This was her conclusion at the close of a

Sabbath service. She rejoiced in her decision, and thanked the Lord for it. But when she was about to retire at night and to bring to the Lord her accustomed devotions, she found that she could not pray. Every burden of prayer, as well as every thought for prayer, was gone. This greatly alarmed her. Not until she decided to continue to go with this people did she find relief, and with it came light on baptism. On our return to Rio de Janeiro, she was baptised, a happy woman.

To this we might add other equally interesting experiences. Truly, the Lord is in this work, and He is watching and caring for His own.

J. W. WESTPHAL.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.

A MOST cheering feature is that about thirty new students have come voluntarily from Sunday-keeping missions, in face of the fact that they are called "seceders," struck off the books of the missions they leave, and are not allowed to mix freely, even as visitors, with their friends at home, lest they infect them with the seventh-day heresy, etc. Almost daily there are new arrivals of this character. One of these is an intelligent, English-speaking youth from the Atonga tribe, from three hundred and fifty to four hundred miles north of this place, from Bandawe, Lake Nyassa, Northend. Most of these are married, since it is the custom here to marry early. Fifty such carefully selected students are sufficient, constantly renewed, to provide for the eight tribes of British Central Africa, reached by the Chinyanja tongue. We have five Yao students, and through their tongue, called Chiyao, we hope to reach some Swahili-speaking tribes. On the whole, it is an advantage to have married students, as we can then train the wife in womanly duties at the same time, and in due course plant them in out-stations, fit to become a modest, cleanly, Christian object lesson to those to whom they are sent.

We all are persuaded that there are many good Seventh-day Adventist brethren or sisters who would like to make an extra and special effort to support one of these students as their proxy in the field. A native student should not have less than three years' Bible training.

Yesterday two men from the Chipeta tribe arrived, sent by their chief to ask us to reopen a school at a river called Diampwi, which flows into Lake Nyassa. It is a fourteen days' journey from here. I say "reopen" because two years ago two of our Sabbath-keeping families asked to be allowed to make a school there, and did so; but for some inscrutable reason the British officials, who do not like to have the ten commandments taught, ordered it to be closed on pain of being burned down.

There is a story in connection with that place, which some might like to hear: In September, 1899, I was a fugitive, as I had taught the laws of God to the natives, telling them that these laws are binding on black men and white men alike. This was held to be seditious, so I was hunted for five months. The country around the Diampwi River was notorious for wild beasts, and for a long distance the country was uninhabited and forsaken, so we chose that as a good place to stay. We arrived one afternoon on the banks of the stream, and began to make a sleeping place by cutting down large white thorn bushes, and heaping them close together in a semicircle, using the river at a deep part as one line of defence. In process of clearing away the brushwood we came to a heap of bones, and found we

had chosen the lair of some wild beast, but it was too late to change; so we cleared them away, and cut grass to lie upon, making fires inside our thorn fence. An aperture was left for egress and ingress, closed from the inside by a thorn bush, drawn in by the last man to enter. I was tired and slept well. The natives said they heard lions roaring: I heard hyenas once when I awoke in the darkness, the fires being nearly out: and I heard something else which surprised me. It was two boys—our two present Chipeta students—singing very gently to each other the hymn,—

We are but little children weak,
Nor born in any high estate;
What can we do for Jesus' sake,
Who is so high and good and great?

They sang in the Chinyanja tongue. I did not speak, but felt very grateful; for it seemed to me an angel's message, which made it quite a pleasant place, and good to suffer a little for the truth. We slept there for some time, and afterward went into Portuguese territory to the Kami wilderness, where we were fed in a wonderful way at a place we called "Cherith," as a memorial of God's goodness there.

In June, 1900, two teachers asked permission to go back to the Diampwi wilderness to make their home by the spot where we slept, intending to open a school, in faith that people would come. Now there are three chiefs who have built many villages there, who followed us from the regions beyond British occupation. A good school was built, and well attended until the officials ordered it to be closed. These chiefs now send the message that they have obtained permission to open the school again. We hope this may be the end of the opposition.

JOSEPH BOOTH.

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW.—At the close of the week of prayer, the first church of Scotland was organised in Glasgow, and thirty-seven adult members were enrolled. Thirteen others, who could not attend, are waiting to unite with the church. This will make a membership of fifty. For these precious souls we thank God.

Elder Olsen was with us during the week of prayer, and gave some special studies. These were much appreciated. We are now entering the city of Edinburgh. Elder W. A. Westworth has settled there, and rented a hall in a good locality. Meetings will be opened soon. He will be assisted by Brother D. P. Miller, and Sister M. Lamie. We expect to see a good work accomplished there. I shall assist them some before I start for India. Success has attended the canvassers' work. Both the book and paper canvassers have done valiantly, and much fruit will be gathered as a result. I am thankful for the experiences I have had in Scotland, and now I pray that God will bless our going to India.

H. ARMSTRONG.

It is encouraging to canvassers of Australasia that notwithstanding the drought and generally hard times, the book business has made headway. During the especially dull month of December, the total value of books sold by the Australasian canvassers amounted to over one-third of the output of the whole denomination for that month. This is not evidence that we are doing too much, however. Some will doubtless do much more before the Lord comes.

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Items of General Interest.

A CAMP-MEETING is to be held at Devonport, Tasmania, April 9-19, during the Easter holidays. All our brethren are invited to attend. Special fares obtainable at all stations.

BROTHER W. D. Salisbury sailed from Sydney, March 2, en route to California, where he expects to attend the General Conference which is soon to convene in the city of Oakland.

ELDER D. U. Hale and family, and Brother J. M. Hyatt and wife have gone from the United States to the Gold Coast, Africa, to re-establish the work of that mission.

A SESSION of the German-Swiss Conference was held during last December in the city of Zurich, Switzerland. The membership had increased during eighteen months from 210 to 270. This is but one of several local conferences in the German Union.

"THEY that go down to the sea in ships" meet with many discomforts and perils. Our company who sailed during February experienced a great shaking up, as the elements seemed to be possessed of Satanic fury. Those of us who are privileged to stay at home, sometimes do not realise the blessedness of peace and quiet as we would were we to change places for a few hours with those whom duty calls to leave home and friends in "journeyings often."

Another Educational Centre.—In a beautiful and healthful locality of Southern California, U. S. A., another fine school called "Fernando College" has recently been started. The buildings were originally built by the Methodists at a cost of £7,000. The buildings and ten acres of good land were purchased by our brethren from them for £1,450. At an elevation of eleven hundred feet above the sea, with mountains for a background and orange orchards all about, this institution presents a promising appearance.

Conditions in Fiji.—Much has appeared of late in our daily papers respecting the burning of Bibles and conquests of Roman Catholic priests among the Wesleyans of Fiji. We may all justly lament the fickleness of the natural heart which would admit of such a transformation for the worse. A sadder and poorer bargain could hardly be made than that of exchanging Bibles for beads and prayer books. We can but pity the poor natives, who need something better. As their minds are receptive and unsettled, there is doubtless an especial need and importance attached to the proclamation of God's truth to them at this time. God does not gain loyal servants by having whole tribes brought in at the command

of their chief, and we may well be thankful that the great chief did not decide to make them all be Seventh-day Adventists, as the papers tell us he at one time contemplated. At the recent Methodist Conference in Sydney, plans were discussed for conserving what they have gained in Fiji. It was proposed to send a printer to the group and develop literature, in view of the aggressive character of the work of Seventh-day Adventists.

A Sanitarium in England.—Our work in the mother country is going forward at a rapid rate. Word has been received telling of the fine large hydropathic institution which has recently come into the possession of our people, and which is henceforth to be conducted as a sanitarium. Conveniently located within a few miles of the great metropolis of London, and already equipped and furnished with almost everything needed, the institution has been purchased at a very low figure. Thus does Providence anticipate our needs, and opens up the way that there may be delay no longer.

The Situation at Battle Creek.—The day following the great fire at the Review and Herald Office, Battle Creek, Mich., the directors met and decided to install within the remaining building sufficient machinery and material to enable them to continue printing our church paper, *The Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, and the *Youths' Instructor*. The issue of the *Review* which gave the details of the fire was printed by the aid of facilities other than our own. This important paper was first published at Paris, Maine, U. S. A., in 1850, by Elder James White. It was removed to Battle Creek in the year 1855. The original office building in Battle Creek still stands. As an evidence of appreciation many new subscriptions have been coming in since the fire. The pioneer editor, Elder U. Smith, after watching the flames consume many things that had become dear to him by long association, exclaimed, "Thank God that the truth which created these facilities is not destroyed. It lives, and its power is sufficient to create all the new facilities required to finish this work." As it was with the early church when they were driven from Jerusalem by persecution and went everywhere preaching the Word, so now our brethren, who have been slow to move in the past, are going everywhere carrying the message. Thus our apparent calamities will turn out to the furtherance of the truth.

Increase of Pugilism.—The low trend of social life is plainly manifest by the epidemic of pugilism which is of late taking the place of less brutal forms of pleasure-seeking in Sydney. At these diabolical assemblies as many as 2,000 people gather. While thousands are starving in the back blocks, fancy prices are paid for select seats, where, amid scenes of bloodshed, swearing, hooting, smoking, and betting, the victims of this horrid phase of insanity sink lower and lower. How far are our cities from being like Sodom and Gomorrah? How much worse could conditions have been in Noah's day? Matt. 24:37; 2 Tim. 3:1-5.

Pity Poor Queensland.—Since collecting the matter for our first page article, a further manifestation of the atmospheric disturbances which distress our planet has occurred in northern Queensland. A furious cyclone has struck Townsville, doing immense damage. God is certainly in earnest with the people, and it behoves us to learn the lessons which these calamities would teach.