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The Jew in History and Prophecy

Sermon by Pastor A. W. Anderson, Sunday Afternoon, September 7

I DESIRE to invite your attention this afternoon to a most interesting topic, "The Jew in History and Prophecy." It is not my purpose to deal with this matter in an exhaustive way, for the whole Bible is an epitome of the Jew in history and prophecy. I purpose to give you a little skeleton study running through a period of history dating back four thousand years.

Years ago, Frederick the Great, of Germany, asked his chaplain to state in one word his reasons for believing in the inspiration of the Bible. The chaplain replied, "The Jew, your Majesty." Any man who will study the history of the Jews, and then study the prophecies of the Bible, will at once conclude that the Bible is a divine Book, and that no human being could ever possibly have written such a book.

I will invite you to read in the 17th chapter of Acts, verse 26. Speaking of God's work in the earth, Paul says: "And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation." God made all nations of men of one blood but of many races, and He determined beforehand the "bounds" of those races—that is, their boundaries. They themselves have not determined

their boundaries; God determined their boundaries, and also their times.

"For the Lord of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it? and His hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?" Isa. 14: 27.

Men have tried to frustrate the purposes of God in all ages, and they always come to grief in their attempts, yet men are trying to do that now. In all ages they have made these attempts, and they have always failed. No one can disannul the purposes of God. No one can alter the times which He holds in His own hand.

"Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be." Dan 8: 19. He has not revealed to us the time of that end, but He knows it. He has appointed it, and no man can disannul it or stretch it out.

"And both these kings' hearts shall be to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table; but it shall not prosper: for yet the end shall be at the time appointed." "At the time appointed he shall return, and come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter." "And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed." Dan. 11: 27, 29, 35.

THE PROMISED GLORY

(Written at the Conference)

Coming, yes, coming, that long-promised day
When all sorrow tears shall be dried,
And out of the valley of weakness and pain
The heart shall arise satisfied.
The glory will come, the night pass away,
The morn of redemption will smile,
And love in its gladness will share in the joy
It lost for a little while.

Relief for the sad hearts now burdened with grief,
And resting for long wearied toil,
Must come with the morn that wakens at last,
Beyond all the fretting and spoil;
Then, day unto day, in the fulness of joy,
And pleasures that ever abide,
To walk in the sunlight of endless peace,
Along with the Crucified!

The glory will come, though years pass between,
The promise divine cannot fail.
Triumphant at last the ransomed will stand,
Where sin can no longer assail.
The shadows that linger o'er tear-blinded eyes
And darken the spirit with pain,
Will pass with the dawning, and then the sad heart
Will never know sadness again.

R. HARE.

Not only national boundaries are appointed, but the times for the nations are divinely appointed.

"For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry." Habakkuk 2:3.

Some people say, "You Adventists have been watching for a long time for the end, and it has not yet come." Well, what if it has not? It surely will come. The vision is yet for an appointed time. "But at the end it shall speak, and not lie."

These texts indicate that God has appointed definite times for the nations. Let us study something of His dealings with national boundaries.

"When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when He separated the sons of Adam, He set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel." Deut. 32:8.

When God set national boundaries, He set them according to the number of the children of Israel. He placed the children of Israel right in the centre of the nations. Have you ever thought of the central position occupied by the children of Israel? It is right at the pivot of the ancient world, the place where the great conflicts of the ages have been fought, for the supremacy of this world.

About four thousand years ago, there was a prophet called Noah. Some people think he was only a ship-builder; he was also a prophet. Let us read a remarkable prophecy made by Noah.

"And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren. And he said, Blessed be the Lord God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant. God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant." Gen. 9:25-27.

To-day the archaeologists are digging over there in Palestine, searching among the old ruins and rocks for treasures. And they are finding evidences that this Book is absolutely true. Before the advent of the people of Shem to the land of Canaan, the descendants of Ham occupied the territory. The excavators find their pottery, their monuments, and their relics deep down in the ruins and the rubbish of ages. I was down in Old Jericho a few months ago, watching the excavators at their work. They found all the evidences of the fire that destroyed that city. They find evidences of all the different civilisations on record, in the rocks and rubbish of that land. There are unmistakable evidences of three civilisations, and those civilisations were enumerated by Noah in the prophecy to which we have referred. First, evidence has been found that the earliest inhabitants of Palestine were the children of Canaan,—the Hivites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Jebusites, the Perizzites. These nations built up mighty cities, but because of their corrupt lives, their days were numbered and their reign was terminated exactly at the time God determined that it would be done.

Let us read Genesis 15:13. "And He said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years."

God lengthened out the days of the Canaanitish people for another four hundred years, and during that time He prepared a nation from the sons of Shem to take their place. I wonder how old Noah knew that

Canaan would be a servant of servants, that Shem would displace Canaan, that Japheth would be enlarged, and that they would enter into the tents of Shem? Yet that is exactly how it has worked out in the history of the world.

Four centuries later, as God had said, the land of Canaan came under the rule of children of Shem, the Israelitish people.

Promises to the Jews Conditional

We should never forget that the Hebrews were promised the land of Palestine under conditions. The Jew does not always realise that; and quite a number of people who are not Jews do not realise that fact.

Let us see the conditions under which the land was promised to the Hebrews, as outlined in Deut. 11:26-28. "Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse. A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day: and a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known."

You see the conditions? The curse for disobedience; the blessing for obedience. In Deuteronomy 28 these blessings and curses are enumerated at great length.

In Deuteronomy 29:22-26 we read:

"So that the generation to come of your children that shall rise up after you, and the stranger that shall come from a far land, shall say, when they see the plagues of that land, and the sicknesses which the Lord hath laid upon it; and that the whole land thereof is brimstone, and salt, and burning, that it is not sown, nor beareth, nor any grass groweth therein, like the overthrow of Sodom, and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zebaim, which the Lord overthrew in His anger, and in His wrath: even all nations shall say, Wherefore hath the Lord done thus unto this land? what meaneth the heat of this great anger? Then men shall say, Because they have forsaken the covenant of the Lord God of their fathers, which He made with them when He brought them forth out of the land of Egypt: for they went and served other gods, and worshipped them, gods whom they knew not, and whom He had not given unto them."

There is a great discussion proceeding in Palestine to-day between the Arabs and the Jews, as to who is its rightful owner. The Jew will say, "This land was promised to our father Abraham, and through him to us." The Arab says, "Yes, but you people forsook God, and God drove you out of it." Almost any Arab will tell you that the Jew has no right there from the Bible or prophetic standpoint.

Shortly after God had given that land to His ancient people, they violated the conditions laid down, so they lost the blessing which God had promised them.

"And the people served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the Lord, that He did for Israel." Judges 2:7.

They served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua who saw the great works of God. I sometimes wonder what would happen if the Lord should tarry, and every one of the men and women who knew the early conditions under which this great work started, should all pass away, and another generation should arise who never knew anything at all about all these things! Those people who came out of Egypt saw the miracles which God wrought on behalf of His people as evidence of His power, but after those men died, the very next generation went off

into idolatry. Unfortunately that has been the history of many great movements. I pray that God may long spare the gray-headed men and women who know the early history of our work.

Those people that God had brought out from Egyptian bondage had seen the mightiest miracles that God had ever wrought for any people upon the face of the earth. They had seen the Red Sea and the River Jordan opened before them. Yet in one generation the whole plan of God for His people was defeated. Let us read the story of the downfall of Israel.

"And the people served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the Lord, that He did for Israel." "And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the Lord, nor yet the works which He had done for Israel." "And they forsook the Lord God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the Lord to anger. And they forsook the Lord, and served Baal and Ashtaroth." Judges 2:7, 10, 12, 13.

Evidently there were two causes for this terrible collapse. One was that those people had not faithfully taught to their children the wonderful works of God; and the other, the children evidently had not sought to know how they had been brought into the Promised Land.

They actually became affiliated with the idolatrous peoples that God had sent them to drive out of the country because of their idolatry. Think of the long-suffering of God! He had told them that they would be a mighty nation; that He would make them a blessing to all people; and that He would confer upon them marvellous blessings, if they were obedient; and He warned them that terrible curses would fall upon them for disobedience. Yet God spared those people for hundreds of years, the same as He had spared the Amorites before them.

Then God enlarged Japheth, in harmony with the prophecy of Noah. The Babylonians, the Persians, the Macedonians, and the Romans came upon that land, one after the other.

Jerusalem Knew Not the Time of Its Visitation

When Christ visited this world He came to His own and His own received Him not.

"And when He was come near, He beheld the city, and wept over it, saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes. For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, and shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation." Luke 19:41-44.

Although the Master Himself came down in person to teach them, to guide them into all truth, yet they did not know the time of their visitation. Might they have known it? Whose fault was it that they did not know it? It was entirely their own mistake that they failed. They might have known the time of their visitation. God had given them evidence for hundreds of years concerning the time of their visitation. Because of their ignorance Christ said:

"The days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, . . . and shall lay thee even with the ground, . . . and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation."

At that time Jerusalem was a mighty city. Jerusalem is a natural fortress. In those days it was a difficult city to capture. Approaching the city from any direction, it is necessary to travel up steep hills. "The mountains are round about Jerusalem," the psalmist said; and right in the centre of those mountains stands Jerusalem, a city difficult of attack, a city easily defended.

The archæologist's work indicates what a wonderful city it was. It is necessary to go down twenty feet in the rubbish to find the remains of the old city. The present city of Jerusalem is built on top of the rubbish, twenty feet above Old Jerusalem. At that time our Lord was a man without influence, with no social standing, despised and rejected of men. Is it not amazing how people will despise the very ones who can help them most! Instead of heeding the wonderful words of the greatest of teachers, they laughed Him to scorn. They did not believe that those great stones that had stood for hundreds of years would be cast down. Down in Egypt the temples that were erected thousands of years before the Jewish temple was even built are still standing. If the stones of Egypt still stand, why could not the stones of Jerusalem stand? Because the fiat of heaven had gone forth, and God purposed that that city should be broken down: hence no power on earth could keep those stones one on top of another, for God had decreed they should be overthrown. Forty years afterwards the Romans came and destroyed that city. Then in 133 A.D. the Jews began rebuilding the city and followed a false Messiah called Barcochebas, and were going to reorganise the whole city again. What happened then? The Emperor Hadrian came upon them and destroyed the whole enterprise. He left not one stone upon another, unconsciously fulfilling the words of Jesus. Then he built a temple to Jupiter on the site where the temple of God had stood, and he forbade any Jew to reside in Palestine.

Jerusalem is called over and over again in the Bible, "the rebellious city." When Nebuchadnezzar captured the city he put Zedekiah on the throne, and shortly afterwards he rebelled. Jerusalem was a rebellious city in all ages. If Christ had been willing to lead a revolution against the Roman Empire, all the Jews would have joined up with Him. If Jesus had been a revolutionist He could have easily led a rebellion by the Jews. There is evidently something in the Jewish nature that is revolutionary. Practically all the revolutions for the last hundred years in Europe have been led by Jews. The great French Revolution was led by Jews. The whole idea was born in the mind of a Jew. The greatest revolutionists in the world to-day are Jews, and they appear to have been revolutionists for at least two thousand five hundred years. When Jerusalem was absolutely blotted out, the principal toast at the Roman feasts was, "*Hierosylma est perdita*" ("Jerusalem is destroyed"). Then the people would say: "Hurrah." And when people say, "Hip, hip, hurrah," they are repeating the old Roman toast. The Romans were so delighted with the idea that Jerusalem was destroyed, that at last the rebellious city was trodden under foot, and that the temple of Jupiter stood where the temple of

God had stood, that they coined the phrase, and made it one of their toasts.

Some few hundred years afterwards, in the seventh century, the Saracens came against the Romans and captured Jerusalem. Then Shem came back again. Then after some centuries the Crusaders captured the city, but did not hold it very long. In the sixteenth century the Turks captured the city and held it till 1917.

A Critical Period in the World's History

In 1843 and 1844, some wonderful things happened in the world,—that was a wonderfully critical period. At that time the Turkish Government was dominating all the near East and many other countries. They were the leading Mohammedan people. The Sultan was the chief Kalif, the head of the Mohammedan religion, as the Pope is the head of the Roman Catholic religion.

The Turks had a law at that time that any Mohammedan who accepted Christianity should be executed. Now God had a message due to this world, a message that was to go to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. Here was a nation, a mighty nation, which had a law that if any man accepted that everlasting gospel he would be executed. Well, in 1843 the Christian world was mightily stirred because an Armenian boy, a Christian, had been forced to accept Mohammedanism by the Turkish Government. Some time after, this Armenian boy went back to his own country, and worshipped at a Christian church. Because he turned back from Mohammedanism to Christianity, he was put to death. The world rose up in revolt at the horror of such a thing. Britain wrote a letter saying that such a law should be changed, but the Turk was adamant. He was a mighty power in those days, though he has not much now. He said his religion, his Bible, his holy Koran, forbade him to do anything else but execute anybody who turned Christian; so the British Government wrote him a letter to this effect: that unless they changed such a revolting principle, they could not expect to have any longer the friendship of England, and demanding that that law should be changed immediately. Well, of course the Turk objected to making any change, still pleading that it was his religion. But Lord Aberdeen wrote to Canning, the British Ambassador, suggesting that the Turkish Government be required to change that law within a given time; and the sultan wisely abolished that law on the first day of the Mohammedan year 1260 (our 1844), exactly 2,300 years after Artaxerxes signed his decree which he handed to Ezra.

God had measured out a great period of 2,300 years; and while we know that that measurement applies to things in heaven, some things happened on earth which made it possible for the judgment hour message to go throughout the world without hindrance at the precise time it fell due. At the same time China and India were opening their doors to the preaching of the gospel. At the same time great preachers in the Anglican churches in England were preaching on the second advent, calling the attention of the people to the fact that God was opening the way for the message of the judgment hour to go to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. Those men recognised that the time was ripe for the judgment hour message. Mighty things were being done in the world to prepare the way for this message.

Where does the Jew figure in all this; he had not

yet got back into Palestine? Some men in those days endeavoured to thwart the teaching concerning the second advent. They said, "Look at Palestine, it is still in the hands of the Turk. Don't you know that the Jews as a people are to settle in Palestine? that they are to become the missionary people to the world? They will carry the gospel to all the world, and the world will be converted." That is what some people say to-day. That is what they thought, and they naturally said: "Well, we shall have to wait years before the Jews can get back into Palestine." Do you understand now why it was that Sister White wrote in "Early Writings" that the Old Jerusalem would never be built up? She wrote it because there were men teaching in the world at that time that that would be so. Back in 1843 when that mighty message of the second coming of Jesus went to all the world, the devil determined to deceive the world with this false theory that the second coming of Christ will not take place until Jerusalem is rebuilt by the Jews. At that time, Sister White said, "Old Jerusalem will never be rebuilt;" and it never will.

In 1917 Lord Allenby with a British army drove the Turk out of Palestine. The Jews said: "Now is our opportunity; we will get the British Government to set up a home for us in Palestine." In Palestine there is great trouble over that Jewish national home. The whole Arab people is against it. While they hate the Turk, they do not hate the Jew; but they do not like to think they will be brought under the dominance of the Jew; they hate the revolutionary Jew. They say, "We have held this country for hundreds of years." On the other hand, the Jew says: "This is our country. We are entitled to have it, and the League of Nations ought to see that we get it." You know that when Lord Allenby marched into that city, he said that all the holy places would be kept intact. The British Government promised that they should be kept intact. The promise was made in 1917. Not only Mohammedanism, but every kind of type of religion is found there. It is the most religious city in the world. All kinds of religious organisations are there, and the British Government covenanted that their holy places would be kept intact.

So how is Old Jerusalem ever going to be rebuilt? The whole world has decreed that it shall not. It is a fact that many Jews are building some very fine places, but they are not building them on the site of Old Jerusalem. They are building their new houses outside the old city, and thousands of them have gone forty miles away, and built a handsome city near Joppa on the sea coast. They have gone there to build up the land of Palestine, not Jerusalem.

What is coming out of all this trouble in the East? Armageddon.

In 1848 Dr. Thomas, commenting on Ezekiel 38, wrote:

"I believe there will be a pre-adventual, limited colonisation of the country by the Jews, . . . and that the prosperity of this colony . . . will be the cause of the country's invasion by the Russian 'clay,' styled 'Gog,' by Ezekiel. It will be the sign of the 'Time of the End' indicative of the speedy return of Christ. . . . The pre-adventual colonisation of Palestine will be on purely political principles, and the Jewish colonists will return in unbelief of the Messiahship of Jesus, and the truth as it is in Him. They will emigrate thither as agriculturists and traders,

in the hope of ultimately establishing their commonwealth, but more immediately of getting rich in silver and gold, . . . and in cattle and goods, . . . under the efficient protection of the British power."—*"Elpis Israel,"* p. 396.

If that man were living today, he could not have written anything more true. But he wrote it in 1848. Where did he get his knowledge? He got it from a few verses in Ezekiel.

There is a limited colonisation of Jews in Palestine. But some of them want to make Palestine as Jewish as England is English or America is American. That idea rankles in the mind of every Arab, and it can never be.

If you will read Ezekiel 38, you will find a prophecy concerning the Jews living in unwallled villages. To-day

as you drive along, you go through little villages without bars or gates. They are under the protection of the whole world through the League of Nations. But this condition was to exist just prior to Armageddon. The last verses of that same chapter speak of Armageddon, which is still further dealt with in Revelation 16 when the kings of the earth go up to battle, the battle of the great day of God Almighty.

We should not be planning for one hundred years of time, or fifty, or twenty, or even ten years of time. Everything is being made ready for the final battle of this world,—the battle of the great day of God Almighty. It is time we prepared, nay, it is time for us to BE READY; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

AUSTRALASIAN CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION LIMITED

Treasurer's Report Presented at the Quadrennial Session, 1930

WHILE most members and workers are familiar with the Australasian Conference Association Limited, more commonly known as the A.C.A., yet comparatively few fully understand its connection with this work as a whole.

The fact that it is a Limited Liability Company, and at first glance appears to deal with financial and business matters only, have caused some to question why there is such an Association connected with this work. The reason is that where a denomination owns property of any kind, it is necessary to create a legal corporation or body to attend to the legalities of that denomination. The Australasian Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and other religious bodies, are not recognised by law as having a legal standing, and so have created bodies or corporations recognised by law and in whose name property can be registered, and upon whom, if necessary, legal notices can be served. For this reason, therefore, the Australasian Conference Association Limited was incorporated on March 26, 1909. Prior to that time all church properties were held in the names of various trustees. This caused continual difficulty, some trustees dying, some moving away, some apostatising and threatening to refuse to allow members to use the church buildings, and so on. Since the incorporation of the Association, practically all church properties, except where local conferences are incorporated, have been transferred to the name of the Association. The Association holds them in trust for the conferences or churches concerned.

The Association is also the registered proprietor of the Signs Publishing Company, the two sanitariums, the health food factories, the cafés, and the schools. In fact, most of the property of this denomination in Australasia is now registered in the name of the Australasian Conference Association Limited.

While at first glance the Association may seem to be entirely financial in its business, we trust this report will show that it is very vitally connected with the progress and development of the evangelical work of the Australasian Union Conference.

Finance Department

The Finance Department of the Association handles the deposits of members with the Association, and on its books are kept all passbook and fixed deposit accounts. It attends to the general banking interest of the institutions, it handles insurance matters of the various concerns of the work, it lends money to conferences and institutions, and receives the payments.

At the present time 1,977 members have money deposited with the Association. At December 31 last these members had deposited with the Association £161,422. This is about £13,000 more than was shown on the balance sheet four years ago. The rate of interest offered is 3 per cent. Some members are pleased to leave their money with the Association free of interest for the help it is to the cause. The Association lends this money to churches and conferences at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, and to institutions at 5 per cent. The difference between interest paid and received constitutes the revenue of the Finance Department, and from this it meets its operation expenses.

How Deposits Have Been Used

At the present time there are throughout Australia and New Zealand scores of churches to which the Association has lent money with which to build. Those members who have lent money to the Association can have the satisfaction of knowing that some of their money has been invested in church buildings, thus enabling members to worship God in neat, suitable edifices. Many know what it means to use rented halls, and how thankful they have been to give up such places for churches of their own. The money has helped to build church schools, and thus has benefited many hundreds of Adventist children who might otherwise have been compelled to spend some of the most impressionable years of their lives in State schools. The sanitariums have been largely built and equipped with money deposited with the Association and re-lent to them. The fine work of our sanitariums is known beyond the confines of Australia, while many of the splendid young people trained in those institutions have gone to the ends of the earth to labour for others. Depositors with the Association are entitled to the very real pleasure that comes with the knowledge that they have had a part through their money in the healing of the

sick and in the sending forth of those splendid missionaries.

Members through their deposits have helped to build and equip the Signs Publishing Company. The canvassing work is one of God's very strong agencies for the finishing of His work on the earth. In helping to establish the Publishing House, and, further, in enabling the Association to lend money to conferences to keep good book stocks for their canvassers, depositors have had a part in scattering this denomination's good books, papers, and periodicals throughout the land.

Further than that, they have indirectly, through very effectively, continued year by year to assist not only in educating the children and young people, but also in keeping the schools going; for much of the Association's money has been lent to the Health Food Company, and while the Health Food Company pays no dividends, yet it does return a goodly portion of its profits to the Australasian Union Conference. One-fifth, or 20 per cent, of all payments received from institutional and Health Food profits are handed by the Union Conference to the local conferences for use in their church school educational work. With this money the conferences help to equip their schools and pay their church school teachers. In addition to this, one-third of all the church school teachers' wages is paid by the Union Conference from the profits of the Health Food Department and institutions.

Further than all this, it is solely from the profits received from the institutions and branches that the Union Conference makes its appropriations to the three secondary schools,—the Australasian Missionary College, the New Zealand Missionary School, and the West Australian Missionary School.

But even this does not complete the story of benefits which the cause in Australasia has received through the deposit system. There are over 700 persons employed in all in the various institutions, and the fact that a large number of young people are able to obtain employment in this way, and are thus saved from the many temptations that go with outside employment, is in itself a matter for great thankfulness. In addition to this, it means that every conference throughout this Union benefits by the tithes received from these workers. It is estimated that in all over £14,000 a

year comes to conferences from this source.

Many young people training at the Australasian Missionary College would be unable to complete their education there but for the fact that the Avondale Industries, another institution largely assisted by depositors' money, provides employment for them and enables them to pay their way through college.

By no means the least of the benefits or interest derived from these investments is the great influence for good exerted by the Health Food Company in its education of the public mind along the lines of healthful living. Many an individual and many a home have been made healthier and happier by the Sanitarium Health Food Company, and many a person is rejoicing in this truth to-day whose interest in the message was first aroused through coming into contact with the Health Food work.

These few facts are given that depositors may know that their money has been well invested and is returning fine interest. Eternity only, however, will reveal the full extent of the help these depositors have rendered to the cause by the investment of their means with the Association.

Insurance

The Association self-insurance scheme has thus far been an unqualified success. The Association now covers most of the smaller risks, including the majority of the churches and church schools, the mission houses, mission boats, conference offices, tent stocks, etc. The premiums are paid in the usual way, but instead of being passed to an outside company they are credited to the Insurance Fund of the Association. At December 31, 1921, this fund totalled in all £2,239. At December 31, 1925, it had increased to £7,350. At December 31, 1929, the fund stood at £17,543. It will be of interest to know that the first money paid into this Insurance Fund was the insurance premium on the mission ketch *Melanesia*. It was at that time taking a grave risk, but events have proved that the risk was well justified. As the fund increases and larger business is being accepted, due care is taken to accept no individual risk that exceeds an amount reaching one-third of the total reserve. Thus it will be seen that the insurance business conducted by the Association is being developed upon lines that any insurance company would approve, and of absolute financial soundness. The total amount the fund has had to pay out thus far in claims is £1,219. No private business of any kind is touched by the Association; it handles the properties of the denomination only.

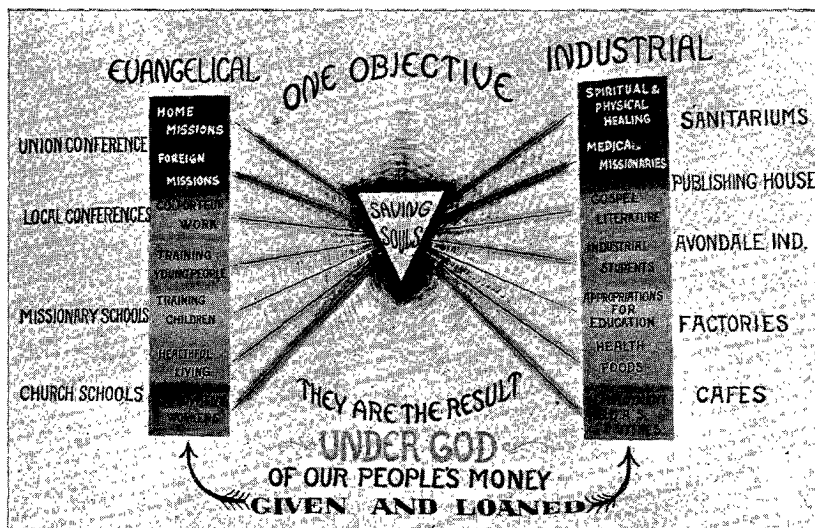
Budget Meetings

Branches and institutions prepare balance sheets semi-annually, and copies are forwarded promptly to head office. From these the aggregate balance sheet of the Association is prepared. Twice a year the Association holds a budget meeting at which the financial position as a whole is considered, all profits and losses are noted, and the results of the half year's running are ascertained. No profits are spent except by action of the Board of the Association. When the profits on the half year's running have been discovered, the first step is always to set aside that portion of it which is to go to the Union Conference. The next is to take a certain portion which has to apply against

institutional indebtedness. These two amounts are decided strictly in harmony with the established policy of the A.U.C. which governs the distribution of institutional profits. Consideration is then given to the requests of the various branches and institutions for money for various purposes. These requests must all be first considered by the local boards of the institutions concerned before coming to the Board of the Association. Appropriations are made only in accordance with the

mittee definitely laid down that on no account should the schools be allowed to again run into debt, and they have been kept debt free from that time.

At one of the half-yearly budget meetings to which the Health Food Branch Managers had been invited, the situation at the Publishing House, Warburton, was considered. The Signs Publishing Company was very heavily in debt to the Association, and the resulting big interest bill affected the cost of production of books. The Health Food



amount of profits remaining for distribution. Care is taken that expenditure shall always be within the income limit.

Depreciation

It is necessary for every institution to depreciate the value of its plant, stock, buildings, etc. This is done each half year in accordance with a uniform policy for all depreciation. In order to give these monies, so written off to depreciation, practical effect in the replacement of worn-out equipment, it has now been planned that branches and institutions making profits shall pay in cash into a central fund 50 per cent of their depreciation, and in the case of the missionary schools, the full 100 per cent of depreciation is paid into a fund.

Institutional Indebtedness

Action was taken several years ago that the Association work to the policy outlined by the Spirit of Prophecy to get clear of debt. At that time very little was being done by branches, institutions, and schools to repay the large sums of money that had been lent them from time to time by the Association. As there was little prospect of the Missionary Schools making profits sufficient to permit of their loans being repaid, it was decided to lift the school indebtedness by transferring certain assets to the Avondale Industries and by making annual appropriations from the Union Conference funds until the balance of the debt was cleared. When it was attempted to put this into practice, however, it was found to be impossible for the Union Conference to lift the portion of the debt. The Australasian Conference Association Limited thereupon took over from the Union Conference the remaining indebtedness on the three secondary schools, totalling £13,684. At that time the Com-

men agreed whole-heartedly with the suggestion made that, instead of Health Food profits being used to reduce Health Food Department indebtedness, all available profits be concentrated on lifting the indebtedness of the Signs Publishing Company. Within two years the whole of the Signs debt, amounting to many thousands of pounds, was repaid; and at December 31 last the Signs Publishing Company's balance sheet showed that institution to be debt free.

With the Publishing House free of debt, it was then decided to postpone yet further the Health Food Department's jubilee, and next concentrate every effort on the Sydney Sanitarium debt. The Sydney Sanitarium carries the biggest debt of any institution, and is perhaps one of the least able to bear it. From now on, all available debt-paying funds will be applied to the Sanitarium indebtedness, and we look forward to the glad day in the not very distant future when that institution also will for the first time in its existence be free of debt. To further assist that institution, at a recent A.C.A. budget meeting £1,000 was set aside from the profits as the nucleus of a fund for building new treatment rooms. All who are acquainted with the Sydney Sanitarium can testify to its need in this regard.

Even among workers the full value of the Association to the evangelical work of this field is not always realised. If money making were the primary object of the Association, then several of the branches and institutions would be closed down as unprofitable. For example, the sanitariums are run to benefit mankind. To the Association they represent a heavy loss financially. But through their instrumentality not only physical help is rendered, but souls are won to this truth. The application of

Association profits to educational work and the training and preparation of young ministers and workers; the encouragement and assistance it provides for the canvassing work; the employment within the ranks of Seventh-day Adventists; the tithes and offerings to conferences and missions from the workers, all mean a tremendous amount to the work. Take the Avondale Industries and the Australasian Missionary College from North New South Wales, the Sydney Sanitarium from South New South Wales, the Warburton Sanitarium from Victoria, the Christchurch Factory from South New Zealand, and a very great difference in the income of those conferences would be noticed. Take away the business side of the Association, and the consequent profits, and it would probably result in one-half or two-thirds of the church schools and all of the missionary schools and the sanitariums closing or else proving such a drain on conference tithe as seriously to cripple the evangelical work.

No matter from what angle the work of the Association is viewed, it will be found that it is inseparable from the conference and evangelical work of this field, and very grateful thanks are tendered to all members and conferences who have by their deposits with the Australasian Conference Association Limited made the work and development of the Association possible. But above all, thanks are due to God who has so remarkably blessed this feature of His work. Through many anxious times and serious problems the Lord has guided and has developed this work to His praise and the advancement of His cause in Australasia.

In business circles the Association and its work are held in very high regard, but above the opinion of worldly men it is very necessary that the Lord have a good opinion of the Association and its members and workers. It has been abundantly demonstrated that with the blessing of God added it can be a tremendous power for good in His work.

Brethren, pray for the work of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, that the Lord will continue to guide and overrule in all matters connected therewith, that under His hand it may be used in still greater measure to finish His work on earth.

T. W. HAMMOND.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

TO the chairman and the members assembled in Conference, we bring greetings from the workers and native teachers and the church members and adherents of the Solomon Islands.

We take this opportunity of expressing our sincerest gratitude to our Heavenly Father for His keeping power and His opening providences that have been manifest during the past four years; also for the precious promises which have been anchors in the storms of trial and sorrow, and have been like healing balm on the wounds of sorrow to those who have been called to pass through deep waters.

The murder of the teacher's wife and one of the converts on the island of Malaita, and the sudden death of Sister A. F. Parker caused the shadows of sadness to enter the hearts of their loved ones and their fellow workers; but with

faith in the Lord these were able to say, "Thy will be done," and go forward to prepare for that glad day when we shall all meet, never to part again.

Many new islands and districts have been entered during the past four years, thus adding still other tongues to the number in which the gospel is given.

Guadalcanar, which was opened just about the time of the quadrennial session of 1926, has grown to the extent of eleven missions. This work has been in charge of a native director, and it has so grown that it needs the services of a good, able white missionary to lead out in the work. All this year this great need has been before us, and we trust that it will receive your prayerful consideration.

Malaita, in spite of its many vicissitudes and the troubles that have arisen tending to disorganise the work, has now seven missions holding up in no uncertain way the banner of Prince Emmanuel in that dark land. In the place that seems to be enshrouded in the darkest of heathenism, the light is now breaking forth, and many souls have decided to follow their Saviour all the way. One Malaita young man has left his home to attend the Batuna Training School, in order to receive a training for the service of the Lord, that he may return to call many of his countrymen to the blessed hope. Even the roughest of the people there call the Seventh-day Mission the "true mission," and our work is held in the highest respect.

Bougainville has grown from two missions, as previously reported to you, to fifteen missions, extending all along the eastern side of that island. Owing to the Government of the Mandated Territory not allowing our mission boys to go to the Solomon Islands for further training at the Batuna School, it has been thought wise to establish a small training school in a suitable place on Bougainville, so that the local natives may be trained as teachers for their own people. The strong opposition of the other mission bodies has broken down, and strong interests are continually calling for workers.

The island of Ysabel has just been opened, and this has marked off one of the few remaining islands left to enter in the Solomon Group. Already a strong interest is reported, and many are seeking to know Him whom to know is life eternal.

Gizo and the Marovo districts still remain loyal to the mission, and still provide teachers of courage and missionary zeal to go out to other places and win souls for the Master. District meetings are held in the fields annually, and in this way much has been done for the spiritual uplift of the people.

Choiseul still continues to gain ground, and many new missions have been added of late. An intermediate school has been started there, and is beginning to meet the need of our young people who are too advanced for the native teachers' schools and not yet ready for the Batuna Training School. Choiseul is a land of young people, and we are expecting a good fruitage of mission workers from this island.

We have not by any means answered all the many calls that have come to us from the various islands, owing to lack of

funds. Had the funds been available, we would have a much larger work to report.

In the past four years 447 souls have been baptised and added to the church. We have lost several members by death, two have been disfellowshipped because of their desire to remain in the ways of sin, and one has apostatised. Our present membership of the Sabbath school stands at 2,879, and the church membership at 810. The Sabbath school offerings for the past four years were £1,376 13s. 4d. The amount in tithe, not including that on white workers' salaries, was £1,456 9s. 1d. For the Week of Prayer offerings £300 was given, and £131 8s. for local church offerings. Many have taken the opportunity of securing what literature was offered, and books to the value of £746 3s. 6d. were purchased.

Our training school has been kept busy preparing students to answer the many calls that have come in from our own field and the Mandated Territory. The students have not always had the opportunity to avail themselves of the education offered, as the constant demand for teachers has not allowed them to remain long enough to complete their course. Since 1927 sixty-four students have left the school to take up teaching work on our missions, and eight have left to serve in other capacities in the mission work. The accommodation for the students in the way of housing has been poor, but now that a sawmill has been added to the technical department, things look brighter for the future.

The hospital in connection with the school has been kept busy; 3,708 treatments have been given, and about 40 maternity cases registered. Steps have been taken to develop this work by erecting a good hospital building, and we are asking for a qualified medical man to take charge of the work.

Our printing press at Batuna has been running full time since its inception. It has printed 2,000 copies of a book containing 166 hymns and the Gospel of John. The same number has also been printed of the book of Acts, also a booklet in the English and Marovo languages. Besides these books there is the regular work of printing the Sabbath school lessons for our field, also the Week of Prayer readings, and any other printed matter that the mission needs that can be undertaken by the local press.

The Solomon Islands brethren have been pleased to have two visits from Union Conference representatives during the last four years, Pastor A. G. Stewart in 1927, and Pastors Stewart and G. F. Jones in 1929. We looked forward to these visits from the brethren, and much appreciated the help and the counsel they gave.

G. PEACOCK,
Superintendent.

THE life, the words, and the deportment are the most forcible argument, the most solemn appeal, to the careless, irreverent, and sceptical. Let the life and character be the strong argument for Christianity; then men will be compelled to take knowledge of you that you have been with Jesus, and have learned of Him.—"Counsels to Teachers," p. 478.

QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE

FROM the land of sunshine, we of the Queensland Conference greet the delegates assembled, with good cheer and much Christian love. We prefix our quadrennial report with thanksgiving and praise to a kind Heavenly Father who has been pleased to encircle us all, through the merits of His precious Son, into the one great family of which both heaven and earth form a part. Blessed be the name of Emmanuel—God with us, Jesus, Saviour and friend of man. A report without Him would be worthless, for by Him we live, and move, and have our being.

Financial

The quadrennial period under review reveals evidences of divine guiding and a protective hand over all. Many and crafty have been the attacks of the enemy, but the remnant of God moves on. The mustard seed of faith still manifests itself in the lives of a faint yet pursuing people who, banded together for service, have recognised in a measure that the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; and the recognition of their tenancy has resulted in honouring the Owner in tithe money to the amount of £4,547, £4,476, £4,618, and £5,635 for the four consecutive years,—a total of £19,277. This amount is £188 less than that of the previous quadrennial term; but the cutting off of 309 of the conference membership in the latter part of 1928, when the division of the North Queensland Mission was made, will account for the decline. It is interesting to note that while there were 76 less tithe-payers in the conference in 1929 than in 1928, owing to the separation of the Northern end, yet the tithe increased by £1,017. This was made possible by an increase of £1 6s. 8d. on the per capita payment. We regret, however, to state that our books show the number paying tithe to be approximately 50 per cent, or 441 out of a membership of 920. We can hardly imagine just what the potentialities would be to us as a people and to God's work at large were we, the world over, 100 per cent tithe-payers of 100 per cent of our means.

Total funds raised, including camp offerings and pledges of £1,923, for the four years amounted to £31,664. Of this, £19,277 was contributed as tithe, and reserved for evangelical and administrative work within the conference, while the £12,387 balance was for foreign missions. It would rejoice our hearts, however, if the proportion of these figures could be reversed, thus revealing an increased activity on the part of our laity for foreign work, which brings reciprocal blessings from Him who has said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of one of these."

Departmental

A conference is composed chiefly of seven departments, and two of these—the **Evangelistic** and **Literature** departments—pioneer or blaze the track. The former has concentrated upon the city, and a strong constituency has grown up in the Brisbane suburban area. We are now planning to divide our meagre forces, and carry the message to more of the rural districts. The Book Department shows an increase in sales over the previous four

years to the value of £630, or a summary of £7,663. The net profit on running expenses for the four years is £556, and this with an average of eight men in the field.

Following hard on the heels of these pioneer departments come the **Sabbath School** and **Home Missions**, the one to set the new members to the study of the Holy Word, and the other to lead them into spiritual service. The Sabbath schools embrace, or should, every member of the conference. Its studies are adapted to every degree of mentality. Its spiritual possibilities are unlimited. Our entire membership at the close of the quadrennial term was 962. Of these, 225 are isolated members, while the remainder are grouped into 20 organised schools. Comparatively, we are lower per capita givers than any of the sister conferences. This may be on account of the drought conditions of our country, or it may be that we have not caught the true vision of the work in fields afar and our relation to it in the light of the Master's command, "Go ye into all the world." Our good Sabbath school secretary is now giving her special attention to these matters, and we intend to stand by her side in the effort, and hope for a better showing in the future. We are glad to report, however, that foreign missions have benefited through our offerings to the amount of £4,623 for the term under review, and we pray God's blessing upon it as it flows on its way, absorbed in the great river of human need.

In our Home Missions Department we find a responsive people, willing to serve. It is impossible to trace the saving influence of personal service done by church members, as the credit frequently goes to the conference workers who sometimes reap where others sow. Yet God, who makes the victor's crown, knows where to place the stars of adornment. The two main campaigns for the year are Big Week and Foreign Mission Appeal. Through the former, £410 and the latter, £5,065 have been passed on to their respective places.

Closely affiliated with the Home Missions is the **Missionary Volunteer Department**, with ten organised societies, covering a membership of 324. Many solid Christian men and women in the making are here to be found in their various juvenile stages, a treasure to the church, for the training of which she must give an account. From their small earnings they too have passed on to Foreign Missions the amount of £387 for the quadrennial term. It is interesting to note that the number of tracts and papers distributed by the young people in 1929 equalled that of the three years previous; and that subscriptions taken for papers and magazines for the three years 1926, '27, '28, totalled only eight more than were taken in the one year 1929; or 214 for three years, against 206 for one year. We are glad, too, for this increase in activity among our youth, and hope for a continuance of the same.

Two other departments remain for our consideration, one of which is the **Educational**, and of this we cannot give a very wholesome report. No church schools are at present operating, although our increased membership in the suburban area has added many children and youth to our ranks. We have not lost hope entirely of reviving our school work, knowing its

place in holding our young people to the message; but for the present we are forced to report that no aggressive educational work is being carried on.

The **Religious Liberty Department** is the last, yet not least, to come before our review. Its time of activity is near, and it stands ready for the closing conflict. It embodies, however, the principles of true liberty which, after all, need most to be understood by the church,—the daily operation of the Holy Spirit upon the individual heart, bringing emancipation from sin until the soul is in harmony with its Maker, and with the psalm writer says, "I will walk at liberty; for I seek Thy precepts, . . . and I will delight myself in Thy commandments, which I have loved." A definition of such "liberty" also we find in "The Desire of Ages," page 466: "The only condition upon which the freedom of man is possible, is that of becoming one with Christ. 'The truth shall make you free;' and Christ is the truth. Sin can triumph only by enfeebling the mind, and destroying the liberty of the soul. *Subjection to God is restoration to one's self,—to the true glory and dignity of man.* The divine law, to which we are brought into subjection, is 'the law of liberty.'"

We again thank God for His kindness toward us through the years, and consecrate ourselves with you through Christ for the consummation of His work upon earth.

H. A. HILL,
President.

PAPUA

IN the parable of the sower, as recorded in the 13th chapter of Matthew, may be found the experience of our workers in Papua during the past four years, as they have gone forth to sow the seed of the gospel of Christ.

Some seed has apparently fallen by the wayside, other fallen into stony ground and among thorns, but some has fallen into good ground and brought forth fruit to the honour and glory of God.

The lack of interest in spiritual things is not confined to the homeland alone, but the same enemy has sown the same seeds in the mission field, and we have the same power to contend with as our workers do in the home field. Nevertheless, the Word of God has the same power to deliver men and women from the powers of sin, and we rejoice to see souls born again into the kingdom of God.

At the time of the last session we had two stations in this field, one at Bisiatapu and the other at Efogi, both inland stations and situated among a scattered people. Bisiatapu was opened in 1908 by Pastor S. W. Carr, and work was started at Efogi in 1924. During the latter part of 1928 we opened two new stations on the coast, one at Vilirupu, about 100 miles east of Port Moresby, and the other at Valaila, about 200 miles west of Port Moresby. This year has witnessed the opening of a new interest at Aroma, about fifteen miles west of Vilirupu. A brief review of the work at these centres may be of interest.

Bisiatapu

This our oldest station is established among the Koiari tribe, about twenty-seven miles inland from Port Moresby,

a people hard to reach with the gospel, and showing little stability of character when we do win them, so the results have not been what we would like to see for the years of work done among them. Two of our noble Fijian workers have laid down their lives for this people, Beni in 1918, ten years after the opening of this station, and Ratu Tevita in the year 1928, just another ten years after the death of Beni. We rejoice to see some souls being won for Christ at this centre, and this year we have been able to send out four native workers from this station. Of late years we have had people from other tribes come to live on the mission, some coming as far as 200 miles, and at the time of writing there are eight different dialects spoken by the students living on the mission.

Efogi

This station, situated almost in the heart of Papua, has been a very difficult station to work, owing to the great difficulties of transport; however, souls have been won for the Master, and we feel that our labour has not been in vain in our attempts to carry the gospel to these inland people. Unfortunately, this station has been without a worker for the past nine months, owing to Nafitilai's returning to Fiji, and we being short of a worker to fill his place. We now have two of our native workers from Bisiatabu stationed there, and we trust and pray that the seed sown will be further watered, and other souls won for the kingdom of God.

Vilirupu

At the end of 1928 Brother and Sister C. E. Mitchell went forth to open work in this very populous district, and they have been kept very busy in their work. Much time has had to be devoted to getting their buildings up, but now that these are almost completed, much more time will be devoted to giving the gospel to these people.

A good school has been established where the young people are not only taught to read and write, but they are also being taught to love and serve their Master, and we believe that many of these young people will be won for Christ and later go forth as missionaries to labour for others. Apart from school work, evangelistic efforts have been carried on, and we look forward to a harvest of souls from this station.

A good deal of ministry to the sick and suffering has been done, and lives saved. We believe this is the very work the Master would have us do. At the time of writing these workers are away in Australia on furlough, and Pastor J. R. James and Maika are caring for the work.

Vailala

As two workers went east to open the work at Vilirupu, Brother and Sister Engelbrecht went west to open up work on the Vailala River, and the Lord has blessed them in their labours there. Many have been the requests from students wishing to come and live on the mission to be taught, and some of these have already been won for Christ.

The medical work done by these missionaries has been appreciated by both natives and Government, and we know

that the hearts of our workers have been made glad as they have been able to relieve suffering humanity. Great interest has been taken in the school work; these people are very anxious to receive an education. Unfortunately, these workers were forced to return to the homeland on account of ill-health. Living in a native-built house has no doubt been detrimental to their health; therefore we feel that a more suitable house should be provided for the workers there. Brother and Sister C. J. Howell, who have been holding the tort at Bisiatabu, have gone to care for the work in Brother and Sister Engelbrecht's absence, as this station had already been without a worker for six months. These relieving workers would have been there sooner, had it not been that the ill-fated boat by which they were to travel was wrecked about thirty miles this side of Vailala, when seventeen lives were lost, including a Government magistrate and his four children, his wife being the only survivor out of the family. Had it not been that Brother and Sister Howell were delayed, they too might have been on that very trip, and their lives lost unless the Lord had delivered them. We cannot always understand why delays happen, but in this we see the reason for it, and thank the Lord for His protecting care, at the same time regretting the loss of so many lives in the disaster.

Aroma

This new interest, developed by Pastor James while caring for the work at Vilirupu, promises to become one of our best centres, and we believe we shall see a most encouraging work develop there. Situated in one of the most thickly populated centres in Papua, and among an intelligent people, we believe we shall be able to develop some good native teachers quickly. This is our great need at present, for had we teachers we could place them in scores of villages along this coast.

Future Plans and Needs

We wish to mention some of our future plans and pressing needs at this juncture.

In the central district from which our most promising native worker comes, a call came to us long ago to open up work, and this call has been repeated several times, and land has been offered us by the people. This would open to us the large Motuan district (the Motuan language has become the general language of Papua); the location is very central and offers a good harbour, and we feel it is urgent to take up this work this coming year. This location would be very suitable for the headquarters of our work in Papua.

The majority of the people there can read and write, and they are very anxious to secure reading matter in their own language. Throughout this whole field, too, we feel there are great possibilities for our literature work, and to meet this need we are calling for a small printing press.

Scores of young people have already placed themselves under the mission for instruction in the message, and it has already become necessary for us to plan definitely for educational centres in two districts. We are endeavouring to secure land in the western district for this purpose. This will call for provision of at least a temporary house there.

In beginning our work at Aroma, we feel we should plan for a good building, as this is necessary to safeguard the health of our workers. With this in mind we plan definitely to erect a permanent house at Vailala also.

These plans mean that we shall have five stations on the coast in populous districts where our opportunities for evangelistic work are unlimited. With this rapidly developing work on the coast, we are in need of a suitable boat that will enable us to travel in some safety. The large number of people found along the seventeen hundred miles of coast line are to be reached with the gospel message, and there is a good deal of virgin territory on the west coast and up the Fly River that can be visited only when we have our own boat.

Our only launch has been the one at Vilirupu, and it is not safe for coastal work; the old engine adds to the ever-present dangers of the sea. We wish it was possible to provide a more reliable boat for this district. Many times our workers and boys have had to swim ashore because we have had no dinghy; we have now overcome this difficulty by building our own.

At Vailala Brother Engelbrecht has used a dugout canoe for his work in the past, but now we have just built a small 16-foot launch that will be greatly appreciated by our workers there. While speaking of boats we should mention the necessity of providing a small launch for the work at Aroma.

We trust that our plea for these facilities will meet with very sympathetic consideration at this Conference.

We do thank the Lord for the many blessings we have enjoyed as we have worked together during the past quadrennial period. Though we have passed through a trying time on account of every family being visited with serious illness during the past year, thus greatly hindering us in our work, yet in it all the Lord has been very near and blessed us abundantly.

The workers in this field have at all times been willing to co-operate in every way in all the endeavours to carry the message to perishing souls; and we realise that it is only when we see this willing co-operation that the Lord can add His richest blessings.

W. N. LOCK.

NORTH QUEENSLAND MISSION

By action of the Union Conference Council in 1928, the Queensland Conference was divided, the territory north of the Tropic of Capricorn to be known as the North Queensland Mission. This change went into effect at the beginning of last year.

During 1929 evangelistic efforts were conducted by our workers in Proserpine, Ayr, and Townsville, and in each mission souls were won to the Master. Where a few years ago we had no members in the whole of Proserpine district, we now have about forty Sabbath-keepers, including young people. The believers in Townsville have been more than doubled during the year under review, and since then others have responded to the call. Souls have been won at Ayr and at Bowe

and isolated members have been instrumental in leading to the Master some who, with the help of the workers, have been strengthened in the faith.

Since then our staff has been augmented, and this year we are conducting efforts in five different centres, one of the workers acting also as secretary of the field. At the close of December, 1929, our church membership stood at 161, as compared with 148 at the close of 1928. At the present time, August, 1930, our membership is about 180. Our tithe receipts for 1929 amounted to £864 11s. 4d. The total foreign mission offerings sent from this distant field to headquarters amounted to the very satisfactory sum of £422, of which sum the Sabbath school offerings accounted for £201 18s. 11d. On present showing our 1930 offerings will far exceed the offerings of the year under review, partly because of the increased staff in the field, which has made it possible for more general field and supervision work to be done. A period of depression, in common with other parts of Australia, set in during 1929, and unemployment is being aggravated by the hundreds of workers coming from the south, looking for work in the cane fields.

This field is still being liberally subsidised by the Union Conference, and our people are very appreciative of this fact; but if we include the total offerings with the tithe, which is all Union Conference income, the gap is almost bridged. Within the memory of the writer, this far northern field hardly counted in its membership and gifts to the cause, but to-day it is gathering strength; so much so, that for the first time in its history we conducted quite successfully our own camp-meeting during the current year. Even as late as seven years ago, when the writer first visited North Queensland, our total baptised membership was about sixty, whereas to-day it is about 180; thus our membership has trebled itself in that time. Most of this gain has been the result of personal work under rural conditions. Other bodies are now waking up to a realisation of the potentialities of North Queensland. Recently a series of tent missions lasting about ten weeks in each town has been conducted by Hinrichsen and Morris, of the Church of Christ, from Victoria.

Our methods of labour demand aggression, but here we have found—and we have tried both ways—that a meteoric visit of a few weeks in a town and then passing on, while it attracts larger crowds, leaves the work weak, and later very hard to follow. So we are working from five coastal centres at an average distance apart of about 150 miles, and what we gain we keep, our apostasies now being almost negligible. There are still big inland towns of mining and pastoral populations which have never witnessed an Adventist preacher pitch his tent there. Some day these centres will need to be evangelised, but the conditions will be hard and the heat very great. All the other bodies have neglected the far inland towns too, with the exception of one Government servant who, during the week, performed his itinerating Governmental service, and on Sunday nights lectured on "Millions now living will never die."

Our workers are all in health and are

enjoying their labours. They invite an interest in your prayers that Christ may be lifted up and men and women saved out of North Queensland.

A. C. CHESSON,
Superintendent.

SAMOA

TO the Brethren Assembled in Conference,
Greetings!

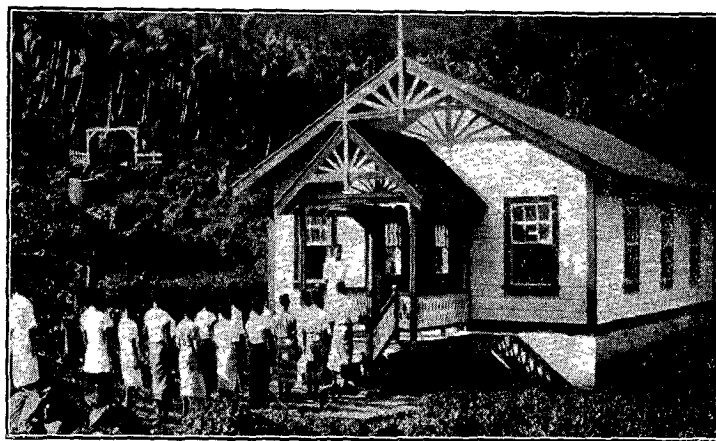
This report is prepared under grateful acknowledgment of the keeping mercies and guiding providences of Him who "doeth the works" and has lovingly condescended to accept our frail efforts.

Samoa has long been an unfruitful section of the vineyard, despite the constant and self-sacrificing labours of the faithful workers who first tilled the soil and sowed the seed. The slow progress of past years has made us rather reticent regarding seeming

by the attendance at church of a number of interested folk, among whom is a young teacher from the head government school for natives. Another young man, a medical assistant, has gone to Fiji for a year to complete his course. His sister, a nurse, attends our services whenever her duties permit, and she informs me that her brother still maintains his interest in the message. Following our next baptismal service, we hope to receive a record number into church fellowship. During the quadrennial period, seven new members were baptised.

Special attention has been given to our Samoan paper, the *Tala Moni*, every issue of which is brimful of present truth. A new 128 page book on the leading prophecies has been printed, also a new hymn book containing 200 hymns.

The Apia mission house has been greatly improved through being lifted six feet above the ground. Extensive alterations and improvements have also been made to the



Vailoa School, Samoa

signs of advancement; but I feel justified in stating this time that the prospects of the work in Samoa were never brighter than they are at the time of writing.

Our one great need has always been a boarding school which would afford the opportunity of evangelising suitable young men with a view to training them for future service as teachers and evangelists. This need was supplied when, early in 1929 the money was voted for the erection in part of a school building at Vailoa, and the opening of school with a limited number of students. At the time of writing this good work has been in progress four months, and the results gained thus far are gratifying. A number of the young men are definitely impressed with the truths of the message, and give promise of developing into valuable helpers. These boys are taking an active part in Sabbath school work and also in the selling of our Samoan publications.

Another encouraging result of the school work is the forming of connections with the parents of the boys, which in one case has led a man to regularly attend our Sabbath meetings, not regarding a heavy rainstorm as sufficient cause to stay away. We mean to go right on with this good work, trusting God to provide the funds to complete the school building and thus enable us to enlarge our sphere of influence by enrolling a larger number of students.

In Apia, where Brother and Sister J. F. Strange are now stationed, we are encouraged

Apia church, the expenses for the latter work, amounting to £200, having been defrayed by our members.

Samoa is passing through a time of serious political disturbance, which is having its retarding effect upon mission work in general. Owing to the fact that our work has not assumed any large proportions and our constituency is small, we have not encountered any serious obstacles resulting from the above-mentioned conditions.

The Christian courtesy of the resident chaplain of the Apia Protestant church has provided several opportunities for both Brother S range and myself to address a congregation largely made up of leading citizens and Government officials, including His Excellency, Colonel S. S. Allen, the Administrator of Western Samoa. We have reason to believe that these meetings have gone a long way toward removing prejudice from the public mind.

While we are still at work on the foundation, we are hopeful that the time will soon arrive when the superstructure will appear to testify to the saving power of the third angel's message. To this end do we earnestly invite the prayers of our faithful people in the homelands, Australia and New Zealand, and the consideration of the brethren in Conference.

We pray that God's presence may be precious manifest during this most important meeting.

R. REYE, Superintendent.

SOUTH NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE

THE delegation representing the South New Zealand Conference brings loving greetings to the delegates assembled from all parts of the Australasian Union Conference. First of all, we would express our deep gratitude to God for His prospering hand upon the work of our faithful membership and workers during four years of perplexity and depressions. Our Heavenly Father in His love, placing His hand over our mistakes and weaknesses, has greatly blessed the efforts put forth. We therefore render grateful thanks and praise for the divine presence and aid in giving this last gospel message in South New Zealand.

Statistical

At the close of 1929 the membership of the conference was 549, the increase being 166, and the percentage of increase 43, for the four years under review. The work of the evangelists, colporteurs, and lay members during the quadrennial term resulted in the baptism of 249 persons, showing an increase of 93 over the preceding four-year term. The difference between the number baptised and the net gain in membership is accounted for as follows: 21 are now resting in the grave; 19 have been transferred to other conferences; and 43 have lost the way and apostatised.

We now have ten organised churches,—a 11 increase of two over the corresponding period. The apparently small gain of two is explained by the fact that we have devoted time to the building up and strengthening of churches already organised, thus making, with one exception, strong, virile, and well officered churches. Three new church buildings having been erected, we have a total of six. When we remember that fourteen years ago, at the organisation of the conference, we had only three churches with a membership of 172, we are led to thank God for His enabling grace, making possible such encouraging prosperity. The average number of workers for the 1922-1925 period was 26, while for the past four years 22.75 was the average. Remembering the increases in membership and baptisms, the encouraging fact is revealed that the percentage of efficiency has been considerably greater in the quadrennium just closed. At December 31, 1929, there were 2 ordained ministers, 3 licensed ministers, 7 licensed missionaries, 1 teacher, 7 colporteurs, and 2 office workers, totalling 22; 15 were on the pay roll.

Financial

We must place on record our sincere thanks to the Union Conference and to the North New Zealand Conference for their financial assistance during the years of struggling to make ends meet and of striving earnestly to increase our constituency. The confidence of the brethren has not been misplaced. We are just beginning to stand on our feet financially; but evidence we give herewith shows that, rightly handled, South New Zealand will prove to be a strong conference financially, yielding much for foreign missionary enterprise.

The tithe for the quadrennial period amounts to £19513. Coming from an average of 320 tithe-payers, this is quite remarkable, being a per capita tithe for

the four years of £38 3s. 9d., and an average tithe per year per capita of £9 10s. 11¼d. These per capita figures are almost identical with the figures for the preceding four years. The increase in tithe, however, amounts to £7,151, or 58 per cent, which is most encouraging. But we are somewhat concerned because only 60 per cent of our constituency are tithe-payers. This must, by God's grace, be improved.

Offerings to Foreign Missions (exclusive of Appeal, etc.), totalled £7,863. This reveals a splendid increase of £2,692, as compared with the previous four years. Then offerings to home missions have shown a steady growth, amounting in total to £3,720, which is an increase of £2,277 over the corresponding period. We shall deal later with the Appeal for Missions, Sabbath school, and other departmental offerings, but it would be proper to state here that tithes and offerings from all sources for the four years covered by this report, make the surprising total of £39,984, and give an increase of £14,173, or 55 per cent above the previous quadrennium. Almost all departments are responsible for this encouraging showing, and we thank God for a liberal constituency.

The per capita for all offerings, in 1929, amounted to £23 17s. 4½d; and for the four-year period the average per capita was £78 4s. 11¼d. While presenting these general figures, it will be of interest to note that the present worth of the conference at the beginning of 1926 was £1,728. This steadily increased each year, and at the close of 1929 amounted to £7,481.

Book Department

For the period since our last Union session, an average of 9.25 colporteurs laboured faithfully each year in the front line of service, and a number of splendid people have been directly won to the message. These colporteurs took orders to the value of £14,952. This amount, we regret, does not equal the previous four-yearly term by £1,387, but the years 1928 and 1929 reveal not only better efficiency but also increasing sales. We see that, for the first two years covered by this report, the department made losses amounting to £208, but during the remaining two years profits were made amounting to £386, showing a net profit of £178 for the four years.

Education Department

We have one thriving church school in South New Zealand. The enrolment at the end of 1929 was 45 pupils, made up of 32 Adventists, and 13 non-Adventists. This school employs one teacher, assisted by a pupil teacher. A high standard has been maintained, and the Dominion examiners have given excellent reports. We are pleased to say that a keen interest is taken in the N.Z. Missionary School at Longburn, and an increasing number of students find their way there from South New Zealand.

Home Missions Department

The importance of this department is definitely revealed by the fact that a number of new Sabbath-keepers are with us to-day who would, in all probability, not have been reached in any other way. The Appeal for Missions has been a big factor

in this respect. For the four years under review £4,572 was gathered for foreign missions, showing a yearly average of £2 4s. per member. The campaigns have been bright, and the aims set have been reached in the given time. In the Big Week efforts £500 has also been gathered. Good work has been done in the various lines of endeavour throughout the years, and much literature has been distributed. We are planning in the near future to increase the subscriptions to our pioneer paper, the *Signs of the Times*.

Sabbath School Department

At December 31, 1929, we had 14 Sabbath schools with a membership of 698. Some small schools have been disbanded, others have been organised, and we show no gain or loss in the number of schools, but the increase in membership stands at 162. Offerings given for the period total £3,418, the increase being £1,124, or 49 per cent. A very live interest is taken in this department, and we feel that words are quite inadequate to express its value in soul-saving endeavour.

Missionary Volunteer Department

There have been fluctuations in the number of societies and membership in the young people's work during the quadrennial term. A decrease in membership of 36, leaves a total of 200. The number of societies has increased by two, there now being eight. Notwithstanding a decrease in membership, the quantity and quality of work done has increased. Offerings totalling £373 show a gain of £142, or 61 per cent. Earnest study is being given to this important branch of our work, and we look for greater and more permanent results.

Evangelistic and General

Evangelistic work has been conducted in the following places: Nelson, Blenheim, Christchurch, Ashburton, Timaru, Dunedin, and Invercargill. All these efforts have yielded precious fruit. In Nelson a good work is being done, and we are now erecting a neat church building there. The church membership in Blenheim has been strengthened, also the three churches in Christchurch. Timaru has yielded a happy, united church, which meets in a new, becoming church building. In Dunedin much patient work has been done, and under Heaven's blessing a strong church has developed. When a few technicalities are overcome, work will be proceeded with in the erection of a representative church building in this fine city. Year after year, the city of Invercargill has produced a harvest, and the seating capacity of the new church there is being taxed. For these blessed results, our heartfelt thanks go out to our Father whose grace has made all this possible.

The work of the evangelists and colporteurs, with that of our office and departmental staffs, has been very closely connected. It has been a great pleasure to work with such a united, happy, and devoted band of men and women, and this has resulted in a general increase of spirituality among the membership of the churches. While recognising this, we realise a greater need for more earnestness and the deepening of spiritual life. For this desirable end we humbly dedicate our lives to God.

H. E. PIPER, *President*.

Union Conference Proceedings

Sixth Meeting

Sunday, September 7, 11 a.m.

PASTOR C. H. WATSON occupied the chair. There was a full delegation present. Pastor F. A. Allum read the Scripture lesson, and Brother A. H. Ferris led in prayer. The minutes of the fifth meeting were read and adopted.

In response to a general request to reduce the retail price of the *Signs of the Times*,

Voted, That the Signs Publishing Company produce the *Signs of the Times* to retail at 1½d. per copy, the yearly and half-yearly subscription prices being 6s. 6d. and 3s. 3d. respectively, it being understood that local conferences will forego the usual 10 per cent discount and will bear cost of distribution.

It is hoped that all will unite to push the circulation of this missionary paper.

The Committee on Constitution then brought in its report, suggesting certain changes in the local conference and the Union Conference Constitutions. These were adopted, as given on page 14 of this paper.

At 12.15 p.m. the meeting adjourned until 11 a.m. the following day.

Seventh Meeting

Monday, September 8, 11 a.m.

PASTOR A. H. PIPER occupied the chair. The hymn, "In the heart of Jesus there is love for you," was sung, and Pastor E. Rosendahl led in prayer.

The minutes of the sixth meeting were read and confirmed.

Pastor A. G. Stewart, the Vice-President for the Island Field, presented his report, giving an inspiring survey of our island mission field. Brother E. E. G. Blair then reported on behalf of the Tract Society work. Both these interesting reports are given in full in the No. 2 Special.

The meeting adjourned at 12.15 p.m.

Eighth Meeting

Monday, September 8, 4 p.m.

WITH Pastor A. G. Stewart as chairman, the meeting opened with singing and prayer.

Pastor R. E. Hare, assistant secretary of the Home Missions Department, presented the Home Missions report, which showed great all round improvement in home missionary work.

Pastor W. J. Westerman, the secretary, presented a verbal supplementary report.

The delegation then listened with much interest to the report of the colporteur work in Australasia, given by Pastor F. G. Rampton, the Field Missionary Secretary. This report showed that the work of the department has distinctly improved during the last year or two. The report in full, with the accompanying graphs, will be found elsewhere in this paper.

At 5.45 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

Ninth Meeting

Tuesday, September 9, 11 a.m.

PASTOR C. H. WATSON was the chairman of this meeting. There was a good attendance on the part of the delegates. Pastor F. A. Allum offered the opening prayer, followed by the reading of the minutes of the seventh and eighth meetings.

The Committee on Nominations submitted a report, which was adopted and will be found under the special section, "Nominations."

Pastor A. W. Anderson, the Religious Liberty Secretary, then took up the subject of the world-wide efforts to bring about a change in the calendar, also drawing our attention to the way in which Sunday is rapidly becoming the universal day of rest—even in Turkey, of all countries. He called on us all to do our utmost to preserve, not only our own liberties, but the liberties of other people as well.

The President of the South Australian Conference, Pastor S. Watson, presented the report of that conference, which is given in this issue of the RECORD. Pastor Watson also spoke concerning the Young People's Mutual Improvement Society which has been in that conference for some time past, and of the success that has attended the operation of the society.

At 12.30 p.m. the meeting adjourned, Pastor F. L. Sharp pronouncing the benediction.

Tenth Meeting

Tuesday, September 9, 4 p.m.

PASTOR W. G. TURNER was in the chair. Following the opening song, Pastor C. H. Watson led the congregation in prayer.

The following recommendations from the Executive Committee were presented:

WHEREAS, because of the difficulty existing in local conferences in meeting local church expense; and,

WHEREAS, also the burden of conference support for church schools is increasing; and, further,

WHEREAS, the conferences have no other opportunity of appeal for funds to their membership,

Voted, That those second Sabbath offerings at present paid to the Australasian Union Conference be diverted for local conference use, it being understood

1. That in order to recompense the Australasian Union Conference for thus releasing the whole of the Foreign Mission Day offerings for local church and conference work, the whole of the regular Sabbath school offerings, without deduction, be paid to the Union Conference.

2. That all conference presidents, workers, and church officers lend their weight to strengthening Sabbath school and young people's offerings, as these now constitute the only regular weekly sources of appeal by the Union Conference to the churches; and, further, that they assist in every way possible to stimulate camp and Week of Prayer offerings and to make

the annual Appeal for Missions campaign successful.

3. That every right effort be made to increase the Sabbath school attendance.

4. That in order to ensure for conferences or churches the best results from this action, no more than one collection be lifted in any church at the one service.

5. As this action is primarily taken in order that adequate provision be made to assist churches in their expense and upkeep, care shall be taken that a reasonable number of those offerings shall be applied to this purpose; and that the first charge on the balance, if any, be for the local conference educational needs.

After the recommendations had been carefully explained by the chairman, they were adopted by the delegates.

A partial report from the Committee on Distribution was received at this juncture, and adopted. (The full list of the work of this committee was given to our readers in the No. 2 Special.)

A final report from the Committee on Nominations, which was then presented and adopted, will also be found elsewhere in the RECORD.

The meeting adjourned at 5.45 p.m.

Eleventh Meeting

Wednesday, September 10, 11 a.m.

PASTOR A. G. STEWART occupied the chair. The delegates, who were present in good numbers, were led in prayer by Pastor J. Scott Stewart.

The minutes of the ninth and tenth meetings were read and adopted.

The report of the North N.S.W. Conference was presented by Pastor P. G. Foster, the president.

A further report from the Committee on Distribution of Labour was voted upon at this meeting.

As this was the last meeting of the Conference at which Pastor C. H. Watson would be present, Pastor W. G. Turner and a number of the delegates spoke words of farewell to him. After Pastor Watson had feelingly replied and expressed his sorrow at leaving so many friends, we sang, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again," and Pastor Robt. Hare led us in prayer, committing our Brother Watson and his wife to God's care as they cross the deep and take up their work in America.

At 12.20 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

Twelfth Meeting

Wednesday, September 10, 4 p.m.

PASTOR W. G. TURNER was in the chair. The delegations were well represented. Pastor R. E. Hare led in prayer.

The Manager of the Signs Publishing Company, Brother W. O. Johanson, presented his report, which was illustrated by lantern slides. This report will be found in this issue of the RECORD.

The Secretary of the Health Food Department, Brother G. T. Chapman, presented a report of the Sanitarium Health Food Company, which showed the important place of this agency in the work of the message.

At 6 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

Thirteenth Meeting

Thursday, September 11, 11 a.m.

PASTOR A. G. STEWART was in the chair. Following the reading of the minutes of the eleventh and twelfth meetings, the Committee on Credentials and Licenses presented its report. After being read, this was referred back to the committee.

The President of the South New Zealand Conference, Pastor H. E. Piper, presented his report for that field. This is being published in the RECORD. The report was illustrated with graphs which showed encouraging progress and results in that portion of the Dominion.

A further partial report of distribution of labour was adopted, and the meeting adjourned at 12.15 p.m.

Fourteenth meeting

Thursday, September 11, 4 p.m.

Chairman: Pastor W. J. Westerman. Prayer was offered by Pastor Robert Hare.

Brother J. L. Branford, chaplain of the Monamona Mission for Aborigines, presented an encouraging report of that Mission. Many inspiring incidents were related.

The report of the Committee on Credentials and Licenses, referred back by the morning session, was presented by Pastor A. G. Stewart, who stated that the committee had decided to withhold the section of the report relative to ordination and ministerial credentials. The rest of the report was adopted.

The Committee on Plans presented the following partial report which was adopted:

WHEREAS, the Union Conference headquarters staff has largely outgrown the accommodation provided at Wahrenonga, and,

WHEREAS, the efficiency of the staff is thus largely diminished,

Voted, That the work of erecting a new Union Conference administration building at Wahrenonga be proceeded with at the earliest possible moment.

It was voted that a list of eleven items, as enumerated, be referred to the Union Conference Committee.

The President explained that the items had been discussed by the Committee on Plans, but it was recognised that they were matters which should be dealt with by the Executive Committee.

The President of the Queensland Conference presented the report of that field.

The Superintendent of the North Queensland Mission reported for the year 1929. The President of the Victorian Conference, Pastor G. G. Stewart, reported for that conference. These reports will be found elsewhere in this issue.

The meeting adjourned at 5.30 p.m., Pastor A. W. Knight dismissing with prayer.

Fifteenth Meeting

Friday, September 12, 11 a.m.

PASTOR W. G. TURNER was in the chair. The delegation was not quite so well represented in the previous meetings of the session.

The minutes of the thirteenth and fourteenth meetings were read by Brother R. H. Adair.

The Committee on Plans and Recommendations submitted the following final report, which was adopted:

INASMUCH as the ministry is the highest and most holy calling of God, therefore,

Voted, That the greatest care be exercised by Committees on Credentials and Licenses in the granting of ministerial and all other licenses, having respect to the work to which the worker is called.

WHEREAS, there are so many evidences of the leadership of God in the wonderful progress of the work in conferences, mission fields, and institutions of the Union Conference,

Voted, That we place on record our heartfelt appreciation for the manifold blessings and help of the Lord which we have experienced in the execution of His work during the quadrennium. And, furthermore, in consideration of the fact that we have arrived at the particular time when the work of God is to be quickly finished,

Voted, That we rededicate our lives to His service, determining by His grace to be used to the utmost by Him in finalising God's great programme for the redemption of humanity, responding to the call with that intensity of purpose which the lateness of the hour demands.

The delegation responded to the foregoing resolution by a season of prayer led by Pastors A. W. Anderson, C. M. Snow, and E. S. Butz, and the singing of the Doxology.

The final report of the Committee on Distribution was received and adopted. Other names will be considered by the Executive Committee.

Pastor A. W. Anderson reported for the Press Bureau work, and urged that more of our people write for the newspapers.

Voted, That we express to the Melbourne newspapers our appreciation of the publicity given this quadrennial session of the Australasian Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Pastor N. H. Faulkner presented the report of the Missionary Volunteer Department.

By a chart of a series of fountains, the greatly increased volume of missionary work now pouring forth from the Missionary Volunteer Societies was forcibly illustrated. Another illustration of a young man with his books entering the door of opportunity, showed, with smaller representations, the increased number taking part in the special lines of study promoted by the Missionary Volunteer Department.

At 12.45 p.m. the meeting adjourned until 11 a.m. on Sunday, September 14.

Sixteenth Meeting

Sunday, September 14, 11 a.m.

THE closing meeting of the Conference session was held Sunday morning, September 14, with Pastor W. G. Turner in the chair, and a fairly good attendance of delegates. Prayer was offered by Pastor W. J. Westerman.

Pastor N. H. Faulkner presented the report of the Educational Department, which is found on another page of this paper.

An interesting report of the Medical Department was then given by Dr. T. A. Sherwin, followed by conference reports from South New South Wales, Tasmania, and West Australia. Our readers will find each of these in the RECORD.

As time did not permit the presentation of a number of other reports which had been prepared concerning the work in various fields, it was voted by the delegation that these be printed in the RECORD.

It was moved that a vote of thanks be passed to the Central Hall keeper, Mr. T. Shambrook, who throughout the session had done everything possible to help in providing accommodation for the many meetings, large and small, held in connection with the session. The following were thanked for lending office furniture and equipment: the Victorian Conference, Stott and Hoare's, Chartres Limited, and Peacock Brothers. Votes of thanks were also extended to Brethren G. G. Stewart, J. S. Sandeman, and J. C. Cornell for the part they had played in caring for the interests of the delegates. A resolution of appreciation was also passed to Dr. Sherwin and Nurse Dorothy Chapman for their kind and thoughtful attentions; and to the housemaid and her staff at "The Victoria" for their attention to the needs of the delegation; also to the Melbourne Café staff for its services and unfailing courtesy in trying to meet the needs of all the delegates as they dined at the café.

Pastor W. J. Smith moved a vote of thanks to the Secretary of the Conference, Pastor A. H. Piper, for the loving, thoughtful planning for the comfort of the delegates, not only in the hall but also in "The Victoria," where most of the delegates lived during the currency of the session.

At 12.45 the session adjourned *sine die*.

CREDENTIALS and LICENSES

Voted, That the following persons receive Credentials and Licenses:

Home Field

Ministerial Credentials: F. A. Allum, A. W. Anderson, A. C. Chesson, N. H. Faulkner, W. J. Gilson, Robt. Hare, A. W. Knight, A. F. J. Kranz, H. K. Martin, A. H. Piper, E. Rosendahl, C. M. Snow, A. E. Speck, A. G. Stewart, W. G. Turner, P. B. Rudge, W. J. Westerman.

Voted, That T. R. Kent and W. Morris be ordained and granted credentials.

Ministerial License: C. V. Bell, R. E. G. Blair, G. F. Bohringer, G. A. Brandstater, G. T. Chapman, Wm. Chapman, G. S. Fisher, A. M. Fraser, G. H. Greenaway, T. W. Hammond, Dr. C. W. Harrison, Dr. W. H. James, W. O. Johanson, A. Judge, A. L. King, A. G. Miller, A. G. Minchin, E. L. Minchin, J. J. Potter, C. H. Pretymann, C. H. Schowe, Dr. T. A. Sherwin, H. Sprengel, H. Stacey, S. V. Stratford.

Missionary License: G. E. Adair, R. H. Adair, H. J. Baron, C. J. Boulting, T. N. Bush, F. E. Butler, L. A. Butler, Miss E. M. Cooper, A. W. Dawson, T. J. Dowling, C. C. Forsyth, R. R. Gooding, H. J. Halliday, Mrs. A. L. Hindson, H. C. Jacobson, A. G. Jacobson, B. O.

Johanson, A. E. Magnusson, Mrs. E. Meyers, H. E. Mills, J. H. Mills, H. C. Moseley, G. E. Salisbury, J. S. Sandeman, W. T. Smith, H. Stockton, Mrs. P. B. Rudge, Geo. Thomson, C. W. Tinworth, Mrs. L. L. Ulrich, C. Ulrich, R. I. Wright.

Medical Missionary License : Miss D. Chapman, R. G. L. Cooper, Miss L. Daughtrey, Miss I. Dowling, Miss F. Delaney, Miss V. Fraser, H. J. Franks, Mrs. H. J. Franks, Dr. M. M. Freeman, H. J. Gibson, Dr. G. A. Hardwicke, O. V. Hellestrand, Miss F. Kringle, Miss J. McCullough, Dr. D. I. Mills, L. G. Munro, J. Newman, Mrs. J. Newman, J. L. Simpson, Dr. E. S. Richards, Miss C. Russell, Miss E. Scarfe, Mrs. E. M. Shannan, Miss M. Speck, R. A. Thomson, R. E. Wood, Miss R. Zeininger.

Teacher's License : Miss E. Clarke, H. W. Adrian, Mrs. E. E. Faulkhead, R. W. Johnson, Mrs. H. K. Martin, Miss M. McNair, Miss A. Risbey, Mrs. C. H. Schowe, B. H. Schwartzkopf, Mrs. B. H. Schwartzkopf, Miss A. L. Shakspeare, Miss A. Stirling, R. B. Watts, Mrs. R. B. Watts, Mrs. M. V. White, Miss G. Young.

Mission Field

Ministerial Credentials : G. Branster, N. C. Burns, S. W. Carr, J. R. James, G. F. Jones, W. N. Lock, F. E. Lyndon, H. R. Martin, D. Nicholson, C. H. Parker, G. Peacock, E. B. Rudge, W. D. Smith, G. L. Sterling, H. L. Tolhurst, R. H. Tutty, H. B. P. Wicks.

Ministerial License : M. R. Adams, J. D. Anderson, A. S. Atkins, Apeti Dawai, A. R. Barrett, L. A. Borgas, J. L. Branford, W. O. Broad, A. J. Campbell, A. H. Ferris, N. A. Ferris, D. H. Gray, B. E. Hadfield, C. J. Howell, W. T. Hooper, R. W. Lane, C. M. Lee, G. M. Masters, G. McLaren, Maika Dauniika, C. E. Mitchell, A. F. Parker, R. Reye, H. R. Steed, J. F. Strange, A. H. Weil.

Missionary License : Mrs. M. R. Adams, Mrs. J. D. Anderson, Mrs. A. S. Atkins, H. E. Barham, Mrs. H. E. Barham, Mrs. A. R. Barret, Beaua Isileli, Mrs. L. A. Borgas, Mrs. J. L. Branford, Mrs. G. Branster, Mrs. W. O. Broad, Mrs. A. J. Campbell, Mrs. S. W. Carr, Mrs. A. H. Ferris, Mrs. N. A. Ferris, Mrs. D. H. Gray, Mrs. B. E. Hadfield, Havea Sila, Mrs. A. G. Head, Mrs. C. J. Howell, Mrs. J. R. James, Mrs. G. F. Jones, Mrs. R. W. Lane, Mrs. F. Lang, Mrs. C. M. Lee, W. R. Litster, Mrs. W. R. Litster, Mrs. W. N. Lock, Mrs. F. E. Lyndon, Mrs. G. M. Masters, Mrs. H. R. Martin, Mrs. G. McLaren, H. Mills, Mrs. H. Mills, W. J. Mill, Mrs. W. J. Mills, Mrs. C. E. Mitchell, James Moala, Mrs. D. Nicholson, Mrs. C. H. Parker, Mrs. G. Peacock, J. C. Radley, Mrs. J. C. Radley, Mrs. R. Reye, Mrs. E. B. Rudge, Mrs. W. D. Smith, Mrs. H. R. Steed, Mrs. G. L. Sterling, Mrs. J. F. Strange, Tauraki, Mrs. H. L. Tolhurst, Miss E. Totenhofer, Mrs. R. H. Tutty, Mrs. A. H. Weil, Mrs. H. B. P. Wicks, Mrs. A. Wiles, Joni Taliauli (Honorary), Mrs. H. Rowlands, Mrs. W. T. Hooper.

Teacher's License : Mrs. N. C. Burns, Miss E. E. Edwards, F. Lang.

All other names were referred to the Union Conference Executive Committee.

REVISIONS OF THE CONSTITUTIONS

THE Committee on Constitution brought in the following report, which was adopted.

Voted, That our local conference Constitutions be amended in order to provide for the appointment of Nominating Committees as follows :

(a) That each and every local church delegation shall meet separately and as soon as practicable after the opening of the conference session, and appoint one representative from each church to act upon a selection committee which shall appoint a Nominating Committee. Delegates at large attending the conference shall meet with their respective church's delegation.

(b) These representatives of churches shall be called together by the Union Conference delegate appointed for this purpose by the Union Conference Committee or Union Conference Officers; and the said representatives of churches, together with the said Union Conference delegate, shall then proceed to appoint the Committee on Nominations.

(c) The committee thus appointed, after being announced to the delegates present, shall then function in the usual way, it being understood that the said Union Conference delegate shall be chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Voted, That the following changes be made in the Union Conference Constitution :

1. That Article 5, Section 1, be amended to read as follows :

The Executive Committee shall consist of the president, the vice-presidents, the secretary, the treasurer, the assistant treasurer, the field secretaries, the presidents of local conferences and superintendents of organised mission fields comprised in this Union Conference, the secretaries in charge of the organised departments of the Conference, together with the respective assistant secretaries of the said departments, namely, the Home Missions, Medical, Educational, Sabbath School, Missionary Volunteer, Field Missionary, Religious Liberty, and Health Food Departments, and any other departments which may be duly organised; the general manager and the treasurer respectively of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, the manager of the Signs Publishing Co., the editor of the *Signs of the Times*, the medical superintendent of the Sydney Sanitarium, the manager of the Sydney Sanitarium, the manager of the Australasian Missionary College, the principals of the New Zealand Missionary School and the West Australian Missionary School, the manager of the Avondale Industries, and other persons not less than two nor more than seven.

2. That Article 7, Section 4, be amended to read as follows :

The vice-presidents shall assist the president in the general supervision of the work within this Conference, either at the president's request or by instruction of the Executive Committee; and whenever circumstances arise which prevent the president from fulfilling his duties, one

of the vice-presidents shall discharge the same.

The vice-president for the island mission field shall devote his time to the interests of the missionary work in the island mission field.

3. That Article 7, Section 8, be amended to read as follows :

Field Secretaries and Departmental Secretaries

The field secretaries, the departmental secretaries, and associate or assistant secretaries elected by this Conference, shall work under the direction of the Executive Committee or the President, and shall occupy an advisory relation to the field.

4. That Article 14, Section 1, Clause (d), be amended to read as follows :

That the words "The superintendents of duly organised missions" be added after the words, "The presidents of local conferences."

NOMINATIONS

Principal Australasian Branch Fireside Correspondence School : C. V. Bell.

Australasian Union Conference Book Committee : A. H. Piper, Editor of the *Signs of the Times*. A. W. Anderson, Union Conference Field Missionary Secretary, Manager Signs Publishing Co.

Faculties

Sydney Sanitarium : Medical Superintendent, Manager, Matron, Chaplain, Dr. T. A. Sherwin, Dr. M. M. Freeman, Dr. D. I. Mills, R. G. L. Cooper, J. L. Simpson, Mrs. E. M. Shannan.

Australasian Missionary College : Principal and Manager, H. K. Martin; Bible Teacher, A. F. J. Kranz; History and Language, C. H. Schowe; Business and Accountant, L. A. Butler; Assistant Business Department, A. E. Miller; Preceptor, Art, B. H. Schwartzkopf; Normal Director, G. H. Greenaway; Woodwork, Bible, H. Sprengel; Music, R. W. Johnson; Avondale Industries, G. S. Fisher; Preceptress, Mathematics, Miss M. Young; Domestic Science, Mrs. C. H. Schowe; Expression, Mrs. B. H. Schwartzkopf; English, Miss M. Ching; Farm Manager, G. F. B. Bohringer; Matron, Mrs. M. V. White.

Primary School : Head Teacher, Miss M. Dawkins; Grades 1-3, Miss D. Ashton; Grades 7 and 8, H. O'Hara.

Australasian Branch Fireside Correspondence School : College Board and C. V. Bell.

West Australian Missionary School : Principal and Manager, A. E. Speck; Farm Manager, Wm. Chapman; Preceptor, R. B. Watts; Music, Mrs. R. B. Watts; Preceptress, Miss M. McNair; Basketry, Miss I. Boyd; Commercial, Miss E. A. Durrant; Accountant, Miss A. Risbey; Matron, Miss E. M. Cooper.

Boards of Management

Australasian Conference Association Ltd : F. W. Hammond, A. H. Piper, A. G. Stewart, W. J. Westerman, A. W. Anderson, H. K. Martin, W. O. Johanson,

G. S. Fisher, H. E. Piper, E. Rosendahl, W. G. Turner, F. A. Snerwin, G. T. Chapman, E. B. Rudge, H. A. Hill, P. G. Foster, J. J. Potter, W. J. Gilson, G. E. Adair, R. H. Adair, C. M. Snow, L. D. A. Lemke, Mrs. A. L. Hindson, G. G. Stewart, C. H. Parker, S. L. Patching, F. G. Rampton, G. Peacock, R. E. Hare, E. H. Guilliard.

General Board Sanitarium Health Food Co. : General Manager A.C.A. Ltd., President Union Conference, Secretary Health Food Department, Manager Avondale Industries, Treasurer Union Conference, Secretary Union Conference, Secretary Union Conference Educational Secretary, Bible Teacher Australasian Missionary College, President North N.S.W. Conference, A. G. Stewart, W. J. Westerman.

Australasian Missionary College : President Australasian Union Conference, Principal Australasian Missionary College, Manager Avondale Industries, Treasurer Union Conference, Secretary Union Conference, Union Conference Educational Secretary, Bible Teacher Australasian Missionary College, President North N.S.W. Conference, A. G. Stewart, W. J. Westerman.

Avondale Industries : General Manager A.C.A. Ltd., President Union Conference, Manager Avondale Industries, Principal Australasian Missionary College, Secretary Health Food Department, President North N.S.W. Conference, G. E. Adair.

Sydney Sanitarium : President Union Conference, Manager Sydney Sanitarium, Medical Superintendent of Sanitarium, General Manager A.C.A. Ltd., President South N.S.W. Conference, Treasurer Union Conference, Secretary Union Conference, Manager Avondale Industries, Union Conference Medical Secretary, R. H. Adair.

Warburton Sanitarium : Manager Signs Publishing Co., Manager Warburton Sanitarium, Manager Warburton Health Food Factory, President Victorian Conference, General Manager A.C.A. Ltd., Dr. E. S. Richards, Dr. W. H. James, C. M. Snow.

Signs Publishing Co. : Manager Signs Publishing Co., President Union Conference, Manager Warburton Health Food Factory, President Victorian Conference, Union Conference Field Missionary Secretary, Union Conference Home Missions Secretary, Secretary Health Food Department, General Manager A.C.A. Ltd., Editor of *Signs*, A. G. Miller, E. Parkinson, H. J. Franks.

New Zealand Missionary School : President North New Zealand Conference, President South New Zealand Conference, Principal of School, W. J. Richards, G. F. Wright, C. S. Palmer, H. J. Halliday.

West Australian Missionary School : President West Australian Conference, Principal of School, G. W. Spencer, A. J. Turner, G. H. Palmateer.

Health Food Department Boards

New Zealand Central Board : President of the South New Zealand Conference, President of the North New Zealand Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Department,

Assistant Secretary for New Zealand, Manager of the Christchurch Factory, Manager of the Auckland Factory, S. H. Amyes, J. Jones of Hastings, N.Z.

Christchurch Factory : President of the South New Zealand Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary for New Zealand, Manager of each factory, Manager of the Wellington Branch, Manager of the Dunedin Branch, S. H. Amyes, A. S. Herbert, H. T. Howse.

Warburton Factory : President of the Victorian Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Manager of the Signs Publishing Company, Manager of the Windsor Depot, Manager of the Melbourne Café.

Sydney Grain Products : General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Manager of the Grain Products Factory, G. S. Fisher, R. E. Hare, Manager of Sydney Depot, A. H. Piper.

Christchurch Grain Products : The same as the Board of the Christchurch Factory.

Auckland Grain Products : President of the North New Zealand Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary for New Zealand, Manager of the Auckland Branch, Manager of the Auckland Grain Products Factory, W. J. Smith, F. J. Pearce, P. Glockler.

Sydney Depot : President of the South N.S.W. Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Manager of the Distributing Depot, Manager of the Sydney Branch, G. S. Fisher, A. H. Piper.

Windsor Depot, Melbourne : President of the Victorian Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Manager of the Melbourne Branch, Manager of the Windsor Distributing Depot, W. O. Johanson, T. N. Bush.

Melbourne Branch : President of the Victorian Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Manager of the Branch, Manager of the Windsor Depot, W. O. Johanson, T. N. Bush.

Brisbane Branch : President of the Queensland Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the

Health Food Department, Manager of the Branch, R. Milne, W. McFadyen.

Adelaide Branch : President of the South Australian Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Manager of the Branch, L. Johnson, W. C. Were.

Perth Branch : President of the West Australian Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Manager of the Branch, Principal of the West Australian Missionary School, H. Ward.

Hobart Branch : President of the Tasmanian Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Manager of the Branch, A. W. Roberts, E. P. Fehlberg.

Sydney Branch : President of the South N.S.W. Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Manager of the Branch, Manager of the Depot, G. S. Fisher, A. H. Piper.

Dunedin Branch : President of the South N.Z. Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary for New Zealand, Manager of each factory, Manager of the Wellington Branch, Manager of the Branch, S. H. Amyes, A. S. Herbert, H. T. Howse.

Wellington Branch : President of the North N.Z. Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Manager of the Branch, Assistant Secretary for New Zealand, Manager of each factory, Manager of the Dunedin Branch, S. H. Amyes, A. S. Herbert, H. T. Howse.

Christchurch Branch : President of the South N.Z. Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Manager of the Branch, Assistant Secretary for New Zealand, Manager of each factory, Manager of the Wellington Branch, Manager of the Dunedin Branch, Manager of the Branch, S. H. Amyes, A. S. Herbert, H. T. Howse.

Auckland Branch : President of the North N.Z. Conference, General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary for New Zealand, Manager of the Auckland Grain Products Factory, Manager of the Branch, W. J. Smith, F. J. Pearce, P. Glockler.

Cerix Factory : General Manager of the Australasian Conference Association

Limited, Secretary of the Health Food Department, Assistant Secretary of the Health Food Department, Manager of the Cerix Factory, G. S. Fisher, R. E. Hare, Manager of Sydney Depot, A. H. Piper.

THE WORLD-WIDE PROGRESS OF THE MESSAGE

Sunday Night, September 7

A VERY inspirational address was that given by Pastor A. G. Stewart on Sunday evening, September 7, accompanied by lantern slides and films to demonstrate that God is sending a message into all the world, and that this message is accomplishing a mighty work for Him. He based his remarks upon a historical statement made concerning the work of John the Baptist. He was a special messenger sent from God to prepare a people to meet their God. He claimed that if God did that to prepare the way and the people for the first advent of the Saviour, it was only reasonable to conclude that He would have His messenger or messengers preparing the way and the people for the second advent of our Lord. He contended that God had such a people doing such a work at the present time.

Christ's evidence to John that He was the One that was to come in fulfilment of his preaching was the evidence of the work that He was doing. Now what our ears hear and our eyes see of the results of this work in all the earth should be enough to convince us that this message is of God, and that it is doing the work it ought to be doing in the earth at the present time.

As we looked on the screen and saw the faces of those who had been won to the message from the different parts of the world, saw the results of the wonderful work which God is doing through this people among the many languages and peoples of earth, we were, if possible, more certain than ever that the work committed to us of God is now accomplishing His finishing work in the earth. This message is creating a clean people wherever it goes; an abstemious people, a people who are seeking to obey God and render to God His own. That, he said, was the purpose of this conference and of every sermon preached by this people in all the countries of the world.

The speaker declared that there was no other denomination in the world that even claimed to be giving the message found in the fourteenth chapter of Revelation; but we do claim to be giving it, and giving it in all lands among all peoples from the least intelligent to the most enlightened, and everywhere it is calling out a people who are preparing to meet their God. The speaker gave evidences that this message is a unifying message; it brings people together who before would not meet on common ground, and makes of them one people, and it makes them a clean people.

Pastor Stewart spoke enthusiastically of the wonderful reception which the General Conference delegates received in the city of San Francisco, and especially of the warm welcome accorded to the delegates from Fiji.

The speaker also paid a tribute to the attitude of this people toward the Word of God, declaring that we are 100 per cent Fundamentalists, and have been ever since the beginning of this work. Now, in the strength and power of that Word, this message is going to the world in 384 different languages, adding a new language (in 1928) every five and one-half days. We circulated literature during the last ten years to the amount of £9,000,000, and during the last year, more than £1,000,000. Moreover, there are now about 90,000 of our children and young people receiving in our own schools an education and a preparation for the carrying forward of this work in the earth.

So with these evidences we were more than ever impressed with the fact that God is indeed at the present time doing a work that is preparing a people to meet their God. Brother Stewart then urged all present to give their lives and efforts to this work and be ready to meet our Lord when He comes.

C. M. SNOW.

Devotional Meeting AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST

Monday, September 8

A GOOD gathering of the delegates assembled at the early morning meeting when Pastor H. E. Piper gave a helpful and appealing study on the subject, "Ambassadors for Christ."

Reminding his hearers that we are living in solemn days, with wickedness abounding on every side, and with the conditions portrayed in the Word of God regarding the last days present with us in a marked way, Pastor Piper declared that there must be a clearer line of demarcation between the child of God and the worldling. Particularly as workers for God we must not allow the evil influences of the world to contaminate us.

The speaker then directed our attention to the text upon which he based his study, 2 Cor. 5: 20, where we read: "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." Pastor Piper declared that ambassadorship among the nations pales into insignificance when compared with the high and holy calling of a worker for God.

Our attention was directed to verse 14 of this same chapter, where the great reason for our ambassadorship is stated: "For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead." Only as the love of Christ ("pre-eminent devotion to others") constrains us ("bears us away with itself") can we be true ambassadors for Christ.

Christ Himself was the greatest ambassador the world has ever known. He came to do the will of His Father who had sent Him, and a wonderful relationship existed between them. Even in His early life He manifested the true spirit of ambassadorship. In "The Desire of Ages" we are told:

"Jesus worked to relieve every case of suffering that He saw. He had little

money to give, but He often denied Himself of food in order to relieve those who appeared more needy than He. His brothers felt that His influence went far to counteract theirs. He possessed a tact which none of them had, or desired to have. When they spoke harshly to poor, degraded beings, Jesus sought out these very ones, and spoke to them words of encouragement. To those who were in need He would give a cup of cold water, and would quietly place His own meal in their hands. As He relieved their sufferings, the truths He taught were associated with His acts of mercy, and were thus riveted in the memory."—Pages 86, 87. The same spirit must be in every ambassador for Christ.

Attention was then directed to John 12: 10-22, where we have the record of certain Greeks coming to one of the disciples with the request, "Sir, we would see Jesus." Verses 23-26 give Jesus' remarkable reply in which he declared, "Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone; but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." In these words Christ announced the fact of the need of His death that the world's great harvest of souls might be brought forth. So our hour has come for us to give ourselves fully to God's work, to cast our lives into the furrow of the world's need. A helpful comment on this thought is given in "The Desire of Ages" on page 623, where we are told that it was only by yielding up His life that Christ could impart life to humanity. "Only by falling into the ground to die could He become the seed of that vast harvest—the great multitude that out of every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, are redeemed to God." So it must be with us. "All who would bring forth fruit as workers together with Christ, must fall into the ground and die. The life must be cast into the furrow of the world's need."

Referring again to his text, the speaker stated that the work of the ambassador for Christ is a work of reconciliation. There is a great chasm between God and sinful man, and the ambassador for Christ stands between as a reconciler. Ephesians 2: 14-18 was then quoted, showing that it is through the work of Christ that reconciliation is made possible.

In concluding, Pastor Piper referred to John 12: 26, where assurance is given of the reward of the faithful ambassador: "If any man serve Me, let Him follow Me; and where I am, there shall also My servant be: if any man serve Me, him will My Father honour." "All who have borne with Jesus the cross of sacrifice, will be sharers with Him of His glory. It was the joy of Christ in His humiliation and pain, that His disciples should be glorified with Him. They are the fruit of His self-sacrifice. The outworking in them of His own character and spirit is His reward, and will be His joy throughout eternity. This joy they share with Him, as the fruit of their labour and sacrifice is seen in other hearts and lives."—"The Desire of Ages," page 624.

Following the study a number of earnest testimonies were given, expressing the desire and determination to be faithful ambassadors for Christ.

A. M. FRASER.

HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

If the latent power in our laity could be aroused, this gospel of the kingdom would soon be carried to the world. It is for this object that the Home Missions Department has been organised. Try to visualise the tremendous soul-saving possibilities, if the 11,354 rank and file of our movement here in this great Division could all be linked up in service. But over 50 per cent of our members are still standing idle in the market place. One of the most important tasks facing us in the future, as leaders, is to bring all to work in the Master's vineyard.

It is impossible for us to give anything like a true report of what has been done during the past quadrennial period. Eternity alone will reveal what harvest has come from the patient, persevering effort and seed sowing, very often in the face of tremendous difficulty and at much personal inconvenience. We feel that to say Thank you, as we do from the bottom of our hearts, is but a feeble attempt to compensate you for this loyal service.

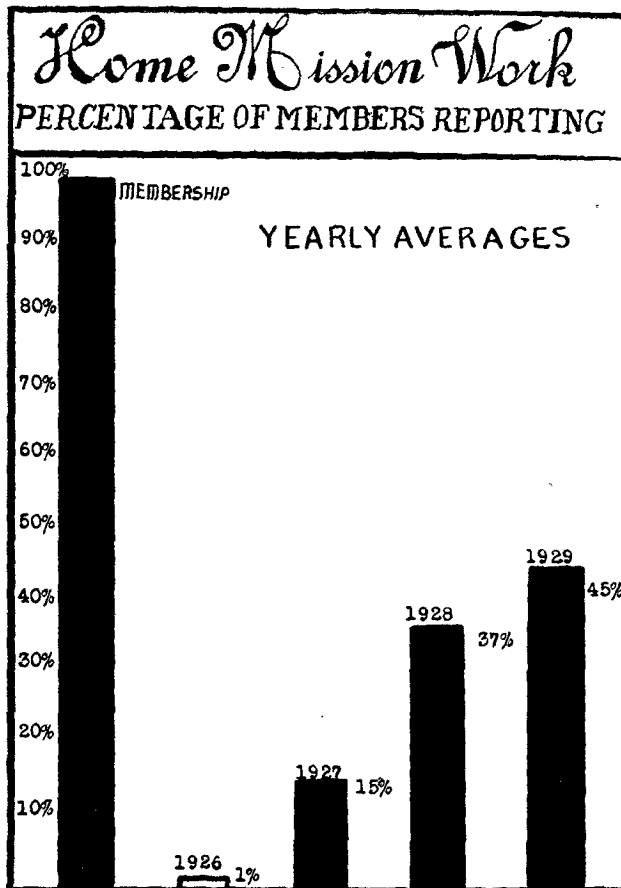
In the report given by our late Brother H. C. White at the last session, he stated that among the many difficulties that had faced the department during the period under review, was the fact that four years had seen four different secretaries heading up the work. We have not had that difficulty to contend with, and we believe that the sustained leadership of the past term has had much to do with our progress.

A retrospective glance over the reports of the past four years gives us much to encourage. We will not attempt to weary you with an exhaustive resumé of the work done, but will select a few of the principal items as an indication of our progress. As a basis of comparison we shall give you the figures for the quadrennial period 1922-1925 as well as for 1926-1929.

Work Done	1922-1925	1926-1929	Increase
Bible Readings	53,146	99,016	45,870
Hours C. Help Work	388,918	449,026	110,108
Treatments	22,199	63,377	41,178
Papers, books, mag.	1,525,607	2,116,894	591,287
Tracts	659,830	1,114,972	455,142
Letters Written	70,345	86,647	16,302
Souls Won	8	394	386

The steady progress shown in these figures tells us a wonderful story of the careful organisation of each conference within this Division, and the painstaking effort put forth by our noble band of home missions secretaries. The most gratifying feature shown in these figures is the growth in the number reporting, and while we feel sure that the totals are not by any means complete, we are confident that this improvement will continue.

We regret that we cannot give a very complete report for 1926, but during this time the whole reporting system was being re-cast, and it was not until the third quarter of 1927 that we began to feel the benefit of the change. The average number of those reporting for 1926 was only 109. This had grown in 1927 to 1,519, in 1928 to 3,867, while 1929 showed an average of 5,080. We began the quadrennial term with 1.1 per cent of our membership reporting. During 1927 the percentage was 15. Progress continued, and 1928 revealed an average of 37 per cent reporting, while for



1929 45 per cent of our members reported missionary work.

Think for a moment, will you, of the tremendous possibilities revealed in these figures. For instance, 2,116,894 books, papers, and other periodicals have been distributed, but this means only about 211 per member for four years, or one per week. Tracts to the number of 1,114,972 can be added to this total, but it does not add much to the weekly effort, being only about one per fortnight. Are you satisfied that this is a true report of the work done? One paper per week and a tract a fortnight? Your Union department is hopeful that at this session something may be done to simplify our reporting system so that a more concise and complete record of the missionary work done may be kept.

"Signs" Circulation

The quadrennial term ending 1925 found us with a circulation of this paper of 20,500 copies per week. With this circulation and the price at one penny, the publishing house was losing at the rate of about £25 per week. It was felt that this could not continue, and at the convention held at Warburton in 1927 the price was set at 2d. to the public, 1½d. to church members. Immediately this price went into effect, the circulation began to drop and at present stands between 11,000 and 12,000 copies weekly. At the increased price, and with some adjustments made in overhead costs, the publishing house just about balances the cost of producing the paper. The point that gives us most concern in this is that at the beginning of this quadrennial term approximately 15,000 copies each week were sent out in clubs

and about 5,500 in single subscriptions. At the close of 1929, our clubs had dropped to 9,000, while the single subscriptions stood at 3,500. These figures show a falling off in our club lists of about 40 per cent, while our single subscription list has dropped about 30 per cent. We, as a people, cannot afford to let this soul-saving agency slip any farther back, and this is also one of the problems that must face this conference in session assembled.

Appeal for Missions

Our Appeal for Missions has had a steady response from the field. Apart from the financial success of this effort, we are gratified to be able to point out a number of souls won for the truth as a direct result of the campaigns. This is the third quadrennial Appeal report to be given, and in order that you might be able to see how materially you have helped in the work of missions we give you a comparative table showing the total amount received.

1918-1921	Amount Raised,	£43,567
1922-1925	„	£63,492
1926-1929	„	£61,821

Thus a grand total of £168,880 has been passed on to the Mission Board for distribution during the twelve years that this annual Appeal has been in operation.

Of the £61,821 paid in during 1926-1929, £60,078 has been raised in the home fields, while £1,743 has been collected in the island fields attached to this Division.

In this Appeal work, 143,500 magazines are distributed annually in seven languages, namely, English, French, German, Italian, Greek, Yiddish, and Chinese; in addition, about 50,000 leaflets are used in connection with this effort.

Big Week, or Missions Extension Fund

Second only in importance to the annual Appeal is our Big Week effort. A recognition of the fact that our only means of contact with mission work outside of our own Division, lies in the Big Week effort, has done much to make this campaign more popular. Definite attempts have been and are being made, to keep the interest in this work at a high pitch by providing good, interesting and up-to-date literature for sale during this time. The preparation of three new books for the 1929 effort had much to do with its success. From the publishing house approximately 20,000 small books went to the field, and eternity alone will reveal the final result of the seed thus sown. Being able to point definitely to hospitals and dispensaries in Africa and South America that have been built with funds raised here in the home field; to know of schools operating, training missionaries, that have been helped by this campaign; and to be able to welcome into our churches here whole families that have received their first contact with this message because some one with a heart filled with that missionary spirit of the gospel, called at their door, are links welded in the chain of experience that bind us as a people forever to the grand enterprise of missions. Our progressive report since 1923, when we took hold of this branch of the work, is as follows:

In 1923 we raised £1,108 to assist in the purchase of the Melun property in France. The buildings on this

property are now being used as our publishing house in that country. In the following year, 1924, we raised £1,531 to provide the necessary printing plant and equipment for that institution in France; and in 1925, £1,500 was raised to assist in the equipping of a publishing house in Poona, India. Thus through three Big Week efforts £4,139 was placed at the disposal of the Mission Board for advance work.

Our interests during the past four years have been many and varied. A total of £6,271 7s. 8d has been divided up as follows:

In 1926 the sum of £1,423 14s. 2d. went to erect dispensaries in Africa and for the extension of the River Plate Junior College in South America. The following year, 1927, about £200 went for the first unit of the Songa Mission Hospital for Dr. Sturges, and £1,000 for Dr. Birkenstock at the Malamulo Leper Mission in Equatorial Africa and Dr. Marcus in Nyasaland. The year 1928 saw £300 for a water supply at Kanye, and two dispensaries, one on the Upper Zambesi, the other at Rusango, all in Africa; while £600 went to the Chilean training school and £600 to the Lake Titicaca Normal School, South America. Last year saw a more varied budget still, £90 going to the Helderberg College, £125 for the second unit of the Songa Mission hospital, and £150 for three other dispensaries. Outside of Africa last year we found £351 for the Japan training school, and £411 for fitting up a dispensary on the house boat of Brother Stahl on the Amazon River, South America. This effort is the means of keeping us in touch with the Master's command, "Go ye into all the world." Think of the record of the past eight years: £125,313 raised for missions within the boundaries of our own Division,—the South Seas, through the annual Appeal campaign; and for missions in Africa, India, Japan, and South America during the past seven years £10,410 have been sent on to the General Conference for disbursement.

The feature we desire to stress in connection with our Big Week campaign, is the wonderful possibilities that come from the sale of our literature. And the goal of this department is to see more literature sold each year during Big Week and less dependence placed on the special offering.

After considerable figuring, with the help of the local conference treasurers, we find that during 1929, of the money that came to the treasury for Big Week, approximately two-thirds was the result of the special offering, and one-third represented the profits from literature sales. We are very desirous that for the 1930 campaign these proportions shall at least be reversed, and we hope that ultimately Big Week will be a Big Literature Week. In this way we complete the square of work; the publishing houses help us by providing good, interesting books and an incentive for the church to work—we help the publishing house by selling the books, thus making more work—the people who purchase the literature are helped by the truth-laden reading matter they receive—and the profits from the sales go to help those who cannot help themselves. What an opportunity we find of coming to the "help of the Lord against the mighty"!

Your departmental secretaries count it a privilege to be able to give such an encouraging report as this. And

while it is not all that we believe it ought to be, yet we know that these figures represent a good deal of sacrifice and self-denial on the part of this people. We feel we owe much to the loyal co-operation of the conference home missions secretaries who have worked with us faithfully right through this term, and this report is but a reflection of the careful work each has done. The conference presidents, too, have stood by us nobly and well, both with advice and assistance, and we feel the privilege to be ours of working shoulder to shoulder with them in leading the finest and best people of all the world in the grandest enterprise that has ever been known—service.

REUBEN E. HARE,
A.U.C. Asst. Home Missions Sec.

UNION CONFERENCE FIELD MISSIONARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

IN rendering this report, it is with feelings of profound gratitude to our Heavenly Father for His kind hand over the work during the period under review, for without His help our efforts would have accomplished little.

Since the book work started here in Australasia some forty-five years ago, 704,602 books have been placed in the homes of the people. Among these stand out the following more boldly:

"Bible Readings" -	81,566
"Christ's Object Lessons" -	23,546
"Coming King" -	54,480
"Desire of Ages" -	24,643
"Daniel and Revelation" -	44,000
"Great Controversy" -	69,761
"Our Day" -	23,186
"Patriarchs and Prophets" -	23,370
"Ladies' Handbook" -	69,436
"Home Nursing" -	30,915
"Practical Guide" -	80,000

Were these 704,000 books placed in a row, they would make a path from here (Central Hall, Melbourne) to the publishing house and back, approximately one hundred miles; or, if placed in a single pile, would reach a height of twenty-one miles. The ceiling of this large auditorium, seating this whole delegation, would need to be pushed up to a height of 45 feet in order to hold all these truth-filled messengers. Putting it still another way, if all the pages were spread out into a footpath ten feet wide, it would reach from Sydney, through Melbourne, clear across the Nullabor Plain to Perth. Surely we can look to this sown seed for a rich and certain harvest in the very near future. And all these books have been sold by the patient toil of the colporteur,—in snow-clad Alps, well up the reaches of our mountain streams, out in the parched lands of the Never-Never, and in our crowded cities. By foot, or bicycle; by horse, or by motor-cycle; and, in recent years, by motor cars, these colporteurs have continued their faithful work; and their remuneration has been largely what we call "on a missionary basis." Still the work advances.

Of these 700,000 subscription books, 264,000, or 34 per cent only, are medical books. This means that 66 per cent of them are religious books, containing this closing message in a very definite way.

Summaries

Our summaries during the quadrennium have amounted to £125,352, as against £156,022 for the previous period. The graph will show that at the end of 1926, when the writer took hold of the work, the sales, which had been gradually receding since 1922, had dropped to £29,141,—the lowest since 1918. Since then the sales have increased to £34,484, an improvement of 19 per cent; and this during a period of continued drought and depression all over the Union, and in some parts the greatest since the white man settled in the country. The present financial depression has been slowly but surely developing during the latter portion of this period, and was accompanied by prolonged timber and coal strikes, which unquestionably made the work much more difficult and perplexing. This also was coupled with lowered wheat and wool markets. Yet in spite of the fact that many strong financial business houses have gone to the wall, our sales have steadily increased, a sure sign that the God of Israel still blesses His work in the earth.

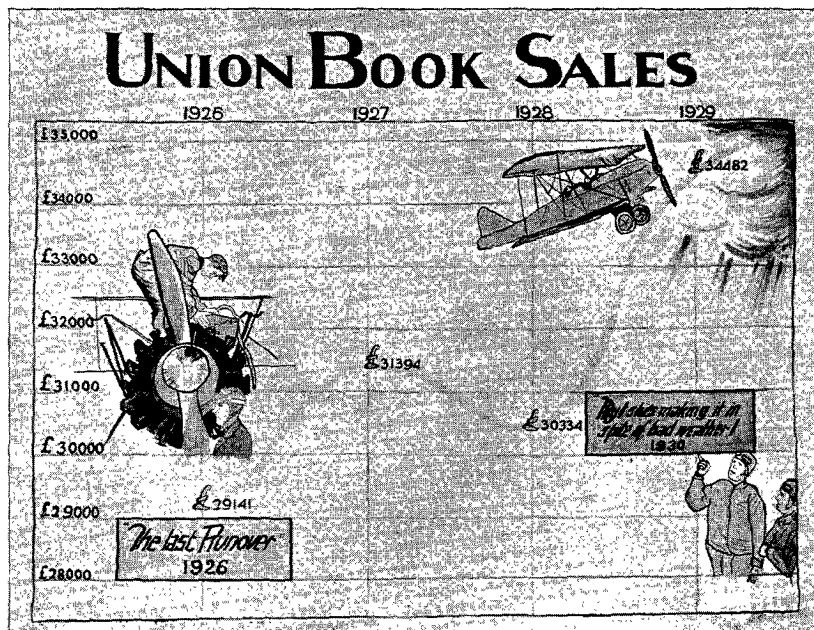
Souls

That the Publishing Department, when called into existence by the Spirit of the Lord eighty-four years ago, could be all that God intended it as a soul-winning agency, has been amply shown by the reports of the recent General Conference. Among other good things, we read that "from one-third to one-half of all the native believers came into the truth in the Far East through the influence of literature." Again, Pastor N. Z. Town said that "in one conference in Brazil, during the past year, thirteen churches and companies have been organised by colporteurs, and in another conference eleven churches have been organised by colporteurs. In still another conference 50 per cent of the membership was represented by the work of colporteurs." These results truly are amazing, and, we believe, ought to be repeated in this field of ours in a much larger measure than we see it now.

It will always be difficult to discover just how many souls have been led into this message through the bookman, but as nearly as we can ascertain, by careful investigation made by field missionary secretaries from the churches and conference workers, well over one hundred souls have been added to the church in the last four years. These figures are only approximate, for in some conferences they have not been able to go back four years, so we have figures for the last two or three years only.

Now a very gratifying aspect of this work is that these one hundred souls have been won without cost to the conference. If we take into account the field missionary secretaries' wages and expenses for the Union, this is more than offset by the financial returns from the field. That is, the profits from the publishing house and the aggregate profits from the Tract Societies, which go back into the work, together with the tithe from the publishing house and its employees, and the large amount of tithe paid by our colporteurs (which alone is approximately £4,000) well exceed the total costs of this work. In a word, this Publishing Department is self-supporting, and the one hundred souls won to this cause have been no charge upon the regular tithe.

When we consider that it has cost the cause of God well over £100 for each precious soul won through the



regular ministry during the past quadrennium, we can see the wisdom of God in urging the importance of the colporteur work as outlined by His servant many years ago. It is such considerations as these that compel us to believe that the colporteur ministry is worthy of as much careful fostering by conference presidents as the direct evangelistic work.

New Field Missionary Secretaries

Various problems have faced us through the quadrennium. Through the ill-health of the Field Missionary Secretary in North New Zealand, it was found necessary to secure a new man for that field, and Brother E. A. Turner was brought from Western Australia. On returning from New Zealand, we discovered that another field was calling for stronger leadership in its book work, and a change being necessary, Brother J. R. Kent, whose summaries were at least £1,000 per year, was taken from the field and put in charge of Victoria. Still a third field drew upon our colporteur staff for a leader, and Brother C. F. Hodgkinson was taken from Queensland and put into South New South Wales. We rejoice at the development of men, yet we are reminded that other such men to take their places are not easily found and trained.

Caring for Colporteurs

During the quadrennium quite an advance step has been taken in the care of colporteurs who, because of conditions beyond their control, get into straitened circumstances. Hitherto, when accident or sickness befell them, they were thrown entirely upon their own resources, if they had any. If not, they were obliged by circumstances to drop out of the work, and in such cases to leave behind them a debt that discouraged both them and the Tract Society. In 1928 a change was made in the use of certain monies that had been paid out to colporteurs as child allowance. Two new funds were created, called the Bonus and Welfare Funds. Since these have been in operation, colporteurs who have been in distress through earthquakes, floods, sickness, or acci-

dent, have been provided for, and most appreciative letters have come to us from the beneficiaries. There are several colporteurs now in the field who would otherwise have been obliged to leave us. Instead they are still canvassing, and are of good courage, and doing excellent work.

Take the case of one colporteur, a married man with three children, who was ill for almost a month. Still another married man who was faced with an operation and hospital bills, besides there being no income. We were able to come to their rescue in a way that did not make them feel they were subjects of charity. Another was taken into the Sydney Sanitarium and cared for. Still another lost £36 straight out through the New Zealand earthquake, and we were able to have that loss completely made up to him. He is still writing up £20 to £25 of business a week. And this, and a good deal more, has been made possible through

the Welfare Fund. We expect the demands upon this fund will continue to be heavy during this depression, but, thank God, we are able at last to do the right thing by these faithful self-supporting men and women. Let some of us who are in regular salary think what it would mean if we fell ill and were for a month or more without a penny coming in; instead, with medical expenses to meet; and we shall appreciate better what this has meant in practical encouragement to the colporteurs.

Bonus Fund

More and more we are seeing the benefits of the Bonus Fund, providing as it does a good award for faithful service. Men who have shown neither inspiration nor ambition have awakened to their possibilities, and their letters telling of their determination to succeed and obtain the awards have been a source of great encouragement to us.

Then this has reacted in another remarkable way. It is well known that one of the real weaknesses in the colporteur's work is the amount of time the colporteur actually spends in canvassing. In 1925 the "regular" colporteur averaged about 70 hours per month. Now for the year 1929, the last year in this last quadrennium, the same "regular" colporteurs have averaged 105 hours per month, an improvement of 50 per cent in their time, the reason being that the benefits of the Bonus and Welfare Funds have been made contingent on the applicant working full time,—thirty-five hours per week. Undoubtedly men are now in the field, who, had they been working the old hours, would have been obliged to quit. This Bonus Fund provides as high as £27 10s. for 46 weeks' work and sales of £500, invoice value. The recipients thus far are delighted with it, and are bidding for it in time and sales for 1930. We believe this Bonus Fund is going to do even better things for us, for we know of many colporteurs who are right on the job in reality this year. We are planning to use this fund so as to encourage men to stay by the work year after year. Such will receive the greater benefits. In this way we

believe we can build a more permanent staff, and this is a sore need.

More Permanent Staff

We have carefully analysed the lists of colporteurs, taking those who have worked in this Union during 1926, and comparing them with those who worked during 1929. And this is our discovery: we find that of the 181 colporteurs who started in 1926, after eliminating students, 53 per cent dropped out of sight after a few months. But in 1929, 226 colporteurs started. After again eliminating students, only 36 per cent of them did not work the whole year through. In other words, something or somebody or both, helped another 17 per cent more of them to stay by the work throughout the whole year. We believe that better leadership, and more practical training on the part of the local field missionary secretaries, along with the assistance of the Bonus and the Welfare Funds, have helped to do this. We are on the road to a more permanent staff of colporteurs. Let us encourage this.

Scholarships

There has also been a marked change in the matter of college students earning scholarships. In 1926 no scholarships were earned, and as far as we can learn, scarcely one had been earned for a number of years. The following year, 1927, six were secured; in 1928, thirteen were secured; and about twenty were obtained in 1929, in spite of city deliveries being very poor. This improved situation has been made possible largely by the assistance of the college itself, in providing us better opportunities for the training of prospective colporteurs. A regular class of students was formed in 1927, which met twice a week throughout the year for about fifteen minutes. In 1929 the Avondale Industries and the college faculty made possible an institute as well, and for a whole week definite, practical work was done,—the students that vacation selling £4,000 worth of books. This year the salesmanship class, consisting of fifty-seven members, is a regular full-period one, meeting for forty-five minutes once each week. We believe the school will reap still greater advantages in students who are thus enabled to pay their fees, many of whom testify they could do it in no other way.

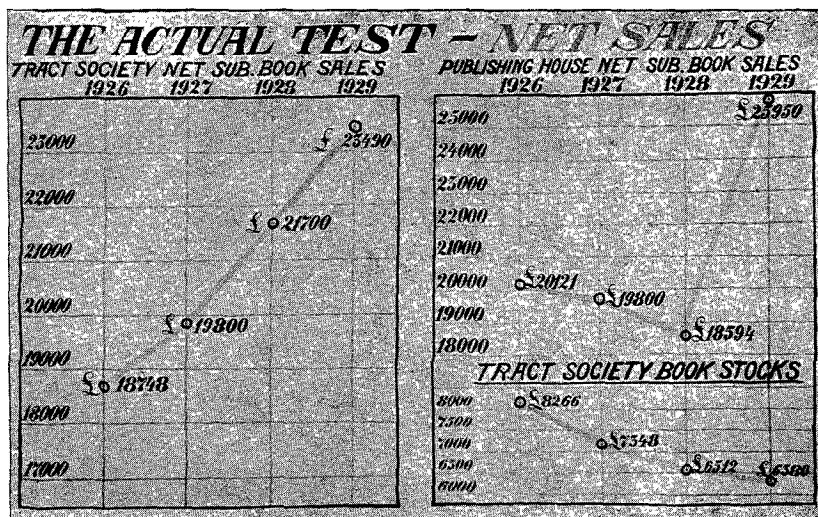
Notice a few abbreviated testimonies from some of the students who earned their scholarships during the 1929-30 vacation: "I spent six months in the canvassing field,—the last two vacations. I am thankful that God has helped me both years and that He gave me the success which brought me back here this year." Another said: "When I left school last year there was one thing I had to get, and that was a scholarship, or else I would not be here this year. I stand before you to testify that God hears prayer."

Progress

At the time of writing, the work for the year 1930 is still growing, despite deepening depression and distress. Our aim for the year is £37,750, an aim that has been carefully set, leaving possibility for an overflow, yet well

above the sales reached last year. The half-year's figures are to hand, and we have made sales to the extent of £19,708. This is almost £2,000 above the corresponding period for last year. We have thus far kept up to our aim, and have about £1,000 to spare,—still another token of our Heavenly Father's blessing on this branch of the work.

The present position as compared with 1926 is illustrated by the two graphs. Book sales, that is, orders taken, still continue to increase in spite of present financial conditions. The Tract Society net sales, that is, orders delivered, confirm these increases, and have lifted from £18,748 to £23,490 (retail price). The publishing house net sales again corroborate our increases—lifting from £20,121 in 1926 to £25,950 in 1929. (The figures



for 1929 include "helps.") For three years Tract Societies were reducing their heavy stocks held in 1926, and so no improvement showed in the Publishing House sales until 1929.

The following conferences show wonderful improvement during the period: Victoria has already reached her aim for the year, while Tasmania has more than completed the year's work in seven months. The sales for North New Zealand for seven months almost equal a full year's work for 1926, while South New Zealand, Queensland, North and South New South Wales are running along very satisfactorily with good promise of the year's goal being reached before the end of the year.

Seven months before the close of the quadrennium, Brother J. J. Potter joined up with the department, and his hearty co-operation has been very much appreciated. We look forward to our work together with a great deal of happy anticipation, if God so wills it.

During 1929 an average of 79 colporteurs were maintained, as against 62 when the quadrennium opened. Through the Australasian Union Conference there is an excellent spirit of co-operation toward the work. Seldom do we find any conference labourer even suggesting that prospectives keep away from the work; rather on the whole do we have and enjoy their hearty support. We take this opportunity to thank them for this.

The new book, "Bible Pictures and Stories," is selling well. One colporteur has just written to us thus: "Thirty per cent of my orders have been booked from

Roman Catholics, and ninety-nine per cent have delivered. Calling on the Presbyterian minister, Rev. Dr. F——, and booking him for a set, he told me to use his name if it would be of any advantage. One Catholic gentleman ordered a set from me in the best binding, and after I had spent several evenings with him talking about the truth and our message for these times, he ordered 'The Great Controversy,' and 'Daniel and the Revelation,' also 'Our Day.' He has since been going to our meetings. His sister also wanted a Bible so they could both study together.

"I called on the Church of England minister one day, and he was so impressed with the books that he called a special meeting of the Sunday school teachers and told them about the books. I have quite a list of names of ministers, schoolmasters, college principals, Sunday school teachers, and lay preachers which I usually run through. A Catholic lady with whom we stayed accepted the message. Also another lady with whom we were staying decided for the truth, and kept two Sabbaths before we left."

Another evidence of God's watchfulness is revealed in this experience to hand: "While canvassing in the M—— district during last vacation, I was successful in taking quite a number of orders from people belonging to the X Church. One day I called at a home, and found that there were three ministers of this denomination there. One of them, the minister in charge of the district, told me that he would visit every member of his

church and advise them not to take the book; and another of them, a leader of that denomination, told me they would refund to the people from church funds all deposits taken. I tried to reason with him, but could do nothing. The other two supported him in it. I felt very much concerned about the matter, seeing I had taken such a lot of orders from his people, and when I got away I went to my knees. Some weeks slipped by, and delivery time came. It was an excellent delivery, practically every book being placed with the people. The last person I called on, a relative of one of these ministers, bought an additional set for cash. I then learned that Mr. X, the minister, was taken ill the day following my conversation with him, and had been confined to his home during the whole of that period, and thus had been frustrated in his purpose."

The quadrennium has kept us very busy seeking for men of the right type in various conferences, visiting camp-meetings, holding institutes at the close of camps, class meetings at Avondale, and occasionally starting colporteurs out in the field where field missionary secretaries have been otherwise engaged.

In closing, we thank God for a part in His work, and for His continued blessing at such a time as this. We hope and plan that this current quadrennium will be still more fruitful in souls won through the colporteur ministry, and to this end we dedicate ourselves to Him to help finish His work in the earth in this generation.

F. G. RAMPTON.

THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

"SPIRITUAL illiteracy is the greatest peril of organised society." The criminal trend and godlessness among the youth bear a very definite relation to the training and education they have received. Eminent public men have recently been stressing the thought that it is the failure to teach the youth the basic truths of religion that explains the deplorable condition of our time; and some have stated that the only hope for the coming generation is the building up of a system of religious schools where the boys and girls can receive a Christian education.

In view of these things, the whole question of the training of our children takes on a very serious aspect. It cannot be placed in a secondary role. The matter of the education of our children must become the most vital question that confronts us. If we are going to win and hold to the church the children growing up in our ranks, it is imperative that we have more of our own schools, and that these schools be given the whole-hearted support of every worker in the cause. No feature of denominational activity is more vital to the stability of this denomination, or to its highest success, than our schools.

Our educational system rightly worked is the best system in the world. This statement will not only go unchallenged, but will also be endorsed by all those who are truly intelligent on the question as to how our schools system was born for they know that God, the Creator of all things good, the One who is all wise, is the designer of our educational system. And this knowl-

edge brings to them the assurance that His schools, run according to His plans, are a most fruitful means of forwarding His great work of preparing citizens for His coming kingdom. Our denominational records bear witness to the fact that over four-fifths of the children who pass through our church schools prove loyal to the message. This being so, how grateful we should be for the church schools functioning in this Division; and, too, how deeply regretful, concerned—yes, and even alarmed ought we to be that there are not many, many more schools operating. Some may question the use of such strong words as "concerned" and "alarmed," but as one studies the counsels of God that have been written concerning the responsibility and lethargy of the church in regard to its attitude towards the education of the lambs of the flock, one cannot but conclude that the words "concerned" and "alarmed" are not strong enough. May God, through His Holy Spirit, bring home to every heart the importance of the following statement: "If we would stand clear in the judgment, we must make more liberal effort for the education of our children and youth."

During the period under review earnest efforts have been put forth to "rightly work" God's educational system in our church schools. We find it impossible to express in words or figures the value of the labour that has been put forth during the last four years by the band of teachers who have been employed in our primary schools. What statistics can we give which would in any way tell the story of the spiritual and moral strength that has come to the children as the result of the daily endeavours on the part of the

teachers to inspire their boys and girls with true Christian ideals and to so direct their daily lives that it will become the habit with them to walk with Christ? What figures can measure the results on the children's lives of the daily Bible lessons inculcating true ideas of God and the truths of His Word? These are some of the real things which it is impossible to adequately voice in our report. However, we do believe that when the books of heaven are opened, then will come the full revelation, and it will be seen that our schools have been the means, under God, for the saving to the cause of many of the boys and girls who have been in training in our schools during the last four years.

High Standard of Efficiency

Many efforts have been put forth during the period to so strengthen and improve our primary schools that the standard of work would be better than that required by the State. The marked efficiency of a number of the schools to-day is evidence that these endeavours have met with a fair amount of success. The Government inspectors who have visited our schools have in most cases rendered satisfactory and favourable reports, and some of the work done by the teachers has been highly commended. Many of our pupils have taken State examinations at the close of their primary school work, and we are glad to report that a very satisfactory percentage have been successful in meriting certificates.

Most of our schools are now very well equipped. In four schools in the South N.S.W. Conference an aquarium has been added to the equipment. One teacher in this conference passes on word that many

of his scholars come into the schoolroom during the lunch hour and spend as long as thirty minutes watching the aquatic life. These children were so enthusiastic in talking about their aquarium that its fame soon spread throughout the neighbourhood. The headmaster of a near-by State school heard about it and asked our teacher whether he would grant permission for a pupil teacher from the State school to bring over a number of scholars to view the many forms of insect and plant life. Permission being granted, our teacher had the honour of presenting to the teacher and pupils of the State school his new nature study teaching aid.

During the period under review a new church school financial policy was adopted. This policy requires the church conducting the school to guarantee a fourth instead of a third of the teacher's salary, which provision has materially assisted the schools to keep out of debt.

Island Training Schools

Since the close of the previous quadrennial period two new training schools for native workers have been opened, one at Aore in the New Hebrides and the other in Samoa. There are now five training schools in operation in our mission fields, and besides these we have 79 other schools doing lower grade work. The reports that come to us from time to time from our missionaries pass on the encouraging news that these schools are appreciated by the natives and are bearing good fruit.

The following are the comparative figures for both the home and the mission field:

	No. Schools		No. Teachers		Enrolment	
	1925	1929	1925	1929	1925	1929
North N. S. W.	2	2	4	4	104	111
South N. S. W.	5	5	9	9	190	191
North N. Z.	5	3	5	4	110	83
South N. Z.	1	1	1	2	32	43
Queensland	2	—	2	—	42	—
South Australia	2	1	2	1	72	18
Victoria }	7	5	9	10	172	152
Tasmania }						
West Australia	4	4	4	5	80	108
Home Field	28	24	36	38	802	750
Mission Field	61	83	65	97	1276	1878
TOTALS	89	107	101	135	2078	2628

It is not without many hardships and heartaches that our primary educational system has been built up to its present dimensions. And it is only by most diligent effort and most constant sacrifice and devotion that the system can be kept going successfully. May we all be willing to do our full part in fostering and promoting this important branch of the Lord's work.

The outstanding needs of the primary school work, in order to make it as efficient as it should and can be, are:

1. The ministry properly educated to the vital importance of a Christian education.

2. The full realisation on the part of all conference leaders that it costs less to save our children than to convert others to the message, and that in the end the

church school is a sound financial investment.

3. A greater endeavour on the part of all our workers (a) to instruct our people that all members of God's family have a responsibility in the education of the children in our ranks; and (b) to stem the tide of indifference on the part of parents to the dangers of sending their children to schools of the world.

4. A greater co-operation on the part of all to make the schools we already have 100 per cent efficient in every respect.

5. The adoption by all of our schools of a curriculum which will meet (a) the educational ideals for which we as a denomination stand, and (b) the educational requirements of each State.

6. A much closer supervision of our schools by practical, experienced school men.

Intermediate Schools

In "Counsels to Teachers," page 203, we read this statement: "Intermediate schools are highly essential." It is because we believe this is God's counsel to us, and it is also because we know that the high-school years are very critical years in the lives of our boys and girls, that plans have been brought into operation to more thoroughly provide for the education of our young people during the time which comes between the completion of the primary school work and the opportunity of attending one of our secondary schools.

At the close of the previous quadrennial period we had one school carrying super-

primary work, now we have four. These schools carry three extra years' work beyond the primary grades, and the curriculum has been so planned that all students who so desire may sit for the Intermediate Certificate examination. These intermediate schools meet a long-felt need, and give many of our parents the opportunity of keeping their children under the influence of consecrated teachers during the age when they greatly need strong spiritual guidance.

Secondary Schools

A. M. College

The past four years have been years of hard work and marked progress at the Australasian Missionary College. The enrolment has kept well up throughout

the period, the figures for the respective years being as follows:

	Enrolment
1926	179
1927	191
1928	197
1929	205

The number of graduates during the period was thirty-two, and almost 100 per cent of these are now actively engaged in conference, institutional, or island mission work.

Many alterations have been made at the institution since the end of 1925, the main one being the erection of a five brick treatment-rooms building. The appropriations from the Union Conference to the college over the past four years have been as follows:

1926	£6,000
1927	£4,000
1928	£2,000
1929	£1,525

The Lord so blessed the administration of Pastor Cossentine, who was principal of the school for the years 1928 and 1929, that the school was able to donate to the Union Conference treasury the sum of £631 from its 1928-29 appropriations. This gift was applied to the purchase of necessary equipment at the Batuna Training School, Solomon Islands, and to the erection of two houses—one for Brother and Sister Campbell at Choiseul, Solomon Islands, and the other for Brother and Sister Broad at Aore, New Hebrides.

A good spiritual atmosphere has prevailed among the college students, and it rejoices our hearts to be able to report 56 baptisms during the term.

New Zealand Missionary School

For the first two years of the period under review Pastor Cossentine was principal of the New Zealand Missionary School. At the close of 1927, Pastor Rosendahl was called from the principalship of the West Australian Missionary School to take charge of our New Zealand school. In many ways the period has been a very satisfactory one. The enrolment has been good, the average for the four years being 74. Twenty-six of these students have passed on to the A. M. College for a higher education, thirteen have entered the Sanitarium to train as nurses, eight have received appointments to conference work, one has travelled to the United States to take up the medical course, while a number have entered the canvassing field.

New wings were added to the building in 1926. These provided the school with the extra dormitory accommodation which was so much needed. Other improvements were the enlargement of the boys' changing-room and the principal's cottage, and the equipping of the laundry with an electric washer and steam-jacketed clothes boiler. The outlay for these improvements, with the exception of the dormitories, ran into £800 odd, of which all but £150 came from school earnings.

The basket and pram making industry has proved a great asset to the school in providing work for a large number of the students. During the last four years this industry has made encouraging development. It was found necessary in 1928 to

enlarge the factory in which the industry is housed.

The spirituality of the school has been maintained, and many are the students that were in attendance during the past four years who could testify to having gained a deeper experience in the things of God.

West Australian Missionary School

We are able to report encouragingly of our school in the West. The work of developing and improving the facilities in the industrial line has gone steadily forward. During the period a new dairy and a new fruit packing and curing house have been erected. In 1929 it was decided to establish a basket industry at the school. This plan was carried into effect, and in spite of the difficulties which always confront a new venture the industry has made appreciable progress.

A high standard of attainment has been required in all the studies of the curriculum, and satisfactory advancement has been made by the students. During the last two years of the period the enrolment has made very satisfactory growth. The spirit of the students has been good, and there has been a commendable desire on the part of almost every one to obtain the best both spiritually and educationally out of the instruction.

Fireside Correspondence School

The number of enrolments in the Fireside Correspondence School increased during the period by almost one hundred. Now 188 are taking studies through the Correspondence School. These students are to be found not only in every conference of Australia and New Zealand, but also in the following island fields: Solomon Islands, Pitcairn, Lord Howe, Fiji, Tonga, and Papua.

New studies have been added during the past four years, until now the number of studies offered by the school stands at twenty-one.

We believe there is a large field of operation for such a school in the Union. We have in this Union Conference over 5,000 young people. Approximately 60 per cent of these are children of primary school age; 5 per cent are students in our missionary schools. This leaves 35 per cent, or approximately 1,800. A large majority of these are of college age, but are not privileged for many good reasons to enter our resident schools. Many of these young people, as well as many adults, are very desirous of improving their education, and securing the educational advantages offered by our regular colleges. In what better way could we help them fulfil their desires and realise their ambitions than through the Australasian branch of the Fireside Correspondence School!

Conclusion

Our prayer is that Christian education will be made a living fact in our denominational life. It is only as this is so that we shall, as a people, be led to adopt the only right and truly effective methods of avoiding for our children and young people the dangers that lurk in the schools of the world, and of conserving to our

cause our youth who are the life-blood of this denomination.

N. H. FAULKNER,
Secretary.

NEW HEBRIDES MISSION

In these words of Holy Writ, I bring to this session the greetings of our native believers in the New Hebrides Mission: "The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: the Lord make His face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: the Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace."

The work of our mission during the past four years has had a very checkered course to pursue. First, a misunderstanding arose between the French and ourselves over our Aore school land. Then our mission site and buildings on Ambrym were destroyed by a volcanic eruption in 1928. Then sickness took Pastors James, Nicholson, and Smith with their wives from the field; which has nearly depleted our staff of field workers, and has deprived the field of leadership.

However, we are grateful to God that we can report a much better feeling between the French and our mission. This has been brought about principally through our Aore industries and the tactful way that Brother Radley has handled the situation.

The volcano on Ambrym is still very active, and is pouring out clouds of volcanic dust and ashes, with dense black smoke, which darken the heavens and the earth. It has a very depressing influence over the island, and hangs like a pall of death over it. Tubercular conditions have developed and are increasing.

During this quadrennial period our Australasian Union Conference has thoroughly organised the mission and divided it into districts. The Aore Training School has been brought into existence, and the Aore industries started with every encouragement of a successful career.

The Aore Training School has had many handicaps, one of which was a great shortage of food. This made it very difficult for Brother Broad to carry on, but he has largely overcome this problem, and the prospects are good for an ever-increasing supply of food. The difficulty now is to get the students. This year we have 12 students thus far, but are expecting more. Brother Broad has brought the students on well, and those attending this year speak very highly of the way they are being taught. We have some plans for increasing our attendance.

The Aore industries, under the careful directorship of Brother Radley, are a financial success, as well as a great aid to the students in obtaining money for their various needs while attending school. Both the French and the English appreciate very much the help the industries render to them, and it is mainly through them, under God, that the former high tension between the French and our mission has been removed, and has been replaced by a very friendly attitude. Larger plans must be laid so that the industries can produce a greater amount of work, which will give more employment and better financial returns.

Our statistical report is as follows:

	1925	1929
Churches	3	4
Membership	65	90
Sabbath Schools	8	18
Membership	352	633
M. V. Societies	4	5
Tithe	£509	£1083
Sabbath School Off.	151	546
Annual Offering	140	200
Appeal	30	15

There is a deep yearning in each of our hearts, as labourers in this mission, for that refining fire from above to go through our lives so that Paul's experience in 2 Corinthians 2:14-17 (Moffatt's rendering) shall be translated into our labours: "Wherever I go, thank God, He makes my life a constant pageant of triumph in Christ, diffusing the perfume of His knowledge everywhere by me. I live for God as the fragrance of Christ breathed alike on those who are being saved and on those who are perishing, to one a deadly fragrance that makes for death, to the other a vital fragrance that makes for life. And who is qualified for this career? I am, for I am not like most, adulterating the word of God; like a man of sincerity, like a man of God, I speak the word of Christ before the very presence of God."

C. H. PARKER,
Superintendent.

NORTH NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE

In presenting the report for this field for the quadrennial period ending December 31, 1929, we would express our deep gratitude to God for His care over us and the many evidences of His love toward us. We thank Him, too, for the message of His Word which binds the hearts of His people in North New Zealand in loyalty and liberality to the cause which we know will soon triumph gloriously.

Membership

The membership at December 31, 1925, stood at 1,176; and at the conclusion of the last four-year period we find 1,221 members enrolled, revealing an increase of but 45. Baptisms have totalled 304, while the careful cleansing of our church rolls, commenced two years ago, led to 182 being removed through apostasy. We greatly regret that through difficulty and indifference so large a number have fallen out by the way. It is our earnest hope that many of these will yet renew their covenant with the Lord and ultimately rejoice at the day of His appearing.

We deeply sorrow, too, as we record the loss of 65 members through death.

There are 27 organised churches in the conference, an addition of three for the quadrennium, and we have 19 church buildings dedicated to the worship of God. One other has been dedicated during the present year. The North New Zealand Conference members are particularly well provided for in the matter of adequate meeting houses devoted to the worship of Jehovah.

Financial

For the constant flow of means coming into the cause from our membership we are grateful.

The tithe contributed during the four years has amounted to £41,231, as against £38,938,—an increase of £2,293 for the period; while for local church work £5,504 was given, and for local conference work £3,202, making a total of £49,937,—an increase of £1,639 on all funds.

Foreign mission funds, exclusive of the annual Appeal for Missions, totalled £15,817, an increase of £161; while the Appeal for Missions totalled £10,667, as compared with £12,807 collected in the preceding period.

The grand total of tithe and offerings subscribed in this conference from all sources toward the spread of the message at home and abroad amounts to £75,432, or £329 less than the preceding quadrennium. This decrease is more than accounted for in the special appeal effort previously launched on behalf of the New Zealand Missionary School, when an unusually large sum was collected from the public for this institution. The per capita offerings, excluding public appeals, are as follows: 1926, £14 7s. 11d.; 1927, £12 15s. 0d.; 1928, £13 5s. 4d.; 1929, £13 1s. 5d.

At December 31, 1925, the present worth of the Conference stood at £5,960, while at the end of 1929 it revealed a credit of £5 287,—a decrease of £693. We note, however, that during the period we assisted the finances of the South New Zealand Conference to the extent of £1,300, and this from our own local conference funds. We are happy to have done this, and glad now to find the South New Zealand Conference able to support itself and to be yearly growing in strength both financially and numerically.

Book Department

Our Book Department has had a somewhat difficult experience during the quadrennium, our summary for the four years showing a decided drop when compared with the preceding years. In 1926 the summaries totalled £4 228; 1927, £3,021; 1928, £3,006; 1929, £3,886; a grand total of £14,341 as against £24,897 for the four years ending 1925. The total loss for the period on the running of this department is £163, as against a loss of £370 for 1922-1925.

Sabbath School Department

Our Sabbath schools had 1 464 members enrolled at the end of 1925, while four years later we record 1,543—an increase of 79—meeting in 43 schools.

The offerings have increased for the period from £6,356 to £7,986, or by £1,630, which is more than 25 per cent.

We are gratified to know that an increasing number of our church members are daily studying the Sabbath school lessons, and we are confident of the value of such study of the Word of God.

Home Missions Department

As previously stated, during the four-year period £10,678 has been collected in the Appeal campaigns.

The Big Week sales and offerings have totalled £988, an increase of £261 as compared with the period 1922-1925.

During 1929 a month's special tract rally was carried out by the church membership. The 45 000 tracts distributed during this effort resulted in a number of new interests being brought to the atten-

tion of our evangelists. Some of our brethren and sisters donated sums totalling £80 in order to finance the plan. Not only were a number of souls directly won to the message through the effort, but results unmeasured were clearly in evidence by the greatly increased interest manifested by the brethren and sisters in individual efforts for soul winning. Over 75 per cent of our members reported having taken part in this tract rally.

M. V. Department

In 1925 we had 21 societies, while at the close of 1929 we find 26, a gain of 5. The membership has grown from 347 to 528, while offerings have totalled £1,193, which is £198 more than those of the previous four years.

A decided increase is noted in a number of missionary activities, and a large band are regularly engaged in taking the Standard of Attainment, Reading Course, and doctrinal text studies.

Educational Department

This department shows a decrease. From five schools enrolling 110 students in 1925, we have fallen to three schools enrolling 83 young people, the church schools in Wellington and Hastings being compelled to close through lack of support. We regret this, as we value the work of our teachers and feel that it is a policy of false economy to reduce the avenues of education for our children in our own schools. We have the New Zealand Missionary School in our conference, but this will be reported elsewhere.

Religious Liberty Department

We are pleased to report that, largely owing to the untiring efforts of Pastor F. L. Sharp, our Religious Liberty Secretary for the conference, our young men of the Dominion have full exemption from all military drill. This action on the part of the Government has been greatly appreciated by our people, and demonstrates what can be done if we consistently place our principles before the leaders of legislature.

General

At the end of 1929 we find 8 ordained ministers, 7 licensed ministers, 5 licensed missionaries, 3 licensed teachers, 1 assistant teacher, 5 regular colporteurs, and 5 office workers without license on our staff,—a total of 34 workers.

Our workers both in the field and in the various departments have laboured earnestly for the salvation of souls, and among the entire staff there is found complete unity.

We appreciate the help of visiting brethren as they have come among us during the camp season and at other times, and all press forward to the time when our task among men on earth shall end and we shall be gathered in triumph to deeper experiences in the kingdom of God.

W. G. TURNER,
President.

"WE need not simply more light, but more life; not merely more knowledge, but more power."

WEST AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE

In presenting this report showing the progress of the work in the West Australian Conference during the past four years, we do so with a heart full of praise and gratitude to God, thanking Him for His goodness, watchcare, and blessings bestowed. We recognise that His hand has graciously been over the work, and are glad to report progress in many lines. The conference suffered a severe blow by the death of the president, Pastor H. C. White, a man whose bright, enthusiastic spirit has been greatly missed; but through all the perplexities of life there has been much to encourage, and a great amount of joy brought to our hearts as we see God's work advancing.

Churches and Membership

There were twenty-two organised churches in the conference at the beginning of the period under review. Two have been added, making a total of twenty-four. Of these, seventeen have church buildings of their own in which to worship God. The membership stood at 784, while at December 31, 1929, it was 844, an increase of sixty.

Conference Workers

	1925	1929
Ordained Ministers	5	2
Licensed Ministers	6	5
Licensed Missionaries	5	4
Church School Teachers	4	5
Canvassers	5	4
Office Workers	4	4
	29	24

We regret to note the decrease in the number of evangelistic workers in the field, and we trust that steps will be taken at this session to re-inforce this important branch of the work. Evangelistic work has been conducted in the city of Perth and other centres, resulting in some excellent souls being added to the church.

Financial

"Money is of no more value than sand, only as it is put to use in providing for the necessities of life, in blessing others, and advancing the cause of Christ."—"Christ's Object Lessons," p. 351.

In presenting the financial aspect of the work of the conference, we desire to thank our Heavenly Father for giving to us the bounties of life, in order that in turn we might be a help and a blessing to others; also we thank our people for the way in which they have contributed to the cause of God. The following figures encourage us:

Tithe

	1922	£4,293	1926	£5,068
	1923	2 695	1927	7 386
	1924	6,041	1928	6 209
	1925	5 550	1929	6 396
		£18 579		£25 059

This is an increase of £6,480 over the previous four years.

Offerings

The Annual Offerings have shown steady progress, as have also the camp pledges.

	Annual Offerings	Camp Pledges
1926	£158	£372
1927	272	367
1928	201	513
1929	225	486
	£856	£1,738

Present Worth

The present worth of the conference for 1925 was £2,851, and in 1929 £3,166, revealing a gain of £315.

Home Mission Work

For the four years our Appeal work has increased to the extent of £797. We are glad to report that this work has been demonstrated to be a soul-winning work, as new members have now linked up with our churches as a direct result.

A large increase is shown in the number of books and magazines sold each year during the Big Week, thus placing truth in the homes of the people while assisting in foreign mission endeavour. The funds raised by these two efforts are as follows:

	Appeal for Missions	Big Week
1926	£1,197	£128
1927	1,384	175
1928	1,406	125
1929	1,239	135
	£5,227	£563

Our members have also been actively engaged in the distribution of the *Signs of the Times* and in other lines of home missionary work.

Book Department

	1925	1929
Average number colporteurs	7	7
Canvasses given	33,359	42,974
Canvasses per order (approx.)	4	5
Number of orders taken	8,699	7,750
Value of helps sold	£647	£759
Value of subscription books	£10,738	£9,818

We greatly appreciate the work of the colporteurs, and can definitely point to church adherents who were first influenced by the colporteur.

Educational Work

A strong feature of the work in the West Australian Conference is the educational work. There are four church schools operating in the conference. Associated with these schools are six teachers. The enrolment at December 31, 1929, was 115, or thirty more than in 1925. At Bickley there are thirty children attending; Gosnells, sixteen; Perth, fifty-two; and Victoria Park, seventeen. These schools are making good progress, and a very encouraging report was rendered by the State inspector on his latest visit.

The work of the West Australian Missionary School will be reported by others.

Sabbath School Department

We have received many appreciative messages from our good Sabbath school members concerning the Sabbath school lessons for the period under review. We thank God for the good work being done through this department.

We have thirty-seven schools operating,

with a membership of 1,217. The offerings were as follows: 1926, £1,329; 1927, £1,447; 1928, £1,447; 1929, £1,455; a total of £5,678 for the period, or an average of £1,420 per year.

Missionary Volunteer Department

Figures are inadequate to describe the influence that the Missionary Volunteer work has upon the lives of our young people. A strong emphasis has been placed upon the spiritual side of the work.

We have twenty Missionary Volunteer Societies, with a membership of 477.

The offerings during 1926 amounted to £168; 1927, £140; 1928, £149; 1929, £123; making a total of £580, or £145 per year.

Conclusion

We wish to express our confidence in this message and in the loyal body of believers which constitutes our church membership in West Australia, and are assured that God will lead us through to victory.

E. G. WHITTAKER,
President.

Devotional Meeting

THE LORD'S REMEMBRANCERS

Thursday, September 11

THE early morning meeting on September 11, was conducted by Pastor F. L. Sharp, who occupied the time in an interesting study from Isa. 62: 1, 6, 7, 10.

In these verses God is represented as declaring, first, that He will not hold His peace nor rest till He has finished the work, and the righteousness of Jerusalem goes forth as brightness.

Next, the Lord declares that the watchmen whom He has set upon the walls of Jerusalem, and who represent the ministers of His church to-day, shall likewise 'never hold their peace day nor night.'

Then while God and His ministers are intensely in earnest to finish the work, the people—those "that make mention of the Lord"—are enjoined to do their part, and "keep not silence and give Him no rest till He establish, and till He make Jerusalem a praise in the earth." The people are also spoken of as "the Lord's remembrancers;" not that the Lord forgets, but, after having fulfilled the conditions, it is the privilege of the people to plead His promises and thus give evidence of their faith in His Word.

Then in verse 10, the final work of the gospel message is brought to view. This was shown to be a clearing of the King's highway, by gathering out the stones or stumbling blocks to be seen in the lives of Christ's professed followers and which oftentimes prove hindrances to others accepting the message.

The standard is to be lifted up. In other words, the principles of the message are to be lived out, that others, who perhaps will not listen, may see that the name of the Lord (which is His character) is called upon His people (Deut. 28: 10) and notwithstanding the disinclination on the part of many to listen, they may be attracted by the life. It will then be that "they shall be called the holy people, the redeemed of the Lord."

"SOME men are deep thinkers—some are just muddled."

Bible Study

WHY DID THE DELUGE COME?

Wednesday, September 10

THE afternoon study on Wednesday, September 10, given by Brother R. Hare, presented the certainties of the deluge. Eighteen times the Scriptures make reference to this great historic event. The traditions of all nations contain its story, the geological remains scattered over the mountains of a world carry evidence of the same recital, while the picture is painted in pensive words on the clay tablets of the world's oldest libraries. "I watched the sea making a noise; and the whole of mankind was turned to clay. Like reeds the corpses floated. I opened the window and the light smote upon my face. I stooped and sat down, I wept, over my face flowed my tears."—"Fresh Light from Ancient Monuments," p. 32.

By the deluge God endeavoured to convince man that the "wages of sin is death," Rom 6: 23. Life had been long, but few had died, and men began to dream the thoughts suggested by the enemy—"Ye shall not surely die."

Further, the deluge was God's protest against the mingling of the holy and the profane. The sons of God, the holy line, took wives from the daughters of Cain. Gen. 6: 2. Jehovah would still preserve this division, and the world's companionships, its pleasures, and its time-wasting games are not for the man of God. God's call is for separation. "Come out of her, My people." Rev. 18: 4. There is not much difference between going to the theatre and bringing the theatre to our homes through the wireless. The constant sounding of worldly things in the ears of our children must prove disastrous to spiritual life.

The distinction between God's believing man and unbelievers must be emphasised. Every unbeliever was destroyed. Nah was found righteous, and he lived. Gen. 7: 1. This distinction is still marked in the books of heaven. Mal. 3: 18.

A new start was planned for humanity, and God's pledge was given in the rainbow that still smiles through the storm. Gen. 9: 13-16.

The time of probation—120 years—had ended. These years might have brought life to the world, but the call, disregarded, brought only death.

Those great warnings still press themselves on the mind of man. Another destruction approaches. The warning should bring life. Neglected, it too must result in death.

"O brother, be careful, the world would rush in;
Its voices of flattery whisper of sin,
Its pleasures invite thy spirit to stray
In some pleasing path, diverse to God's way.

"O sister, be careful, for beauty has wings,
The smile of a world may cheat mightily kings.
Remember the Christ, with holy design,
Is still God's example for your life and mine.

"The gloaming is falling, the setting of sun
Now gilds the horizon; soon day will be done.
My brother, my sister, say, how will you stand
When the holy are called to Emmanuel's land?"

NORTH NEW SOUTH WALES CONFERENCE

It is with a definite feeling of gratitude to the Giver of every good and perfect gift for the wonderful way in which He has helped the North N.S.W. Conference during the quadrennial period under review that we present this report. As our minds dwell upon the difficulties that have been encountered in droughts, floods, and industrial troubles, we are led to exclaim, "Surely goodness and mercy hath followed us." While we ascribe to our Heavenly Father all the glory due to His holy name for the success that has attended the efforts of the evangelists, departmental secretaries, and lay members, yet as I have followed in the footsteps of the ex-president of this conference, I feel as did the apostles when Christ said, "I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour."

Membership

Out of the population which comprises this conference, estimated at 400,000, we are glad to be able to claim 1,219 as members of our 20 organised churches. Four years ago we reported 25 churches, with a membership of 1,191. During the period under review seven churches have been disbanded, mainly through members moving to other places, while two have been raised up and received into the sisterhood of churches. Fifteen of these churches meet in buildings of their own, one new building having been erected during the quadrennial period, namely, at Inverell. Three hundred and six precious souls have demonstrated in a practical way their faith in the third angel's message by stepping forward in the ordinance of baptism. One very regrettable feature of our report is the dropping of 150 names from our church rolls. This figure, however, includes names taken from the books as a result of the cleansing of our records, covering a period of years extending back to the early days of this conference. Since last we met in session 44 of our members have been laid to rest to await the call of the great Life-giver.

Labourers

We had 27 labourers in this field four years ago. Since then 7 have been added. The present staff comprises 7 ordained ministers, 4 licensed ministers, 5 licensed missionaries, 4 licensed teachers, an office staff of 4, and last but not by any means the least, 10 colporteurs.

Financial

It is with grateful hearts that we are able to report quite a substantial increase in tithes and offerings for the last four years as compared with the previous quadrennial period. At the end of 1925 our tithe report was £27,381, while in the period just closed £35,519 was handed in.

From the following figures it will be clearly seen that every fund but one,—the miscellaneous offerings for local conference work,—shows an increase in contributions compared with the previous quadrennium:

	Tithe	Local Ch'ch Offs.	Local Conf. Offs.	Appeal for Missions	Foreign Miss. Offs.
1926	£8,605	£1,006	£126	£1,190	£3,862
1927	9,365	1,105	123	1,426	4,426
1928	8,726	717	156	1,238	4,289
1929	8,823	668	142	1,377	4,549
Totals	£35,519	£3,496	£547	£5,231	£17,126
Prev. 4 yrs.	27,381	2,579	691	4,571	11,608
Increase	£8,138	Inc. £917	Dec. £144	Inc. £660	Inc. £5,518

The grand total given by our own people for the four years is £56,688, an increase of £14,429 over the period ending with 1925. The average per member per year, not including Appeal for Missions, works out at £11 13s. 11d. The present worth of the conference is £6,099, and the tithe fund stands at £3,299.

Sabbath School Department

Four years ago we reported 29 organised Sabbath schools, with a membership of 1,478. These contributed £6,223 for the support of missions. At December 31 last we showed an increase of 4 schools, with an added membership of 210. The total contributions from our 1,688 members amounted to £11,418, being £5,195 higher than those of the previous period. We attribute this very substantial increase to the untiring efforts of our Conference Sabbath School Secretary, who is constantly placing before her schools the great needs of the fields beyond.

Missionary Volunteer Department

Very encouraging are the reports that come in from our Missionary Volunteers, and we realise that our young people are our greatest asset. In 1925 we had 19 societies, with a membership of 432. Since then 4 new societies have been organised, and the membership has increased to 665. For the previous quadrennial term the offerings given by our young people amounted to £267, but again we are able to report a wonderful increase of £809. The total contributions for the four years ending 1929 were £1,076. There has also been an increase in the home missionary activities of our young people.

Book Department

Recognising that "the Lord gave the word and great was the company of them that published it," our faithful band of colporteurs, averaging 9 for the period under review, has been instrumental in the Lord's hands of securing orders for our truth-laden subscription books to the value of £13,762, an average of £3,441 per year, as compared with £3,225 per year for the previous period. In 1929 orders for £3,804 were secured, this being the second highest year in the history of the conference. (In actual fact it was a record year, as a report for £30 reached the office just a few days too late to be included in the annual report.) The retail price of trade books sold was £3,440; and periodicals, £2,115. The Profit and Loss statements reveal that in each of the four

years there has been a net gain in the running of the Book Department, as follows: 1926, £214; 1927, £157; 1928, £305; and 1929, £40. Our Book Department operating account now stands at £800 on the right side of the ledger.

Home Missions Department

One of the most important lines of missionary work engaged in by our people is the annual Appeal for Missions, which embraces both foreign and home missions. Many good experiences have been recorded by our members, and homes opened to workers as a result of these campaigns.

We are pleased to be able to report that during three out of the four years the goals suggested by the Union Conference Committee were exceeded. In 1926 we fell short by only £10. The total collected for the four years amounts to £5,231. Through the Big Week efforts £737 has been raised in book sales and offerings. Several of our churches, guided by our Conference Home Missions Secretary, did good work with *Life and Health*, especially during 1929, when over 200 annual subscriptions to this good magazine were secured. The entire profits were used to purchase tracts, and as the result over 15,000 tracts have been circulated. We are sorry to have to report that our present quota of *Signs of the Times* is barely one per member. A big drop in our circulation came as the result of the increase in price of this periodical.

Educational

Many are the blessings derived from the Australasian Missionary College, which we are indeed privileged to have in our midst, and we take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation of the valuable help given by the members of the college faculty and students in the taking of church services, the conducting of mission efforts by the homiletics class, and numerous other avenues in which our fine body of young people in training is so nobly assisting. If space would permit, much more might be said of the enthusiasm of the college members as they take up campaign work, such as, for instance, the Appeal for Missions, when over £400 was collected in one week. Two primary schools are in operation in this field, one at Avondale and the other at Quirindi. The total enrolment of these two schools is 111. Three teachers are engaged at the Avondale school, and one at Quirindi.

General

No less than seven camp-meetings have been held during the past four years,—one each at Waratah and Singleton, two at Lambton, and three at Lismore. At all of these gatherings there was a good attendance and a blessed spirit of love and unity among the worshippers. Our force

of evangelists has worked faithfully, and many letters have come in from lay members expressing most heartily their appreciation of the help received from our various workers. There is a growing interest of late years in the Northern Rivers districts, and we are glad to be able to station workers at various centres there.

Conclusion

I feel that I cannot close this report without stating that there is a fine spirit of love and unity among the workers and laity of this conference, and the help given by the executive committee is inestimable. It is to these factors that we attribute the measure of success that our mighty Helper has given to us. Most gratefully do we acknowledge the handiwork of Him who doeth all things well, and as a conference we press on with greater determination to finish His work, for soon the measure of the world's guilt will have reached its climax; then God will come quickly to cut His work short in righteousness.

P. G. FOSTER,
President.

VICTORIAN CONFERENCE

IN presenting this report of the work in Victoria for the past four years, we are led to express our thanksgiving to God for His care over His work and workers, and for His goodness to us as a people at all times. We quote from Psalm 79:13: "So we Thy people and sheep of Thy pasture will give Thee thanks forever: we will show forth Thy praise to all generations."

For some time previous to the last session Victoria and Tasmania were united, but by action of that meeting they were again separated, which action took effect at the end of 1926, and thus it is somewhat difficult to draw comparisons between the quadrennium just past and the one previous.

Membership

At the close of 1929 our membership was 1,530, only 14 more than at the close of 1925. This is very disappointing, in view of the fact that no less than 260 persons have been baptised during those four years. During that time death claimed 64, but this still leaves 196 to be accounted for. There are just two other avenues by which losses occur, namely, removal from the State and apostasy. There is no reason to think we have lost more by removal than we have gained, and so this latter number must be put down almost entirely to that process known as cleaning up of church rolls. We know a good deal of this has been done during the time, especially so during the last year; but we do not shut our eyes to the fact that most of this work is made necessary by people losing their interest in the message, and we feel that this matter must receive very earnest attention by this conference.

Staff

The staff of workers at the end of the term was made up of 9 ordained ministers, 7 licensed ministers, 12 holding missionary licenses, and 7 office workers. Doubtless many of the delegates will remember that owing to finances being low, steps were

taken at the last session to relieve this conference by reducing the number of workers. With this help the situation quickly righted itself. For the last two years or more we have been gradually getting back to the number carried previous to that reduction.

Finances

The study of these is certainly more encouraging, and shows a more healthy growth than those of our membership. Tithe for the four years amounts to £50,398, nearly £2,000 more than in the preceding term. The total amount for foreign missions, apart from the Appeal, is £28,725; adding the Ingathering amount of £12 150 brings the total up to £40,875. If we again add to these figures the amount raised for local church needs and educational work we have £41,748, which, when added to the tithe, brings the total to £92 146. When this is divided among the 1,500-odd members, it means that each one has donated over £15 per annum to the cause. Let us thank God because He enables us to do so much.

Tract Society

For part of the time covered by this report the work in the Book Department was much lower than usual, but we rejoice that during the past year it has more than recovered from the temporary setback. There have been, on an average, about 15 colporteurs in the field, and the total amount of business done for the period amounted to £13,306. (This is the wholesale value as from the Tract Society, not the retail value from the field.)

We are sorry to report, however, that in spite of careful handling and liberal treatment on the part of the conference, this department shows a loss on its running for the last five years of £1,764. But we feel that the placing of literature in the homes of the people is missionary work of the highest order, and that the constant scouring of the field by our team of colporteurs, as well as visiting the isolated members and helping in the meetings of the scattered companies, is something which helps to compensate for the financial loss sustained.

Home Missions and Missionary Volunteer Work

The work done through this department is partly reported under Finances, as a good deal of the energies of our people is now directed to the raising of means with which to carry on the work in the mission fields. We wish that space would permit the reporting of the many thousands of missionary visits paid, in addition to nearly 500,000 magazines and papers distributed, as well as a large volume of other work done by the members. The young people themselves raised £1,690 for foreign work, as well as £354 for home work and special purposes,—a total of £2,044.

We are glad to remember that although we cannot keep or present a full report of all the work, not one act done in the name of Christ is overlooked by Him, and we rejoice to know that so many of our members, especially of the young people, are finding satisfaction and enjoyment in the service of our Master.

Sabbath School

The continual and regular growth of this department makes it a pleasure to report on it. The number of schools increased from 50 to 54 during the period, and the membership, now standing at 2,466, shows a growth of 330 in the four years. The total offering for the period was £10 449, or £2,901 better than during the preceding quadrennium. The goal of "every church member in the Sabbath school" was reached by 38 schools; and the offering goal of one shilling per week per member was reached by 21 schools. Honour cards to the number of 6,775 for a perfect record in both daily study and attendance were distributed, and 1,238 bookmarks for a perfect yearly record from one to thirteen years. It is the constant endeavour of this department to see that every Sabbath-keeper enjoys the benefits of the Sabbath school, and we hope to see this goal fully attained.

Educational Work

We commenced the period with 4 church schools, and closed with 5, two of which are doing advanced work. The staff increased from 6 to 10, two members of which are juniors. The enrolment grew from 135 to 151, with a smaller number of non-Adventist children. The fact that out of 17 scholars who sat for their Merit Certificate at the end of last year 15 were successful, is sufficient to show that the work done in our schools is not behind that of the State in the ordinary branches of education. Because the Bible is given its proper place in the system and our children are continually under the influence of Christian teachers, our own schools are by far the best for the children of this denomination.

Conclusion

We close this report with a few words of our great appreciation of the spirit of co-operation and loyalty which we find among our members and workers generally. In the office we can truly say we are a happy family. Thanks are due also to the members of the different committees which have carried the responsibility of directing the work from year to year. We sincerely express our sympathy to those who have lost loved ones during the term, and our prayer is that we may all work unitedly to hasten that day when the work will be finished and our Lord appear. May we all be ready to meet Him.

G. G. STEWART,
President.

"WE must be mastered by a Person as well as by a purpose."

"WE are not simply a denomination; we constitute a movement."

"THE pursuit of truth is not to be confused with the possession of truth."

"TRUTH does not need to be protected; it needs to be presented."

"NEVER confuse contending for the faith with being contentious about the faith."

"IT is a definite advance for a driving doctrinarian to try to put Christ into every doctrine; but it is more wonderful to discover that the doctrines are all in Christ."

SIGNS PUBLISHING COMPANY

"OUR publishing work was established by the direction of God and under His special supervision. It was designed to accomplish a specific purpose. Seventh-day Adventists have been chosen by God as a peculiar people, separate from the world. . . . The greatest wealth of truth ever intrusted to mortals, the most solemn and fearful warnings ever sent by God to man, have been committed to them to be given to the world; and in the accomplishment of this work our publishing houses are among the most effective agencies."—"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VII, p. 138.

We are glad for the part which the publishing house has had during the past four years in helping forward the work of God throughout the Australasian Division. We believe that during this period it has again been demonstrated that our literature ministry is still one of "the most effective agencies" in the accomplishment of the work committed to the Advent people.

It is of interest to note that from the beginning of the book work in this field to the close of 1929, over seven hundred thousand large subscription books have been sent out by the publishing house.

We are told that "some who buy the books will lay them on the shelf or place them on the parlour table, and seldom look at them," but the servant of God adds, "Still God has a care for His truth, and the time will come when these books will be sought for and read." Doubtless a large number of the 700,000 books which have been sold by our faithful colporteurs still rest on the shelves practically unopened, but we know that these books will yet bring peace and hope to many troubled hearts before probation closes. Let us ever pray that the Lord will water the seed which has been sown through the years, that it may yield an abundant harvest in the kingdom of God.

Literature Sales

We regret that there has been a decrease in the volume of literature sent out by the publishing house during the four years, but we are glad to be able to state that the last year of the quadrennium showed quite a decided improvement, the total business done being about equal to the sales for the last year of the previous period.

The retail value of literature sold, not including periodicals, totals £114,790, compared with £142,448 for the previous four years,—a decrease of £27,658, or a little more than 19 per cent. Our small books known as "helps" show an increase of £3,013, and trade book sales have increased from £12,725 to £18,424, representing a gain of £5,699, or almost 45 per cent. The decrease in total sales is due to a big falling off in the subscription book business. The retail value of subscription books sold totals £80,260, compared with £116,641 for the parallel period,—1922 to 1925,—showing a reduction of £36,381, or a little more than 31 per cent. Medical book sales dropped from £58,271 to £54,284, showing a decrease of £3,987. Religious book sales for the last four years totalled £25,976, compared with £58,370 for the previous period, the decrease amounting to £32,394,—a little in excess of 55 per cent.

A more accurate comparison of sales can be made by dealing with the number of books sold instead of the retail value, as values are affected by changes in the selling prices.

The following statement shows the trend of subscription book sales year by year during the last two quadrennial periods:

Number of Subscription Books Sold

1922	32,372	1926	16,097
1923	19,851	1927	15,321
1924	22,873	1928	14,063
1925	20,943	1929	16,841

Four yrs.' total 96,039 Four yrs.' total 62,322

The decrease in the number of books sold is 33,717 when compared with the previous four-year period.

It will be noted that the number of books sold for the last year of the last quadrennial period is just a little more than half the number sold during the first year of the previous period. It should, however, be kept in mind that the year 1922 was the peak year in our subscription book business. The average number sold annually for the previous four years—1918 to 1921—was 25,559. Our subscription book sales climbed steadily from just over 20,000 books in 1912 till the 32,000 mark was passed in 1922. Since 1922 there has been a decline, the lowest point being reached in 1928, when the sales just passed the 14,000 mark. We were much encouraged by the good increase of 2,778 in the number of books sold during the last year, 1929.

Religious and medical book sales for the past eight years are as follows:

Religious Books Sold

1922	18,550	1926	6,884
1923	11,749	1927	6,261
1924	12,747	1928	4,874
1925	9,133	1929	5,664

Four yrs.' total 52,179 Four yrs.' total 23,683

Medical Books Sold

1922	13,822	1926	9,213
1923	8,102	1927	9,060
1924	10,126	1928	9,189
1925	11,810	1929	11,177

Four yrs.' total 43,860 Four yrs.' total 38,639

It will be noticed that religious books show a decrease of 28,496 and that medical book sales are less by 5,221.

It is interesting to note that the relation of subscription books sold during the past four years to orders taken by colporteurs during the same period is 70 per cent. The relation of subscription books produced to sales during the quadrennium is just a little under 96 per cent. Production has been watched carefully in order to avoid the financial and other problems which come with over production.

The number of helps sold total 161,408, compared with 114,459 for the parallel period of 1922-1925, showing a splendid increase of 46,949 books. While more of our small books have been sold in connection with Big Week efforts during the past four years, yet the good increase is mainly due to increased sales by colporteurs. We much appreciate the good work which has been done with these small books by our colporteurs and church members. During the last two or three years we have given special attention to the covers of the small books

produced for our colporteurs and for Big Week efforts, all such books now being brought out in attractive three-colour covers. These covers have been appreciated, and the improvement in sales is doubtless due to some extent to the more attractive form in which these publications are now prepared.

Financial

We have greatly appreciated the effort made by the Health Food Department to place with us as much of their printing requirements as possible, instead of having the work done by outside houses. This has frequently tided us over a difficult period when work has been needed to keep machines in operation.

The downward trend of the subscription book business has brought financial problems to the publishing house, due to the fact that it has been necessary to spread overhead charges over a much smaller volume of business, thus increasing costs of production and reducing profits. A careful watch has been kept on all expenditure with a view to reducing costs wherever possible, and efforts have been made to increase the production of machines and workers by improving facilities and methods, it being recognised that this is one of the most effective ways of decreasing production costs. We have much appreciated the help of a loyal and willing staff as we have endeavoured to solve the problems which reduced business has brought to us. It has been necessary to reduce our staff considerably, but as far as possible this has been done only as other avenues of employment have opened up, thus avoiding hardship to the workers concerned. That there has been quite a decrease in our staff is evident by a comparison of the wages paid during the first and the last years of the quadrennial period, the latter showing a reduction of over £2,000.

During the greater part of the four years the whole of our operating expenditure has been controlled by budget, a plan which has been found of great value. The careful study of the various items of expense required for the budgeting of expenditure on a proper basis is in itself of decided help in the control of expenditure, as it gives a view of the business not usually obtained in any other way. Since we introduced budgetary control the total expenditure has not at any time exceeded the amount provided in the budget.

Recognising the influence of environment on the quality of work produced, an effort has been made to improve the appearance of the outside surroundings of the factory, as well as to make provision for better arrangements for the work inside by providing more floor space, thus relieving congestion which has existed and enabling more expeditious handling of the work in the various departments.

"Signs of the Times"

As it became necessary to reduce expenses wherever possible in view of the falling off in business, consideration was naturally given to the heavy loss of over £1,200 per year on the production of our weekly paper, the *Signs of the Times*. After careful consideration by the Publishing House Board and the Union Conference Committee, it was decided that from November 1, 1927, the price of the paper should be increased to 2d. on the understanding that the price to Tract Societies should be 1½d and to church members 1½d. per copy. While the retail price was increased by 1d. per copy, yet of this amount only one-third of a penny came to the pub-

lishing house. This was, however, sufficient to entirely wipe out the heavy loss being incurred in the production of the *Signs*, so that during last year instead of a loss there was a profit of £47, or almost £1 per week.

While we know all will rejoice in the wiping out of the heavy loss on our weekly journal, yet there will be regret that the circulation has steadily declined since the price was increased. When the change was made the weekly circulation was almost 20,000 copies. It now stands at just a little above 11,000 copies. Because of the continued decline in the circulation, the *Signs* is again being produced at a loss, which, although now comparatively small, will steadily increase unless something can be done to stop the downward trend and to gradually build up the circulation. We believe the right thing was done in increasing the price, thus wiping out the heavy loss being incurred each year, and we are confident that with the co-operation of leaders, workers, and lay members it will be possible to again build up the circulation so that the *Signs* can be produced without loss, and at the same time more souls will be won; for it is generally recognised that the slogan "*More Signs More Souls*" is still as true as ever.

The decreased business done by the publishing house during the last four years has, as would be expected, greatly reduced the profits earned by the institution. We are glad, however, that some profit has been made, although the amount is quite small compared with the amount earned during the previous four years. The profit for the latter period amounts to £2,611 compared with £10,529 for the former period. It is of interest to note that of the profit of £2,611 for the past four years, over £2,000 was earned during the last year, 1929. This indicates what improvement can be expected in the earnings of the institution as business increases and production costs are improved.

Reduction of Liabilities

Perhaps the most pleasing feature of our report is the big reduction which has taken place in our liabilities during the four-year period. At the beginning of the last quadrennium the liabilities stood at £32,365, compared with £5,310 at the close of the period, showing a reduction of £27,055.

During the last four years the Health Food Department has contributed from its own funds the large amount of £19,326 towards the liquidation of loans held by the publishing house. This large sum of money could well have been used in the interests of the Health Food work, but we know that the Lord will bring even greater prosperity to that department because of the liberal spirit which has been manifested towards the publishing work, for we read of all our institutions that "their success will increase in proportion as they exercise disinterested liberality" towards other institutions in greater need.

We have also to express appreciation of liberal gifts of \$2,500 each, received from two of our sister institutions, the Review and Herald Publishing Association and Pacific Press Publishing Association, both amounts being given for the reduction of our indebtedness. In sterling these gifts represent £1,076, making a total of £20,352 received from other institutions for the reduction of our interest-bearing loans which amounted to £22,035,

the balance of £1,683 having been met from our own funds.

We thank the Lord for the wonderful way in which our heavy indebtedness has been lifted within the short space of four years.

Future Prospects

While we are unable to report an increase in the business done by the publishing house during the quadrennium, yet it is possible to gain encouragement from the figures given covering the sales for the past eight years, for although they show a downward tendency till almost the end of the period, yet it does seem that the lowest point has now been reached so that we can look forward to a gradual improvement in the demand for our literature, and a steady upward movement towards the 32,000 mark for the subscription book sales previously reached just eight years ago.

We believe that the leaders of the work throughout the field recognise that one of the best ways of building up the church membership is to have a strong band of colporteur evangelists at work throughout the year.

The Secretary of the Publishing Department of the General Conference, in his report presented at the recent session of the General Conference, stated that "it is more and more evident that one of the best paying investments a conference can make is to support a strong colporteur work in its territory."

The president of one of the South American conferences has borne the following testimony as to the value he places on the work being done by our faithful colporteurs:

"I believe that when we reach the kingdom of God, we shall find that from 80 to 90 per cent of those who accepted the truth in the time of the end and were saved, will be there because of the literature ministry. There is no other department that wins as many souls as the Publishing Department."

We realise that the success of the work in the field depends to a large extent upon the spirit of service and consecration revealed in the lives of those who prepare the literature at the publishing house. We sense the great responsibility which thus rests upon us, and we look to the Lord for the help which we need, that there may be nothing in our lives which would hinder His blessing on this important branch of His work. We have much appreciated the hearty co-operation of our staff in the conduct of the work during the past four years, and we are happy to state that we believe that there is a determination on the part of the publishing house workers that their lives shall be in harmony with the principles of the Advent message in order that the Lord may be able to use them fully in His service.

In closing this report we would also express our appreciation of the hearty co-operation received from conference officials and our faithful band of colporteurs. The counsel of the brethren has brought help and encouragement as we have faced the problems which have arisen.

We look forward to the future with hope and confidence in God, and pray that His richest blessing will continue to rest upon the work of the "literature ministry" throughout the Australasian Division.

W. O. JOHANSON,
Manager.

COOK ISLANDS MISSION

To the members of the Australasian Union Conference assembled in council, the believers in the Cook Island mission field send greetings.

The inhabited islands comprising the Cook Group number eleven, with a total population of approximately 7,000. Our work was established on the principal island of the group, Rarotonga, thirty-eight years ago. Now there are churches and companies on eight of the islands, with an isolated Sabbath-keeper on one other, and a total membership of ninety-three. Our Sabbath schools number nine, with a membership of 255. In seven of the companies Missionary Volunteer meetings are held, and any who are interested enough to attend are counted as members, regardless of age, otherwise there would not be sufficient to conduct the meetings. During the quadrennial period there have been twenty-six baptised, but a number have "fallen asleep," thus making the net gain small. There are others awaiting baptism on some of the outer islands, but there seems little prospect of visiting them for some time to come.

Interisland communication is poor, and the stops short at each port, therefore it is difficult to do efficient visiting among the islands. However, all companies have been visited, with the exception of those at Buka Buka and Palmerston. With the former there is now no local communication at all, the trading interests having been acquired by a firm operating from Samoa, so it would mean a trip via New Zealand and Samoa in



The Rarotonga Church

order to visit there. They have not had a visit from any of us for about ten years. Palmerston Island has a schooner calling there once and occasionally twice a year for very brief visits, so it has not been possible to arrange a trip to this island that would allow sufficient time to examine those who are preparing for baptism, give necessary instruction, and administer the rite. If it could be arranged for one of our own vessels to visit these islands, so that some days could be spent at each, giving long enough to do the necessary work, it would be of great assistance to this mission.

Another need here is the efficient training of native help. So far the field has failed to train its own native workers, not for the lack of suitable young people, but through having no facilities. Given reasonable facilities, or access to a suitable training school, there is no reason why a strong corps of native helpers should not soon be available to take the lead in the outlying islands.

We are thankful to God for His continued presence with us. We praise Him for what has been done for the advancement of His kingdom in this field, and ascribe to Him alone the glory, while deploring our inefficiency.

We thank you for your liberal support of the work here in the past, and promise to use in the most economical and efficient way we know, that which you see fit to allow for the administration of this field.

H. B. P. WICKS,
Superintendent.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT

THE real strength of this movement is wrapped up in our children and young people. That these youth are passing through a grave crisis every one knows. This fact should profoundly impress us, and should render it imperative that there be brought to bear upon their lives every available influence that would tend to promote their physical, intellectual, and spiritual welfare.

This vitally important work of safeguarding and training the children and youth through their every successive stage of development, from their birth to maturity, is the ultimate goal of the Missionary Volunteer movement. This task of being architects and builders of the church of to-morrow is surely the greatest task in the world. Every one will admit that for one department to successfully carry such a programme is an absolute impossibility; it calls for the unfeigned interest of every other department of our work, of every Union and local conference worker, and of every church officer and church member. All these forces must be mobilised to do their part in saving our children and youth from sin, in holding them to the church, and in guiding them in service, if we would secure anything approaching the results which it is imperative must be achieved if our denomination is to make any real progress. It is only by saving her young that the church herself can be saved.

In spite of human frailties and all the shortcomings of leadership, the Lord is blessing the work of the Missionary Volunteer Department. It can be said without fear of exaggeration that the work of God has been greatly benefited, and that many hundreds of children and young people have been saved to the cause, and have been helped and ennobled through the endeavours of the M. V. organisation. It is really impossible to place on record by figures the highest achievements of the department, for statistics do not voice the real strong things of any religious movement. However, figures do teach lessons, and so to help us form some estimate of the results of the efforts put forth, we would draw attention to some statistics which show that there has been very satisfactory and most encouraging progress made during the period under review.

The figures for our young people's work in the mission field alone show phenomenal growth, as the following figures indicate:

	1922-25	1926-29	Increases
Missionary Visits	1,132	22,476	21,344
Bible Readings	1,025	33,978	32,953
Hrs. C. H. Work	1,066	52,385	51,319
Periodicals Sold			
and Given	1,843	23,458	21,615
Tracts Distributed	192	6,815	6,623
Letters Written	384	10,042	9,758

We thank our Heavenly Father for the advancement that has resulted from the varied activities of the movement.

Membership

At the close of 1929 there were throughout the Division 265 societies, with a membership of 7,427. During the four years under review just three short of 100 new societies were organised, and 3,162 new members added. This growth in membership represents an increase of almost 74 per cent

on the membership at the close of the previous period. And during this time just forty-two short of a thousand of our Missionary Volunteers have stepped up, by baptism, from preparatory membership in the movement to true membership.

The growth in reporting membership has not been so satisfactory. However, over 51 per cent of our Missionary Volunteers are workers—doing service for the Master each week. The last young people's world report available indicates that the Australasian Division, in the item "percentage of reporting members" now stands third on the list, which is a far better showing than that of four years ago.

Activities

Hundreds of our young people find their first entrance into the field of missionary service through the activities of the Missionary Volunteer Department. It is remarkable the volume of missionary work that our youth do during a quadrennial period. For the period under review they distributed 1,684,297 pieces of literature, which is an increase of more than 100,000 over the previous period. In other words, this increase means that 18 more papers were circulated every day during the last four years than during the previous term.

The number of Bible studies given totals 54,827. Seventy-six years would have to elapse before a Bible worker, giving two Bible studies every day, could report this number of studies. With but one exception, every item of missionary work shows growth when compared with the figures for the 1922-25 period. In one item there is an increase of 240 per cent, in another 125 per cent, and in a number of others over 60 per cent,—the average percentage increase working out at 70.

The following are the figures in detail for the main items:

	1922-25	1926-29	Increases	Decrease
Missionary Visits	174,597	204,143	30,546	
Bible Reading	16,390	54,827	38,437	
Hours C. H. Work	272,259	365,423	96,164	
Periodicals Sold	377,911	347,788		30,123
Periodicals Given	817,350	838,377	21,027	
Tracts Distributed	359,752	443,427	83,675	
Books Sold	8,047	18,696	10,649	
Books Given	21,117	36,009	14,892	
Letters Written	35,099	58,589	23,490	

Offerings

The Australasian young people give in offerings more in proportion than any other Division of the General Conference. This is a record of which we believe we can justly be proud. Last year our Missionary Volunteers made the large gift to missions of over £2 084, which is a record, only having been exceeded once before in the history of our Missionary Volunteer work. Our young people of the Cook Islands, Tonga, and Monamona shared in the raising of this amount. In connection with the young people's offerings, special mention should be made of the splendid efforts put forth in the raising of money for missions by the "sewing circles" operating in three or four of the conferences. The Victorian circle's efforts especially have met with success, for during the last four years it has made a profit of over £825.

The offering figures for the two quadrennial periods are as follows:

1922	£1,490	1926	£1,748
1923	1,506	1927	1,923
1924	1,744	1928	1,945
1925	1,816	1929	2,114
	£6,556		£7,730

Devotional

We have endeavoured in all our activities ever to keep to the front our great objective, that of saving the youth from sin and guiding them in service. And as we have done this, we have been led to realise as never before that availing results can only be secured in our efforts for the young people through personal, heart-to-heart work. So your secretaries are earnestly endeavouring to increase their capacity for personal soul-winning, and results are already being seen in a deeper experience being manifested on the part of many young people who were finding the way lonely and difficult.

With the thought in mind that the work for the youth must be deeply spiritual, we have put forth special efforts to lead the young people to become observers of the Morning Watch. The Lord has blessed these endeavours, for to-day there are almost 600 more of our Missionary Volunteers reporting as Morning Watch observers than at the close of the previous quadrennial period. The circulation of the Morning Watch Calendar has increased from 10,222 in 1925 to 18,871 in 1929. This growth is due in a large degree to the introduction of the plan of using the calendar during the Big Week campaign. It has been found that the calendar has a very ready sale to the public, and is greatly appreciated by many folk not of our faith.

Another activity of the Missionary Volunteer Department that we believe is deepening the spiritual life of many of our young people is the quarterly doctrinal text feature. This is a feature peculiar to

Australasia; no other Division of the General Conference has introduced this special plan for memorising Scripture. Many hundreds of our young people learn their doctrinal texts week by week and take the examination at the end of the quarter. During the last four years 26,218 quarterly certificates have been issued, which is an average of 6,554 for each year. Many of these certificates were merited by our young people at Monamona, and in a number of our different island fields. Almost all the members of the Monamona M. V. Society memorise the texts each quarter and take the examination. In the Solomon Islands as many as 380 have taken the quarterly examination, a large percentage of them always gaining the full 100 marks.

Educational

For a year or two prior to 1925 the M. V. Reading Course feature was lagging in our Division, but during the past six years it



has been given more attention, with the result that it is now one of our strongest points. Progress is being made every year, last year being a record one for this feature. The number of certificates issued during 1929 was only 48 less than the total number issued during the four-year period 1922-25. In one conference as many as 152 certificates were merited, which means that one out of every four of the conference M.V. membership received a certificate.

The standard of Attainment Course has received special attention since 1927. At the present time Standard of Attainment classes are functioning in every conference. The approximate enrolment at December 31 of last year was 500. One president, in speaking of the Standard of Attainment work in his conference, said that it had done more for the young people than any other effort put forth by the Conference M. V. Secretary had ever done in deepening the Christian experience of the young people, in establishing their confidence in the message, and in helping them to do more effective missionary work.

Junior Work

It is only during the last two years that we have specially stressed what we term as the "boy scout" phase of the M.V. movement. These special plans for our junior boys and girls are being successfully worked in three or four conferences. So much so, that already more than 80 of the young folk have merited their first insignia and are now entitled to be called "Friend." We find that the progressive membership in these plans has a strong appeal for the boys and girls, and that the study of such things as nature, first aid, and knot-tying, and the inclusion of practical home duties as an essential part of the Christian life and effort are helpful factors in the development of a wholesome religious experience. If I were asked to name the most effective part of the Missionary Volunteer machinery, the part that under God presents boundless opportunities for soul-winning and for the up-building of the church, I would name the junior plans. They help us very materially to get close to our boys and girls, and sympathetically and understandingly direct their activities towards the highest ideals. We are confident that the majority of those who come under the influence of these plans, when they come to the crisis age of fifteen or sixteen will not pass out of the church, or away from its influences, but will intrust the custody of their lives forever to Christ. The time is fully ripe for a far greater and a far more effective work to be done than has yet been done by all the church for the boys and the girls in our ranks.

The Home Commission

Some of our secretaries have expended some time and energy in the promotion of plans for the strengthening of the home life by promoting the work of the Home Commission. There are two main reasons why we believe that such efforts are worth while. First, because the training of the children is dreadfully defective, owing to parents being devoid of that knowledge by which the training can rightfully be guided.

Second, because the child's character cannot be developed to its highest and divinest expression without the intelligent and heartiest co-operation of the parents. No work among the young can long prosper

without the backing of the home. The testimonies which reach us from time to time from the Mothers' Societies that have been organised, reveal to us that our ministry for the parents has resulted in making many homes happier, and in helping to make the family what God meant it to be, namely, His first and mightiest means of grace for the maintenance of His kingdom among His people.

We are very desirous that the efficiency of the M.V. Department shall be greatly increased, and to this end we would request the prayers and co-operation of all, and would welcome any suggestions that any member has to offer us. We thank God for past attainment and we press on, earnestly praying that the Father's love will so fill our hearts that we shall be able to rightly shepherd the lambs of His flock, our most precious heritage.

N. H. FAULKNER,
Secretary.

MONAMONA MISSION, NORTH QUEENSLAND

WHEN opening mission work at Monamona for the aborigines, Pastor P. B. Rudge and the writer found them camped on the outskirts of the towns, and they were in a much worse condition than raw heathen, for they had learned very little good from the white man, but much that is evil. Almost all of them were morphia addicts. We were assisted by police in gathering them up and bringing them onto the mission station, and these officers usually take the easier way to do their work. One contingent was brought to the mission under the following conditions:

It was show day in the town, and the aborigines were told to muster in strong forces at the show because the doctor wished to see them, as some of them had been sick. With a desire to see the show and the hope of receiving benefit from the doctor, they came in fairly good numbers. But, alas, they saw little of the show and less of the doctor, for they were rounded up and sent to Monamona by the next train, in charge of two policemen. You may imagine how they felt about such treatment. They acted as if they thought the mission was some new form of tyranny and the missionaries were to be their new masters; and with this kind of removal, and feeling the awful craving for morphia, it can be imagined what a trial we had to keep them on the mission. It was one thing to tell them we were their friends, and quite another to get them to believe that we were.

One woman who came to the mission with a baby a few weeks old, was a morphia addict with the craving so strong that she left her baby behind and tried to make her escape. However, I followed her and overtook her eight miles away, and brought her back. With our help she overcame the drug habit and became a good woman. She died a few weeks ago, but we have five of her children on the mission, growing up to be good young people.

You may ask, Was it easy for them to get morphia? Yes; very easy for them to get it from the Chinese. The Chinese value the iguana gall for medicine, and in exchange for one iguana gall the natives

could get enough morphia to last them several weeks. Should a native walk away from the mission and go to the town, he could easily catch one or two iguanas. So it can be seen the great trial we had with these morphia addicts in the beginning of our work here. But we are happy to say that we have no morphia addicts on the mission now.

When the natives came to the mission they knew no God and had no form of worship. They believed in spirits, especially in one spirit that they called devil-devil; they feared these spirits very much and did many strange things to drive them away. They also believed in the spirits of their friends, and thought they would come back and do them harm if they did not guard their doors and windows. If their baby was sick, they would get a broken glass bottle and cut their own head until it was matted with blood, and would say it was to make baby better.

We were told by many men who had had experience with them that it was impossible to teach them to understand the plan of salvation. In the early days of our work here we had a man come to the mission who seemed to like it well for a short time; then he came to me and asked if I could get him work outside. I secured him work for food and ten shillings a week, and he was well satisfied with this for a time; but one day I met him all smiles, and he said, "I got a better job, I get thirty shillings a month. Ten shillings a week is no good to me when I can get thirty shillings a month." The foregoing description is the condition they were in. It is the pit from which they were digged.

We now have a different people on our mission. It is wonderful what God has done. The old people that were slaves to morphia, tobacco, and drink have not made the marked improvement that their children have, and yet they are very different from what they were. The young people have made wonderful improvement, and we have a fine company of them here. We have a young people's society of 102 members. This will compare favourably with any of our societies in our churches in the southern conferences, in the matter of the young people's programmes, the Morning Watch, the doctrinal study, the singing, and taking part in the meetings. Our day school has played an excellent part in their development. This enables them to read and study the Bible for themselves. Most of these young people are striving to serve the Master. Many of the younger ones are not baptised yet, but almost all are planning that way, and hoping some day to become members of our church. And what is more, they are hoping some day to see their Saviour and walk with Him through the pearly gates into the city. We have several married couples that are real earnest Christians with a strong desire to be missionaries, who are hoping to find a place somewhere in the great harvest field at this Union Conference session. It would be a wonderful incentive to the rest should they find a field of labour. I feel confident they would be capable of doing good work under white supervision.

Sister Branford and I have charge of the girls' dormitory. We have forty-three bright girls to care for. They tear their clothes and do many things for which we have to reprove them, just as other girls do,

but we have learned to love them and they have learned to look to us for counsel, and there is nothing that will give us more joy when Jesus comes than to take these dear girls into the kingdom with us. Brother and Sister Borgas have charge of the boys' dormitory, and we have a fine lot of boys growing up.

When we look back over the past years and remember what these people were at the beginning of our work here, and then see them at the present time, intelligent young people, capable of understanding the gospel, loving and serving their Saviour, anxious to become missionaries to their own people, we can only say, What a wonderful transformation God has wrought in them! The statement that many people have made that the Australian aboriginals cannot be taught to understand the plan of salvation and accept Jesus as their Saviour, has been disproved at Monamona.

There are many hundreds of these people in Western Australia that need the good message that we teach. The Government would help us by giving us the land and assisting us financially. The door is open wide. What shall we do?

J. L. BRANFORD,
Chaplain.

SOUTH NEW SOUTH WALES CONFERENCE

In presenting the report of the South N.S.W. Conference for the quadrennial period ended December 31, 1929, we desire first of all to acknowledge the goodness of God, as manifested in the care that has been over us and the progress that has attended the work. "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name give glory, for Thy mercy, and for Thy truth's sake."

Membership and Churches

At December 31, 1929, we had in the South N.S.W. Conference a constituency of 1,944 members, an increase of 367, or 23.27 per cent for the period. The baptisms reached a total of 430, the total for the previous quadrennial period being 280, an increase of 142. We have 32 organised churches and 2 companies.

Workers

While we have issued credentials to 12 ministers in the field, not all are active; but with 12 licensed ministers, 14 missionary licentiates, and 10 office workers, we had a pay roll of 45 workers at December 31, 1929.

Finance

During the four years under review we received an income of tithe amounting to £51,141, an increase of £6,707 compared with the previous four years. This increase is very satisfactory. Our offerings to foreign missions, exclusive of the Appeal for Missions, were as follows:

Year	Foreign Miss. Offerings	Camp Pledges	Annual Offering
1926	£508	£412	£416
1927	347	675	665
1928	352	701	566
1929	571	748	589

The grand totals of tithe, offerings, and Appeal funds for each year of the quadrennial period are as follows:

Year	Tithe	Miss on Offerings	Appeal	Totals
1926	£13,107	£4,863	£2,581	£20,551
1927	15,807	5,651	2,624	24,082
1928	15,358	5,623	2,685	23,666
1929	16,869	6,028	2,987	25,884

The total increase over the previous quadrennial period amounts to £23,630. The present worth of the conference at December 31, 1929, stood at £8,366, an increase of £1,433 for the four years.

Home Missions

During the quadrennial period our churches have enthusiastically accepted the responsibilities and privileges of the special annual efforts, and not only have the financial objectives of each one been reached, but much has also been accomplished in the spiritual life of the church.

The general phases of missionary endeavour have been executed with an earnest activity, which has produced in some instances over 100 per cent increase, and has also resulted in a number of people accepting the message.

Many excellent opportunities for service have been furnished by the Appeal campaigns, and each year some souls have accepted the truth as a result of the faithful follow-up work conducted by various church members. The following comparative partial report presents briefly some of the work that has been undertaken:

Years	Visits	Bible Readings	Papers	Tracts	Books	Total Items
1922-25	45,962	5,103	298,887	55,078	6,667	411,697
1926-29	66,019	6,542	499,095	120,974	13,873	706,503
Increase	20,057	1,439	200,208	65,896	7,206	294,806

Years	Appeal	Big Week	Hospitals	Totals
1922-25	£10,110	£651		£10,761
1926-29	10,877	1,167	£1,505	13,748
Increase	767	516	1,505	2,987

Missionary Volunteer Department

The young people of our conference are organised into 30 societies, with a membership of 939. The offerings for the four years amounted to £1,528, as compared with £1,272 for the previous term. Many of our young people are keenly interested in the doctrinal texts, a number are enjoying the Reading Course books, while some are doing excellent work on the Standard of Attainment. The missionary endeavours of our youth and children cannot be adequately described by figures, nevertheless the following report is encouraging:

Years	Visits	Bible Readings	Papers	Tracts	Books	Totals
1922-25	48,344	3,317	248,228	80,024	5,247	465,814
1926-29	38,220	4,119	258,387	105,570	10,424	496,137
Increase		802	10,159	25,546	5,177	24,323

Year	Foreign Miss. Offerings	Camp Pledges	Annual Offering	Big Week	Sabbath School	M. V. Offerings	Totals
1926	£508	£412	£416	£181	£3,017	£329	£4,863
1927	347	675	665	190	3,383	391	5,651
1928	352	701	566	161	3,438	405	5,623
1929	571	748	589	148	3,569	403	6,028

Tract Society

Our Tract Society has made splendid progress during the period under review. Much of this success has been due to the untiring efforts of the secretary, Brother W. S. Renn. The following comparative statement shows the yearly gain or loss during the last two quadrenniums:

1922	-	Gain	-	£417
1923	-	Loss	-	75
1924	-	Gain	-	96
1925	-	Loss	-	173
1926	-	Loss	-	£ 60
1927	-	Gain	-	181
1928	-	Gain	-	230
1929	-	Gain	-	390

The profit on the operations over the whole period amounts to £741, compared with £265 for the previous four years.

The following comparisons of the work done by our colporteurs are interesting:—

Year	Orders	Value	Year	Orders	Value
1922	6,200	£8,138	1926	3,657	£4,629
1923	5,783	7,019	1927	3,774	4,904
1924	6,458	8,330	1928	4,059	5,971
1925	3,560	4,667	1929	4,231	7,055
Totals	22,001	£28,154	15,721		£22,559

We need to remember the work of the faithful colporteur. "While the world applauds success, God honours faithfulness."

Education Department

We are conducting five church schools, employing nine teachers, with an average attendance of 198 pupils. A super-primary

school is being conducted at North Sydney in addition to the primary school. "The fairest flower in the garden of creation is a young mind offering and unfolding itself to the influence of divine wisdom as the heliotrope turns its sweet blossoms to the sun."

Sabbath School Department

There are 48 Sabbath schools in this conference, with a membership of 2,309. Five report reaching the goal of "every church member in the Sabbath school," and nine the offering goal. During the

past four years these schools have contributed to missions £13,407. This is a splendid achievement, and shows that the members of our Sabbath schools believe that "generosity is the tree from which we pluck the coupons of happiness."

Religious Liberty Department

This department stands as a silent watch dog to resist any encroachment of our liberty. We always need to remember that "the sun which shines on liberty rose in blood."

Conclusion

We feel thankful to God for His great mercy and forbearance. "We must be alert, and with clear vision and steady hand endeavour to follow the divine pattern, as with the swiftly-flying shuttle of human activity we weave these varicoloured strands into the fabric of to-day to become the finished garment of our yesterdays."

"O kindle in our souls a burning flame,
To work the highest service in Thy name;
That we, through all the years that are to be,
May ever dedicate ourselves to Thee."

W. J. WESTERMAN,
President.

EASTERN POLYNESIAN MISSION

THIS mission comprises the following groups of islands: The Society Group, consisting of eight islands, including Tahiti with its seat of government and sea port Papeete, having a total population of 20,000; the Marquesas Archipelago to the north-east, consisting of eight islands, with a population of 3,500; the Paumotu Archipelago, comprising about eighty atolls or coral islands, stretching across the ocean in a south-east direction for a distance of about nine hundred miles, only half of these wonders of the Pacific being inhabited, and the total population not exceeding 4,000. Lastly, to the south of this mission field in latitude 20, is the Austral Group of four islands with a small population of 2,000. So the total population in all these island groups, covering a space of about 1,000 miles east and west, is under 30,000. The French have held occupation of all these groups since 1880.

The main industry of them all is copra, a product of the coconut. This is gathered up from the many little islands and brought to Papeete, where it is shipped away, some by direct boat to France, and the rest to U.S.A. Mother-of-pearl is also exported.

The Society Islands are mountainous, and the scenery very beautiful. The temperature, generally speaking, about Tahiti varies a little between 75 and 85 degrees, but for it to rise to the 100 mark is very exceptional. The island of Tahiti with its beautiful scenery, even climate, cool nights, and being non-malarial, stands unrivalled among the South Sea Islands, and is more entitled perhaps to the name "Paradise of the Pacific" than others. The native people are called Tahitians, and belong to the same stock as the Maories of New Zealand, the language differing only in dialect. They are rapidly falling before the more hardy foreigner, who gradually is taking their lands and destroying their lives with strong drink.

The Chinese number about 7,000, and are rapidly on the increase since Chinese women are allowed by the government to enter the islands without hindrance. There are about 600 French people and a few American and English tourists scattered about. These comprise the different races resident out there.

The London Missionary Society sent its first evangelists to these groups in 1797, and in 1812 King Pomare accepted Christianity, which was the beginning of Christian missions and the renouncement of heathenism. Since 1845 the Mormons have established their religion in the Paumotu Group, and with the exception of a few Catholics have maintained a strong hold in this archipelago up to the present time.

Idolatry is a thing of the past, and human sacrifices are no more; but the onward rush of modern paganism and drink presents a far greater foe than the ancient enemy. "Fullness of bread and abundance of idleness," with gross indulgence of appetite and passion; steeped in the satisfaction of a formal religion, with no ambition for higher attainments, expresses not too strongly the present condition of the South Sea Islands of the eastern groups.

In 1890 the Seventh-day Adventist mission ship *Pitcairn* sailed for the first time among the different islands of the South Sea. Pastor Reid was left off by the schooner a year later at Tahiti, resulting in the conversion of Paul Dean, a native minister. He and about fifty of his congregation joined this faith. Some of the grown-up children of these first converts are still with us, and remain faithful, but the old people have all passed away. Other missionaries who followed were Pastors B. J. Cady, G. L. Sterling, F. E. Lyndon, and H. A. Hill, and later on Brethren H. S. Cozens, W. R. Howse, and A. E. Liston. At the present time Pastor G. L. Sterling is the only one European missionary to carry forward the work.

These groups of the more eastern Pacific are more favoured by Providence than the groups towards the west, from the standpoint of food and climate. The main islands of the Society Group are abundantly supplied with all kinds of native food; and should a shortage occur from a cyclonic visitation, the valleys inland have a large reserve of the mountain plantain called *fei*, which affords a nourishing and agreeable food for young and old.

With pleasant climate, and food in easy reach of most of the inhabitants, it can readily be understood that the gospel of God's grace is not so much in demand as it is in other countries less favoured with the food supply.

Although the conditions for a spiritual growth are not so favourable in these groups, the work of the third angel's message has been growing steadily among the natives, resulting in converted men, women, and young people, for the kingdom of God. We are proud of our native people in the eastern groups who have sacrificed for the cause, and who in face of ridicule and opposition have stood firmly for the message for this time, and who are supporting the cause they love with their tithes and offerings. Diseases in the form of venereal, leprosy, tuberculosis, and elephantiasis are eating up the native race at a marvellous rate, so that old people are hard to find at the present time. Weakened by disease, tuberculosis comes in to the close and finishes the tragedy.

Numbers from the various near-by is-



Believers in Huahine, Society Islands

lands visit our mission in the hope of obtaining medicine for their diseases. The situation is very pathetic. Having experimented on ourselves with boiled lime-juice with good results, we have prescribed the same to the stricken natives. The results have surprised us. Many have returned after a few weeks with regained health and happy faces. Up to the time of our leaving they were continuing to come to the mission. I will refer in particular to an old Mormon sea captain of over sixty years of age who was nearly dead with tuberculosis; bed-ridden, he had sores on his back from long time lying. Another severe trouble arising with intense pain and suffering, his wife came to the mission for assistance. It was discovered that his pain was due to bladder trouble. After the drinking of five glasses of hot lime juice, and applying a hot water bag over his bladder, the stones which were causing all the pain passed out, and he, needless to say, was instantly relieved. With continual drinking of the lime juice for several weeks and paying attention to his diet, he rapidly improved from tuberculosis, put on flesh, and became a well man. This man and his wife have been sounding the praise of our mission ever since, and his wife has brought dozens to Mrs. Lyndon for treatment for tubercular and other complaints. Most of the people who come are Mormons from the Paumotu Group. The Lord by these means is giving us

favour among the Mormon people, who are more difficult than Catholics to reach with this message.

During 1928 and 1929 we made special evangelistic efforts in various villages of Tahiti which had not been worked for fifteen years, except by the colporteur. Taking with us from Papeete some of our native young people to help in the singing and playing, we conducted two efforts a week, and sometimes three, at a distance of from thirty to forty-five miles away, arriving home after midnight. These meetings were well attended by young and old, and from what the people said we felt very much encouraged with the outlook. As a result, in one of the villages worked we have a Sabbath school of about twenty who are being instructed gradually in all points of our faith. Several of the older ones were baptised before we left.

The people were being stirred with the message in these villages, and if left to themselves many more would have taken their stand; but orders from the French headquarters at Papeete brought a counter movement by the native Protestant ministers and deacons, who with threats brought fear and trembling to the poor people, causing them to become very much discouraged. Some of those who attended were ordered out of the meeting. One woman was smacked and punched in the face by her husband for attending, but she was there for the following meeting. At one of the villages old women deaconesses stood at the gate and drove the young people away as they came along, preventing them from hearing the truth; and then these women drew near to the meeting and inspected all who were inside to report on them. The opposition grew quite active, even to spiking our tyres and severing our electrical connections and thus causing us all the trouble they could desire.

Our public meetings once a month at the leper station seem to have been very much appreciated. There are about 100 inmates at this place. All denominations were represented at these meetings which were held in the public place, separated from the lepers by a sort of barricade. Many of these afflicted people sent us earnest requests from time to time to build a meeting house inside the yard where they could hear all the truth; but not being recognised by the government as a denomination we could not do this. One man, a leper who was isolated, but living in his own house a few miles from Papeete, we visited, and instructed him for two years, and a few months before leaving we baptised him into the faith. This man is half-caste French, young and intelligent, and has become a real witness for the truth.

In the Leeward Islands, namely, Raiatea, Huahine, Tahaa, and Borabora, Pastor Sterling has made special efforts in the villages during the past three years, and has built up and strengthened our companies and churches. With his little 14-ft. boat and 2½ horse-power engine, he crosses over the ocean from Raiatea to the neighbouring islands 40 miles distant, and returns at his pleasure. The Lord has protected him in all his trips about that part of the field, and blessed his labours. Although the boat is small for

the high seas, it is a very handy little craft for travelling inside the reefs and visiting all the villages, thereby saving much laborious work on foot inland.

Our work in the Marquesas Group is at a standstill at present. Our Brother Tissot, a Swiss, who has been a great help to our company in those parts, died last year, leaving us no one to look after our financial interests.

The Paumotu Archipelago, with its eighty atolls, of which forty are inhabited, is our unworked territory. The Mormons have held this fort for eighty-five years. Some strong young men are needed for a territory of this kind, who are not easily discouraged by hardships on the sea, and on the coral reefs, and who are willing to leave their wives and children behind at headquarters for the sake of these people bound in the deceptions of Mormonism. From the printed page that has been scattered over these islands for years, preparing their minds for the truth, and by the treatments that have been given their sick, this group stands ready for two aggressive young men to enter and reap some fruit at the present time.

Our paper, the *Tiarama*, has a subscription list of about 1,500. With all the opposition from the Protestant and Catholic papers, our paper stands at the top and is read by thousands every month. Some friends provide us with the wireless news every time the mail steamer arrives, and this gives us a lift in its circulation. The Catholic paper has attacked us fiercely through its columns the past year, but only to advertise us and scatter the truth among its own people.

Our baptised membership reported at our session four years ago was 57; and Sabbath school membership, 140, in nine schools. At the beginning of 1930 our church membership stood at 85, and the Sabbath school membership at 243 in thirteen schools.

Our tithe for the three years 1927, 1928, 1929 amounted to £801, and offerings for the same period to £506.

During 1926 the Society Islands were visited with a severe storm, which did great damage to the cocoanut trees, causing the nuts to fall before maturity, and unfitting the trees to bear again for several years. Then in 1929 the price of copra fell. These troubles affected our tithes and offerings, but not so much as might be expected, when we consider that copra is practically the only export of any value.

After spending twenty-one years among the islands of the South Seas, it was with sad feelings that we said good-bye to the people for whom we have spent the best portion of our lives. Circumstances seem to indicate that we return at this time to the homeland for a time at least, and allow stronger young men to carry forward the work. Since our return Mrs. Lyndon has undergone an operation at the Sanitarium with very satisfactory results.

F. E. LYNDON.

Thy love to me, O God,
Not mine, O Lord, to Thee,
Can rid me of this dark unrest,
And set my spirit free.

—*Horatius Bonar.*

TONGAN MISSION

WE would like to introduce this report with a note of praise to our Heavenly Father for His blessing upon work and workers in this field during the quadrennial period just closed. We are not able to report large accessions, but we believe there is evidence of a great change. The time was when it was difficult to carry on sustained evangelical efforts for the natives of this group. But those times are gone. There is evidence to-day of a spirit of inquiry entirely foreign to the conditions of bygone days. We believe that the time has come for the Lord to arise to finish His work and to cut it short in righteousness. We hear of wonderful happenings in other lands, and we pray for the outpouring of the Spirit upon the workers in our corner of the great world field.

The peculiar conditions and racial characteristics extant in the Polynesian fields find their most intense expression here. Consequently this is known to be a hard field. Not that there are more hardships, more deadly diseases, or more dangers from fierce natives, for this is not the case. The difficulties are of another kind. Opposition can be met; open hostility more often helps than hinders; but indifference is the greatest enemy of the gospel evangelist in any land.

But, as we said, conditions are changing. People who once would never think of questioning the authority of the church are now inquiring for themselves, and we know that with the blessing of the Lord a harvest will be reaped here, as elsewhere. Many are becoming dissatisfied with what they have. With these the main difficulty is the sacrifice involved in accepting the message. Moral conditions, native customs, family authority, the influence of public opinion in the village, all tend to keep back the inquiring soul, who, immediately he evinces interest in this message, becomes the centre of village gossip. But we rejoice to say that, notwithstanding these barriers, the Lord is calling out a people for His name. As we learned in one of our Week of Prayer readings, "The Word of God is not bound."

We arrived in this field in March, 1927, to take over the work from Pastor R. W. Smith, who left for America a month later. For the remainder of the year we conducted the mission school. Then in November of that year, Brother and Sister B. E. Hadfield arrived to take over that responsibility, and ever since, they have applied themselves to the work with most commendable energy.

We were pleased to have a visit from the Island Mission Superintendent, Pastor A. G. Stewart, at the time of our general meeting in July, 1928. His valued counsel was appreciated. We regret that conditions would not permit of a visit from a Union Conference representative again this year.

Last year a change in certain conditions permitted of a more aggressive evangelism, and since then this most important branch of the work has been pushed with energy in this field. Work has been done in seventeen different villages,—nine on this main island, five in Vavau, and three in Haapai. Some of the efforts petered out in a little while, but some are still in full swing. The present programme of the writer takes

him to a different village every night of the week, with two villages on the waiting list. Three of the interests were the outcome of an effort started by Brother Hadfield and our Fijian brother, Apeti, during a short Christmas holiday out at the back of this island. Several from out there are planning to attend services during our general meeting.

An interest in the Nukualofa prison, growing out of the efforts of a new brother, is most encouraging. Meetings are held there every Sabbath, and four of the inmates declare that they have decided for the truth. A call having come from the country gaol, a start has recently been made there.

Toward the end of last year the work in the Haapai Group, so long neglected, was re-opened; our native brother, James Moala, is stationed there. As a result of the revival of the work there, one aged brother's spirits have revived, and he has returned with joy to the fold, after about nine years of backsliding. He is not the only returning wanderer who has given joy to our hearts of late.

Last year, as the result of a dream, two young couples were led to study and accept the message. Two of the four will be baptised at our annual meeting next month, and two, we hope, will be ready later.

We must not omit to mention the hearty support and co-operation of our self-supporting workers, Brother and Sister E. Mitchell, who last year paid a visit to the homeland, but are now with us again. The work of Brother Knudson and Miss M. Ferguson in Vavau has also been much appreciated.

During the four years there have been twenty-two people baptised. We find that 75 per cent of our church members have been won through the school work, but as evangelical work is given prominence, we expect to see a larger proportion won by that means than in the past. We believe the combination of the two agencies will produce the best results.

The medical missionary work done by Brother and Sister Hadfield has helped materially to create a good impression, which bore results during this year's Appeal campaign. The amount received to date exceeded last year's results by almost £11, an increase of 46 per cent. The Appeal results during the period have been as follows:

1926	No Appeal
1927	£18 14 0
1928	14 3 0
1929	23 10 6
Total	£56 7 6

Though figures are not everything, they reveal a good deal. I would like to submit a brief summary of tithes and offerings received during the four-year period:

	Tithes	Sabbath School	Offerings	M.V. Offerings	Annual Offerings
1926	£155 12 9	£60 7 8			£3 10 0
1927	181 8 1	72 7 7½	£4 8 3		28 5 5
1928	215 10 2	84 5 0	6 5 11		25 14 0
1929	235 19 0	77 14 6½	15 8 10		38 5 11
Total	£788 10 0	£294 14 11	£26 3 0		£95 15 4

The total Big Week Offering for two years was £4 14s. 6d. The total tithes and offerings for the period was £1,266 5s. 3½d., or almost the amount spent in Tonga in one year.

We feel that our greatest need is the power of the Spirit of God for the finishing of His work. We renew our dedication to the Lord and His work, and face the future with confidence, as the Lord has said, "Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." Joshua 1:9.

H. L. TOLHURST,
Superintendent.

TASMANIAN CONFERENCE

NOTHING gives me more pleasure at this moment than to present to you the first quadrennial report of the Tasmanian Conference since its re-organisation. The Lord has been good to His people, and His prospering hand has certainly been over the work in this island conference. Although we are but a very small family down in Tasmania, we are certainly a happy band. Conference and departmental workers, together with church elders and officers, show a very sympathetic interest in one another and in the work of the Master.

During the quadrennial period, advances have been made in practically every line, including the spiritual standing of the members. In the main, our church members are a peace-loving, loyal-hearted flock.

Workers

At the time of the re-organisation of the conference, there were five full-time and one part-time workers, and three primary school teachers labouring for the Master in conference work in this field. At the end of 1929 there were seven full-time, and two part-time workers, and three school teachers employed. I have never enjoyed working with conference labourers more than with the band in Tasmania. We wish the resources of our little conference would make it possible for us to add to our staff.

Membership

During the quadrennial period 84 members were received by baptism, and there was a net gain of 13 by letter of transfer, making a total of 97; while 26 were lost by death and 55 by apostasy. Thus our net increase in membership is 16. Some cleaning up of church rolls has increased the number under losses. It is necessary to do this cleaning work, but we are sorry that so many grow weary and fall by the way.

Finance

During the preceding quadrennial period, namely, when Tasmania was part of the Victoria-Tasmania Conference,

£6,820 was paid in tithes by the church members in this field. During 1926-1929 £8,613 was received, showing a gain of £1,784. For the same period £6,143 was received in offerings, as against £4,027 for the 1922-1925 period,—an increase of £2,116. The Tasmanian people are a willing people, which is demonstrated by the fact that 82 per cent of the church members are tithe-payers. Three churches in the field have touched the 100 per cent mark. At the beginning of the quadrennial period, the per capita offerings were £7 8s. 7d., but by the end of 1929 it had risen to £9 16s. 5d., an increase of £2 7s. 10d. In the matter of offerings the Sabbath schools have done splendidly. During 1922-1925 £1,179 was given to missions, while during the following four years £2,045 was received, which shows a gain of £816.

Present Worth

In September of 1926, at the time when Tasmania was separated from Victoria, the present worth was entered at £587. At the end of 1929 it was £1,379, an increase of £792. At the time of the re-organisation, a cottage was owned by the conference, but as the presidents were not using this home as a residence, and as it was unsuitable for an office, the committee decided to sell it and turn the proceeds over to the purchase of an office building. After a long search our patience was rewarded by securing the modern little cottage at 361 Argyle Street, Hobart, now being used as an office. The purchase of this property has been a great blessing to the work in Tasmania.

Appropriations

In 1926 £1,758 was paid in tithes by the church members in Tasmania. In 1929 £2,321 reached us, and although the returns from this source have steadily grown year by year, yet the amount falls below the sum required to meet the needs of an organised conference. We are indebted to the Australasian Union Conference for the sum of £3,383 paid to our conference in four years to assist us in our financial needs. During the same time, £7,434 was paid in tithes and offerings to the Australasian Union Conference Treasurer. We wish we could get along without any appropriation, but it does not look as if we shall be able to do that for some time yet.

Tract Society

We are not able to present a report for the Tract Society for a longer period than three years, owing to the fact that the Tasmanian Conference did not begin to function as a separate unit until October of 1926. During the time mentioned £1,157 worth of subscription books were sold, and £544 worth of periodicals, while £771 worth of trade books were placed in the hands of church members and outside readers, making a total of £2,472. With the exception of six weeks in 1929, there was no Field Missionary Secretary connected with the book work in our field during the time reported. We realise that the book work is a pioneering work, and I would be sorry to see the work suffer as a result of not having a strong leader in the field, but it is a very serious problem with us to know how to make this branch of the work self-supporting.

Church Activities

Turning from the financial to the missionary side of our work we find that 3,033 missionary visits made, 271 Bible readings given, 21,840 magazines and papers distributed, 806 books sold and given, and 5,295 tracts distributed, constitute the major portion of the missionary work done by our church members in three years.

In 1926 there were 349 perfect record cards issued to 15 per cent of the Sabbath school membership. In 1929 about 21 per cent of the members earned 443 perfect record cards. For the four years 1,549 perfect record cards were issued, against 756 for the previous four years, showing a gain of 793, or 105 per cent. During 1923-1925 there were 144 bookmarks earned by the faithful Sabbath school members, while 192 were earned during the next four years.

Commencing with 175 for 1926 and closing with 310 for 1929, there were 1,095 doctrinal text examination papers received from the Missionary Volunteers in the conference during the four years. For the same period 111 yearly certificates were issued by the Missionary Volunteer Department.

Education

In these days when educational standards are based upon such insecure foundations, it gives me no small amount of satisfaction to report on our three primary schools operating in Tasmania. An average of fifty children attended the schools during the period, and the results have been highly satisfactory. The primary school teacher is an honourable servant of the Lord and should be numbered among the nobility of God's chosen people. What more important work is there than the moulding of the child life? My sincere prayer is that God will make the church school all it should be in this movement. During the four years, about nine students have left our shores for the training school at Avondale, and we pray that these consecrated young people will make definite preparation for the work in the Master's vineyard.

General

This report would be incomplete without mention of the good spiritual camp-meetings held during the quadrennial period just closed. In order to get the most out of these annual meetings we have endeavoured to eliminate every kind of business that could be handled outside the camp-meeting, and the result has been so highly satisfactory that we are impressed with the thought that more and more we should aim for camp-meetings where the major portion of the time is given to spiritual work.

Looking at cold figures, it would seem that our church members were growing less inclined for home missionary work, and while we know that this has a measure of truth in it, yet it must be remembered that the serious depression through which Australia is passing is having a serious effect upon the earning powers of our brethren, and they are finding it increasingly difficult to keep the wolf from the door.

If the next four years of my life pass

as pleasantly as the last two, which have been given to administrative work, then I shall feel it has been a privilege to continue in the good work of the Master. Whatever comes our way, however, we are willing to abide by the decision of the Lord and desire to surrender our will to the will of God for us. In this lies our strength.

S. L. PATCHING,
President.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE

It is with feelings of deep gratitude to Almighty God for His manifold mercy and blessing toward us, that the delegates of the South Australian Conference bring fond greetings to you, and present their report to the delegates assembled.

As we look back over the four years past, we can most clearly see that the Lord's hand has been over His work and people for good; and notwithstanding the fact that for the last three years South Australia has been in the grip of drought and depression unprecedented in its history, yet in many ways advancement has been made.

Membership and Tithe

During the quadrennial period, our membership has been as follows: 1926, 683; 1927, 726; 1928, 775; 1929, 777. The total tithe paid into the conference during the same period was £21,348. This was made up as follows: 1926, £5,386; 1927, £5,439; 1928, £5,454; 1929, £5,069. For the last two years South Australia has been badly drought-stricken, thus accounting for the decrease in tithe during 1929. I am also sorry to report that since the beginning of 1930, owing to drought and depression, month by month the tithe has been gradually decreasing. The present worth of the conference is £9,897, showing a decrease of £140 since the previous year.

Sabbath School

In 1926 the conference had twenty-five Sabbath schools, with a membership of 927, and gave £909 in offerings. In 1927 there were 25 schools with a membership of 986, which gave £1,123 in offerings. In 1928 there were 28 schools and 1,068 members, the offering for that year being £1,054. In 1929 there were 25 schools, the membership being 1,027, and they contributed £995.

Home Missions

In 1926	37,131 units of work was done.
„ 1927	52,431 „ „ „ „
„ 1928	74,652 „ „ „ „
„ 1929	85,528 „ „ „ „

The year 1929 shows an increase over 1928 of 10,876 units.

The following funds were raised in the special efforts:

	Appeal for Missions	Big Week
1926	£1211	£107
1927	1471	96
1928	1498	86
1929	1240	139
	£5,420	£428

In 1929 the Ingathering was especially difficult, owing to the continuance of the

drought throughout the State. In the Big Week last year, however, 3,500 books were sold, showing an increase of 2,080 over the previous year.

Missionary Volunteer

In 1926 twelve Missionary Volunteer societies were operating, with a membership of 398; they raised £106 in offerings, and reported 32,563 units of work. In 1927 sixteen societies operated, raised £123 in offerings, and reported 49,142 units of work. In 1928 eighteen societies operated, the membership was 533, and they raised £169, and did 38,005 units of work. While in 1929 there were twenty-two societies, with a membership of 532; £182 was raised in offerings, and 49,710 units of work were accomplished.

Tract Society

A loss of £56 was shown on the work of 1926. In 1927 a profit of £366 was made. A profit of £64 was also earned in 1928, and a profit of £47 for the year 1929.

The annual Week of Prayer offerings for the four years totalled £684.

In conclusion, we offer the Lord our tribute of praise and thanksgiving for His prospering hand that has been over the activities of the conference during this time of drought, distress, and financial depression.

S. WATSON,
President.

Devotional Meeting

CONFIDENCE IN THE MESSAGE

Sabbath, September 8

AT the early morning devotional meeting on the first Sabbath of the Conference, Pastor A. G. Stewart presented some helpful thoughts on the subject of "Confidence in the Message," reading a few verses from the tenth chapter of Hebrews. He read from verse 35 these words: "Cast not away therefore your confidence" which hath great recompense of reward."

The basis for our confidence is the full knowledge of the saving power of God and the eternal reward promised to the overcomer. In verses 22-25 inclusive of the same chapter, we are admonished to draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, and then follow two definite further admonitions: "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; . . . and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: . . . and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." In these verses we have three very definite exhortations:

1. Let us draw near to God with a true heart.

2. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith.

3. Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works.

The first admonition calls for sincerity of heart. We must be true to God and to His message, and further, we must hold fast to the profession of our faith, and then again we must render service to God. If we heed these admonitions and accept

the instruction therein contained, we shall certainly maintain our confidence in the message and finally receive the promised reward.

Our confidence in the message for this time is not based only upon its prophetic outline, but also upon the visible fruits now borne in all lands as a result of the promulgation of that message. When we remember that within the lifetime of an individual this message has grown and developed until to-day it is being proclaimed in 384 different languages in all parts of the world, it is most reassuring.

Pastor Stewart referred to the testimonies borne by some of the pioneers who attended the recent General Conference. He spoke of Pastor E. W. Farnsworth, who bore such a testimony of strong confidence in the message. Brother Farnsworth has been a Sabbath-keeper all his life, born about the time this movement began, when there were but very few believers in this truth. He told of his confidence in the message. He has seen it spreading to all the world within the history of his lifetime, and he earnestly looks forward to the soon coming of the Saviour.

Pastor G. B. Starr also spoke at the same Conference, and told of his experiences as a minister for fifty years in this truth. He told of his close personal contact with Sister White for so many years, and also of his full confidence in the movement. Several other aged pioneers spoke in the same strain of unbounded confidence in the message for this time. And such testimonies of life-long experiences should certainly bring to us even stronger confidence than we ever had before.

The speaker touched on the history of the work in Australasia, reminding us that forty-five years ago the message was first proclaimed in Australia, in the city of Melbourne, and drawing our attention to the fact that there are now nearly 20,000 adherents to the faith in the Australasian Division. The spread of the threefold message and the wonderful transformations being wrought in so many lives, both at home and abroad, are among some of the strongest evidences we have of the truth for this time.

At the conclusion of this study a many of the delegates bore personal testimony to their confidence in the message of God now being proclaimed to the world.

"CROWDING OUT CHRIST"

Monday Night, September 8

THE large audience that again filled the Central Hall to overflowing, greeted the evening hour service, when Pastor J. W. Kent spoke on "Crowding Out the Christ."

In his introductory remarks, the speaker made reference to the fact that it was in this conference, Victoria, that he began his ministry eighteen years ago. He spoke feelingly with regard to associations with workers in the past, particularly with the late Pastor J. H. Woods, whom he termed his father in the ministry, and Brother J. A. McAlinsh, who had encouraged him to make the gospel ministry a life work.

The speaker divided his discourse into four parts. He showed how it was possible for even the ministry and those connected with gospel work to crowd out Jesus. Bib-

lical and other illustrations were given that proved this in an impressive way.

Then he turned his attention to the mother in the home, and showed how home cares and family responsibilities had a tendency to make the mother, one of the greatest of missionaries, forget Jesus as her only helper.

He then showed how easy it was for men with business responsibilities and other duties to forget Jesus, illustrating from the tenth chapter of Mark, and the experience of Hezekiah.

The speaker next turned his attention to young people, and showed that the greatest danger of all in the life of young people is the influences of the world. The world is bidding very largely for young people to-day, and because of its fascination, and the glamour of life generally, young people often forget Jesus and lose Him out of their calculations. The danger of this was stressed from the Scriptures and history, also current experiences that the speaker himself had known through the years.

At the close of his remarks, Pastor Kent again introduced the old quartette party that used to sing in his mission in Melbourne. A very feeling and beautiful presentation was made of "While Jesus Whispers to You," the speaker halting the singers in their song and interspersing the verses with appeals to the congregation, particularly to those who had not confessed Christ. As a result of this, upwards of twenty people responded to the call of God, sixteen coming forward for closer work. Among this number were those who for the first time had come in contact with this people and its teaching.

IMPRESSIONS OF A VISITOR

"I WONDER if I can find the Central Hall. This is only our second trip to the city, but Little Collins Street is not far off, for that is where the café is, and the hall is just a few minutes' walk from there.

"Ah, no difficulty in finding the hall, for here is an old friend, and here is another! and, why, here are Brother — and Sister —, whom I have not met for many years!"

As one enters Central Hall, which is so well adapted for conference purposes, on either side is seen a fine book display, in charge of Brother R. E. G. Blair, of the Signs Publishing Company. There stands also his stereopticon, with which he is able at any time of the day or evening to entertain the waiting congregation by throwing on the screen attractive announcements of timely books and the latest publications.

Though not able to get to many of the meetings, what a privilege it was to attend some of them! We shall not forget the first Sabbath service, conducted by Pastor C. H. Watson, and the inspiration conveyed in his last sermon to the delegates and friends assembled; nor the second Sabbath of the session, when Pastor Turner spoke. How clearly the path of victory over sin was explained! Just as we have faith in God to help us keep the Sabbath, just so the tobacco addict can find victory over his besetment, and just so also can there be complete victory over every sin. Even the "bent to sinning" can be taken away by the One who is all-

powerful. The consecration made by that entire congregation to the call to allow the Holy Spirit to point out sin and then allow that same Spirit to put it out of the life, was an inspiration to all present.

We were sorry to miss Pastor Stewart's lantern lecture on the story of the world wide progress of the message, for remarks made by those who attended indicate a very interesting and profitable meeting; but the missionary symposium and Pastor Peacock's lantern slides on the work in the Solomon Islands were fine meetings, and led us to realise more fully the way the Lord is working in heathen lands to-day.

Yes, it was a privilege to attend a few meetings of the session, and as one remarked, this gathering together from all parts of Australasia made one wonder what the meeting in the New Earth would be like. Will you be there at that wonderful gathering? Will I?

SABBATH SCHOOL

September 13, 1930

AFTER silent prayer, Sabbath school was opened at 9.30 in the Central Hall by the spirited singing of the hymn, "We Won't Give Up the Bible," and prayer was offered by Brother R. A. Thrift. Again many of the delegates and visitors met with the various churches in the metropolitan area. The junior division met with its leaders and teachers in Memorial Hall.

The senior review was conducted by Brother A. G. Minchin. Timely lessons were gathered from the characters in the review, Elisha, Ahaziah, and Elijah. The mantle of Elijah signified consecration of office or position. The message with which God's people have been entrusted to-day must be given in the spirit of Elijah. It is a vitally important message, and must be delivered by consecrated hearts.

A most interesting study of the lesson for the day was conducted by Pastor F. A. Allum, who summarised what he termed the "wonder chapter of the Bible" (2 Kings 4) under four heads:

(1) A great need; (2) a great character; (3) a great danger; (4) a great provision.

At Elisha's bidding the widow borrowed many empty vessels, filled them from her only pot of oil until all were full, and her need was supplied from the sale of the oil. According to her faith so she was rewarded. Likewise we receive grace according to our measure of faith. Christ fills those hearts with His Spirit that are empty of self.

The character of the Shunammite was revealed in her hospitality, her humility, and her faith. A lesson in health reform was drawn from the subject of the poisoned meal.

Brother G. Peacock prefaced his stirring missionary talk with the texts, "I will make you fishers of men," and "If I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto Me." The work of the missionaries is changing the lives of those who live in darkness and superstition. Filth gives place to cleanliness, cruelty to kindness, unhappiness to joy, and devil worship to the worship of the true God.

School was dismissed by song and prayer.

EVA E. EDWARDS.

Australasian Record

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
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OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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THIS number completes the set of three Conference Specials. Although these are much larger than the ordinary issues, it has been found necessary to hold over several reports of meetings, which will appear later. We have done our best to pass on to our readers the proceedings of this good meeting, in order that those who could not be present in person might share with us in the blessings of this important gathering.

PASTOR AND MRS. C. H. WATSON, accompanied by their second son, Brother C. E. E. Watson and his wife, sailed from Sydney to the United States by the "Niagara," on September 18. While all know that Pastor Watson has been called to the presidency of the General Conference, it will be interesting to many no doubt to learn that his son was recalled to headquarters to connect with the Sanitarium work. There were many friends on the wharf to say good-bye to Brother and Sister Watson, and many heart-felt prayers will follow them as they travel over the deep. Let us remember Brother Watson in our prayers as he takes up the leadership, under God, of the world-wide work.

RETROSPECTIVE

WE are now in the position where we can look back upon the great session meeting held in Melbourne, September 3-14. As we do so, we feel to thank God for all that was accomplished at the meeting. It was one of the most encouraging sessions ever held by this people in the Australasian field. There was a confidence, and a calmness of mind, with a sweet trust in God and in the brethren, that made one and all attending it feel that indeed God was leading this people.

Rarely are circumstances so propitious as were the circumstances attending the meeting in Melbourne. The Central Hall in which we met was practically part of the same house where the great majority of the delegates secured their lodging accommodation, and everything was so handy that we were not aware of any untoward conditions marring the smooth running of the meeting. Had our delegation been housed all over the city, it can be readily seen that this would have worked against the best interests of the meeting. Probably nowhere else in Australia could be found a hall with the necessary lodging arrangements so close, and with our own Sanitarium Health Food Café within two minutes' walk,—and thus all the necessary features were very helpfully situated.

It can be truly said of the Central Hall in which we met that it was cozy, comfortable, and restful. Its 800 upholstered leather chairs made it a comfortable place

in which to spend so many hours every day. The hall itself was in the very heart of Melbourne, indeed it was but two minutes' walk from the Town Hall. When the weather was cold, as was the case several mornings, the hall was mechanically heated, and when it was warm, then the hall could be mechanically cooled. Its acoustic properties were well-nigh perfect, for a man speaking in an ordinary conversational tone from the platform could be heard at the rear of the hall.

Then, too, the small halls attached to the property furnished accommodation for the different departmental meetings, and provided for the work of the standing committees. All these advantages worked very smoothly indeed.

Perhaps one of the most pleasing features of it all is the fact that the Board of Trustees of the Hall, through its genial secretary, Mr. Gordon Sprigg, F.R.C.S., was so very considerate of all our needs. We had occasion to thank this gentleman for his exceeding kindness to us, and in reply he said, "Why, Mr. Piper, your people have done me good every day you have been here." After receiving a little token of our appreciation in the form of a leather bound copy of "Ministry of Healing," Mr. Sprigg told us that he and his wife were already enjoying the contents of this splendid work from the pen of Mrs. E. G. White.

Another little incident which goes to prove the interest of those in charge of the hall in our meeting, was the fact that the good secretary told me personally that every morning at family worship they had prayed that God would bless our meetings. Truly we could say that their prayers had been abundantly answered.

We should not fail to mention the resourcefulness, together with the thoughtfulness of the hall keeper, Mr. Thomas Shambrook. In every way possible he met our many and varied needs, and it was truly wonderful the facilities that he placed at our disposal. He had to rise much earlier than was his usual practice in order to have the hall ready for us for the early devotional meeting; and as many of our meetings ran fairly late at night, of course he could not retire until the hall was cleared and locked up for the night. Yet through it all he was just happiness itself, and made us feel that truly God had prepared the way before us and given us men to deal with who were very sympathetic toward our needs. A little monetary gift to this gentleman was used by him in part in purchasing a well bound Bible, which he brought to us and asked that something might be put in it in memory of the meeting that we had had in the hall.

To-day, September 26, will see the last of the New Zealand delegates leaving the shores of Australia for New Zealand. As we look over all the arrangements made, we have not heard of any slip in the plans made for the comfort of the delegates in travelling. Brother H. Stockton, who was attached to the Secretary's Department prior to and during the period of the session in order to cope with the transportation of the large delegation, has been specially blessed of God in caring for the many and varied needs of the brethren.

The delegates were met on arrival in Melbourne and informed of the number of their room, and their luggage was taken

from them, and they found it later in their respective rooms. It is true that several parties travelling by motor car to the meeting met with minor accidents, but the marvellous thing about these accidents is the fact that they were so slight and no one was hurt, whereas the possibilities of each were fraught with great danger to the occupants of the car.

Looking back upon the spiritual features of the meeting, we are impressed with the nature of the Bible Studies and sermons given by the various speakers. It would seem that the Lord had specially impressed the brethren with the thought of confidence in the message, and especially in the great gift that God has given to this movement, the Spirit of Prophecy. We sometimes hear it said that the leaders in God's work have lost confidence in the work and writings of Mrs. E. G. White, but, brethren, an emphatic denial must be heralded far and wide to this accusation. We only wish that all the rank and file of our people could have heard the ringing testimonies of courage in the Lord and in every feature of the message, and particularly in the Spirit of Prophecy.

As the workers return to the field, and the new appointees assume the responsibilities of office in the different parts of the Union, let us one and all pray God to bless their labours. This is no time for criticism or the expression of sentiments of doubt. This is a time for us all to press together and to help one another, and especially to pray for those upon whom the Lord has placed heavy responsibilities as a result of the choice of the brethren at the thirteenth session of the Australasian Union Conference which has concluded in Melbourne.

A. H. PIPER.

South N.S.W. Conference and Camp-Meeting

THE tenth annual session of the South N.S.W. Conference and camp-meeting will be held November 6-16, in the Concord Park. This ground has been chosen again because of its central situation. A strong delegation from the Union Conference will be in attendance. We are also glad to state that Pastor W. A. Spicer, the late President of the General Conference, will be present at the meeting.

We would invite all our churches to appoint their delegates immediately, as we are anxious to have a full delegation, as we are contemplating an important change in the Constitution of the Conference. The first business meeting of the session will be held Friday, November 7, at 10.30 a.m. Begin to plan now to be present at the meeting and enjoy its blessings.

WALTER H. HOPKIN,
Secretary.

Important Dates

Camp-Meetings:

Northern Rivers, N.S.W.: October 1-5.
Queensland: October 9-19.
North N.S.W.: October 23-November 1.
South N.S.W.: November 6-16.
Victoria: Dec. 25-Jan. 4.
North New Zealand: Jan. 15-25.
South New Zealand: Jan. 22-Feb. 1.
Tasmania: Feb. 19-March 1.
West Australia: March 5-15.
South Australia: March 19-29.

Big Week: November 15-22.
Appeal for Missions: March 7—
Week of Prayer: May 23-30.
Home Missions Effort: June 13—