

Atlantic Union Gleaner

"Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

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GENERAL ARTICLES

THE AUTUMN COUNCIL

I am sure that the believers throughout the field are all deeply interested in such a meeting as the Autumn Council of the General Conference Committee, which this year is to be held October 28 to November 6 in Omaha, Neb. The quadrennial General Conference sessions are of great importance, bringing in delegates and workers from all parts of the world, but in some respects these Autumn Councils coming each year, filled up more fully with devious and difficult problems calling for the greatest amount of careful study and planning, are as important as the General Conference sessions. It is at such meetings that the whole world budget, dealing with the operation of our work in all of its divisions of the world, is made up and approved. The appropriations and distribution of money and men are made at this time. The handling of a great number of vital and difficult problems coming in from all parts of the field, constitutes an important part of the work of this council.

The members of the General Conference Committee in America are called in, with a good number coming in from the great divisions of the world. In addition to General Conference Committee members, the local conference presidents and union auditors, a few workers from large institutions and negro members are invited to attend. The time of this meeting will be filled with heavy and taxing work from early morning until late in the night during the entire time of the session. Especially will it be a time of anxiety and perplexity as we enter upon our work this autumn, owing to the quite general decline in funds. When we come face to

face with such problems, it is a good time to pray earnestly to God that He will overrule in opening the way and grant to continue to give prosperity to this work in the face of any and all perplexities and obstacles.

Those attending the meeting in Omaha from our Union are: J. K. Jones, F. D. Wells, L. K. Dickson, D. J. C. Barrett, C. L. Kilgore, C. E. Peters, and the writer. We earnestly solicit your prayers in behalf of this important meeting.

E. K. SLADE.

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GOD'S CAUSE FACING A CRISIS— WHAT IS OUR DUTY AT SUCH A TIME?—A GREAT SACRIFICE OFFERING REQUIRED

By the time this article appears in the GLEANER, I will be in attendance at the Fall Council of the General Conference, convening in Omaha, Nebraska. This meeting will call together leaders from all the great division fields of the world, as well as representatives from every union and local conference in America. Never have these brethren faced such a serious situation as the present. The world-wide business depression has brought about a shortage of funds that not only affects the world, but is seriously crippling our soul-winning efforts in foreign fields and at home. The mission treasury is going behind many thousands of dollars each month, and our leading brethren at Washington tell us that if this shortage continues at the present rate, by December 31 we will be \$500,000 behind in our foreign mission offerings for 1930.

Brethren and sisters, it is indeed high time that we, as a denomination, became alarmed over this situation, for unless it is remedied, it

will mean the calling home of missionaries, a thing none of us ever wants to see happen. Something must be done to prevent this. God indeed must point the way out of this perplexity.

There are some things, however, that we can do. Each one can search his own heart to see if he has been faithful in his mission offerings and whether he has done his full part in the Harvest Ingathering; also, whether we have paid in our mission pledges made at campmeeting or other times during the year. But, in addition, it will require far more than this if this shortage is to be made up. It will call for a real sacrifice offering in every church of Adventists around the world.

I am sure it would be pleasing to the Lord, if at this time those who have surplus funds invested, or extra property would feel it in their hearts to place a good portion of this on the altar of sacrifice. There will never be a time when your money will be more needed than at present. Each conference and institutional worker all over the country is being asked to give at least one week's salary to help out in this crisis, and the General Conference asks the members in each church to join the workers by doing the same, or as much as they can at this time. None of us can ever feel right to sit by doing nothing while our cause is in such desperate need of help. Just think what it will mean to our missionaries if this condition is not soon changed. Pray about it, my brother, my sister, and plan to give in large and liberal amounts when the Sacrifice Offering is taken, Sabbath, November 29. Instead of a lavish Thanksgiving feast, let us make that week a week of prayer for the mission fields. Do not forget, also, that every dollar you solicit from the public for the Harvest Ingathering helps just that

much more. Do not let up in your Ingathering work until your church has raised its full \$15 a member.

Do not forget to be faithful in paying an honest tithe, so the home work may be properly supported. The conference needs your tithe, for we are experiencing a shortage here that is crippling our work. This is a good time to pay up your back tithe, for it is needed.

J. K. JONES.

* * HARVEST INGATHERING PROGRESSOGRAPHS

A very interesting letter has recently been received from the head of our General Conference Home Missionary Department expressing his appreciation for the excellent progress in our Harvest Ingathering campaign, and I take great pleasure in passing on these words of appreciation to our church leaders and people, and trust they may be an inspiration to us to do our best during the remainder of the campaign.

The following churches have recently crossed the winning line and are being added to our 1930 Harvest Ingathering honor roll: Niagara Falls, Rochester, Vienna, and Jamestown Swedish. We are sure this has meant faithful work on the part of these churches, and we wish to thank them for their good accomplishment. Twelve churches are now entitled to be listed on our honor roll, and we hope many others will join them by the end of October.

Two recent letters from Sister Conger, of our Canton church, are filled with encouraging missionary experiences. She reports having gathered in \$53 thus far, and having given away over three hundred papers in one month. Surely this is a good record, and if we had many such faithful members in each church the goal would soon be reached.

Sister Hall, of our Jeddo church, just sent this cheering report. "Brother and Sister Lucas, who now live near Wilson, have come up twice and taken four of us out into the country on Sundays, and each time the car brought in more than \$25. The people are friendly, and the offerings were given cheerfully and willingly. We attribute

this to our claiming the promise that God's work is not to suffer lack of funds because of business depression, also we asked Him to prepare the hearts of the people we were to meet, and to make us unafraid of their faces. God surely put words in our mouths to comfort many people and to strengthen their faith and belief in His word. We were granted many openings, and it seems wonderful to us to feel ourselves used by the Lord. We gave out hundreds of tracts and *Present Truth*."

Have you done your part? Do not shirk your responsibility and thus discourage your leader and compel others to lift your load in addition to their own. Do not deprive yourself of the rich blessing this work brings. That some are failing is borne out by two letters recently received. One read: "There is only a small per cent of people who will assume their share of this work. This makes it harder on those who work to get the goal"; the other: "I wish an earthquake or something would wake the people who claim to love and live the truth." Do be a worker and not a shirker and make sure that your part will be in as soon as possible in November.

Sabbath School Items

It speaks well for the loyalty of our Sabbath school members to find that we are \$100 ahead in our Sabbath school offerings at the end of September, in the face of a considerable shortage in our tithe.

No doubt you have noticed in the October issue of the *Sabbath School Worker* that for the first quarter of 1930 we have maintained our position of leadership in per capita Sabbath school offerings. We take this opportunity to thank all of our Sabbath school officers, teachers, and members for their continued loyalty and deep interest in all for which the Sabbath school stands.

As soon as the few missing reports are in, we will take pleasure in publishing our honor roll for the third quarter. Some of our Sabbath schools are doing especially well. Sister Randall, of our Syracuse Sabbath school, in calling for two honor ribbons for Brother Stark

and Brother Collins, writes: "We have had good records this year, and if those who have a perfect record so far will continue we will need thirteen bookmarks to hand out the first of January, which I think is excellent and the best I remember for our Sabbath school."

Will our Sabbath school secretaries kindly attend to the sending of the Picture Roll for the third quarter to the mission station to which it was promised without delay, so there will be no disappointment? If he knew how much these Rolls mean to our missionaries and those they endeavor to instruct, no secretary would ever be tardy in getting them on their way.

Are you the happy possessor of Elder M. C. Wilcox' help on our present Sabbath school lessons? If not, do not fail to send in your order at once. Your thirty-five cents will be well invested indeed, as the lessons on the book of Romans will run for three quarters.

Our *Sabbath School Worker* is also of great help in connection with our present studies, and should not only be in the hands of every officer, teacher, and assistant teacher, but each class member who is anxious to get the greatest possible amount of good from our present lessons should have one. Its cost is only ninety cents a year, or seventy-five cents when two or more copies are ordered together.

F. BOHNER,

Home Miss. and S. S. Sec.

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Have you done your part in the Harvest Ingathering?

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