

# THE Canadian Union Messenger

"As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger."

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## "THE MESSENGER"

FOR several months the columns of the MESSENGER have been largely given up to the Religious Liberty question. The prominence which this question has assumed during that time in and out of the halls of legislation, seemed to make this course necessary, and from what has been accomplished through this medium, we are led to believe that our effort has not been without results. We trust that none of the friends of the MESSENGER have entertained the idea that too much space has been devoted to this topic. In fact, we ought to have a paper of much larger size devoted entirely to this subject and sent broadcast throughout the land, and we have hopes that at no distant date provision will be made to meet this requirement.

But until that time comes, the MESSENGER is what it is, and while it remains so, we would be very much pleased if all our friends in the various parts of the Union Conference would do their part to make it the best paper of its class that is published. This can be done if every one will contribute occasionally. Let the contributions not be too lengthy, and thus every one will have an opportunity to express himself.

The Religious Liberty question is a live one, and will be such until the Lord comes, but the special effort which has been necessary to meet the proposed legislation, is now past and we hope to devote more space to the consideration of topics of a more general character.

Now will not our brethren in the field send us an occasional note, not only that

we may know where they are and what they are doing, but that we may receive encouragement from their reports as well.

## "THE LORD'S DAY ACT"

THE following letter written to the *Toronto Daily Star* of June 7, will show that the principles of toleration and religious liberty are not entirely dead in Canada, and that the attempt which has recently been made to set these principles before the people has not been without effect.

We cannot speak positively on the subject, but we have been informed that a deputation from the Methodist people intend to appear before Parliament, if they have not already done so, for the purpose of protesting against the proposed amendment to the Lord's Day Act, exempting Jews and Seventh-day Adventists. We sincerely trust that our information is not reliable, not so much because we desire the exemption, but we do not like to be compelled to believe that a brother Protestant minister of the gospel would knowingly lend his influence in behalf of intolerance and religious persecution.

"Editor of the Star:

"The question of the proposed amendment to the Lord's Day Act, granting concessions to Jews and Adventists is one of paramount importance, and marks a new chapter in Canadian legislation. Its existence proves to us that our legislators would not willingly do an injustice to a minority, though its voice is too weak to be heard above the din of religious intolerance, and the clamor of blind bigotry.

"The question has already been mooted at Smith's Falls during the session of the Methodist General Conference, and has been productive of a

great deal of discussion. I note with regret that Rev. Dr. Williams says that he thinks it a matter of dollars and cents, and not of conscience to the Jews and Adventists. It is an arrogant statement to make, and it surprises a person to hear that it originates with a minister of a faith which professes tolerance and benevolence.

"I do not see where the Reverend Doctor got this idea. Surely he possesses enough Christian charity to credit one class with just as much conscience as he apparently credits another. It is greatly appreciated by the Jews and Adventists that they are permitted to observe the seventh day in addition to being obliged to observe Sunday. This is a privilege which they cannot too highly appreciate.

"It is surely very plain to those people who have all they can do to earn a living in six days (and these are by no means few), it is practically impossible to make a living in five days, and the result is that the Sabbath to-day is profaned by both Jews and Adventists, not because their consciences are weak, but in spite of a very wide-awake conscience.

"I would like to ask the Reverend Dr. Williams two questions:

"1. Does it not concern the conscience of a Jew or Adventist, if in order to make an honest living, he must desecrate his Sabbath?

"2. Does it concern the conscience of a Methodist, who is permitted to observe his Sabbath in peace, and have it respected by all, if a Jew or an Adventist works on Sunday, in the privacy of his own home, and without disturbing the peace and quietness of the day?

The answers are obvious.

Our legislation should have one end in view, namely: 'The greatest good for the greatest number,' and an Act which tramples roughshod over the beliefs of a religious minority is weak, especially when it can be easily amended without injustice to others.

"I trust that you will give these remarks the same publicity as those in favor of a protest against the proposed amendment.

"LOUIS M. SINGER."

#### "SOME HISTORY SOME EXPERIENCE AND SOME FACTS"

A booklet of seventy-one pages bearing the title given above has recently come to our table. This booklet was written by one with whom we have been acquainted as a minister for the past eighteen years,

and whom we have looked upon with the greatest respect, because we believed sincerely that he had been called of God to do a great work. And whenever we have enjoyed the privilege, and indeed it was always a privilege, of listening to him during all those years, or of reading any of his numerous writings, we have never failed to be benefited both intellectually and spiritually. And it is with the greatest regret and sadness that we are compelled to believe that this book emanated from the pen of our brother.

From information which we have obtained we have reason to believe that this booklet has been widely circulated among our brethren, and it is but just that they should understand the attitude which we sustain toward it. Coming, as it does from one who has held so prominent a position among our people it cannot fail to have some effect at least upon the minds of those who read it, and these few notes are written for the purpose of giving our people an understanding of the position which we take with reference to the booklet.

We have neither disposition nor desire to become in any way connected with the controversy, if such it may be called, which has given rise to this production. But we have a strong desire to have all our brethren throughout the Canadian Union Conference become so filled with the Spirit of God that they will be able to discern between the spirit which prompted the words of this booklet and the Spirit which is of God.

Harsh words, bitter words, words barbed with sarcasm, if not with slander, and poisoned with recrimination, are dipped from the inky blackness of a darkened mind to soil a spotless page. O, if that were all, the poor worthless page might be destroyed, and the life-blood of the Son of God could wash the horrid stain from the mind of him that produced it. *But that is not all!*

Not satisfied with soiling a single page of perishable paper, the page is multiplied, and, like the seeds of a noxious plant before the wind, the words are scattered broadcast to soil and pollute the hearts and minds of men uncorrupted thence to be multiplied a thousand fold, until corrupted men on reading them will feel justified in doing deeds of violence and persecution to the brethren.

And now the utmost effort cannot recall those words and return them to the black fountain whence they were taken. But could they be, the doubt, the darkness, the distrust, which they have engendered, and which can end only in despair and death, would still remain; and an eternity of human effort, coupled with holy living which the mercy of a forgiving God would grant even now to the author of these words, would be too short to undo their effect.

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### FROM THE FIELD

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#### PALMERSTON, ONT.

SINCE our last report we have had an addition of two to our Sabbath-school, making a membership of ten.

The interest here is not what you would call a "booming" one. House to house work, such as we have been doing with the "Family Bible Teacher," is not calculated to make a great stir, but it is a good way to reach the people and get acquainted with them.

I have visited many families, have had a number of Bible conversations, and held a number of readings with them. As a result six say they are keeping the Sabbath; four are attending Sabbath-school. I hope that they all will prove faithful. The husband of one of the faithful ones believes the truth quite strongly. He has given up the use of pork and tobacco, and we hope that he will keep the Sabbath ere long.

We are keeping the *Signs, Life and Health*, and *Liberty* in the public library.

We hope a public effort will bring out a good company.

A. L. MILLER.

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#### BRANTFORD, ONT.

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ELDER BURRILL joined me at Brantford, May 31, and we held meetings in the hall every night until Sunday evening. Two meetings were held on Sabbath and one on Sunday afternoon. A few not of our faith attended the meetings and gave careful attention to the subjects presented. Three from Lynden were to be baptized, but for some reason they did not come over.

On Sabbath afternoon the ordinances were celebrated after a spirited social service. All seemed refreshed and encouraged to press on to final victory. A few are becoming interested through reading, and there is hope of an increase in the membership of the Brantford church.

We greatly enjoyed Sister Shanks' hospitality while there, and we were pleased to meet once more all the members and hear their voices in praise and thanksgiving unto him that loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood.

On Monday June 4, after looking over Paris for a place to hold camp-meeting, we both enjoyed a few hours sojourn at Sister Burrill's, taking a little rest and doing some necessary writing.

We then went to Woodstock and held one meeting, and from there to Ingersoll and held two services, visiting all the believers. These little flocks are pressing on in faith and hope and striving for the mastery. Some renewed their subscriptions to our papers, and all hope to attend the camp-meeting.

From Ingersoll we went to St. Thomas, and on our way stayed over night in London with Brother Smith. We also visited

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EUGENE LELAND, Editor.

A blue pencil mark here indicates that your subscription has expired.

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Brother T. H. Robinson at his home and counseled with him relative to the work in general. We are glad that Brother Robinson is with us again to lend a strong hand in conference work.

Let us work, watch, and pray in faith, nothing wavering, and we shall see fruit as the result of faithful service.

W. H. THURSTON.

Appointments

No Providence preventing, we will hold meetings as follows:—

Albina, Sabbath and Sunday, June 23 and 24; Petrolia, Sabbath and Sunday, June 30 and July 1. At both of these meetings there will be opportunity for baptism. At the latter place we expect to organize a church. We hope to see a large attendance at both these gatherings.

We will hold a Sabbath-school Convention at Selton, beginning Friday, July 6, at 8 p.m., and continuing until Sunday evening. We will be favored by the attendance of Elder and Mrs. Isaac Sanborn of the St. Thomas church. A cordial invitation is extended to all.

Elder Isaac Sanborn will meet with the London church Sabbath, June 23, at the usual hour. He is among our oldest ministers. We ask that he may have a full house.

A. O. BURRILL.

Summary of Medical Work

FOR lack of space we are unable to publish the detailed report which came to us of the medical work at Lindsay and Galt; but the following summary for the months of April and May will show that faithful work has been done.

Cash Received	\$100.65
Cash Paid Out	53.39
Cash On Hand	14.41
Number of Treatments Given	269
“ “ Hydrotherapy Treatments Given	123
“ “ Massage Treatments Given	147
“ “ Treatments in Home	47
“ “ Visits	147
“ “ Bible Studies Given	65
“ “ Health Talks Given	127
Pages of Literature Distributed	931
Periodicals Distributed	36
Bible Readings Given	2
<i>Life and Health</i> sold	87

Report of Tithes and Offerings Received During May (Ontario)

	Tithe	Missions	Earthquake Relief Fund
INDIVIDUALS	\$22.50		
LINDSAY	5.20		2.50
OTTAWA	15.30	2.60	
BRANTFORD	36.15	2.80	
GALT	14.55		
OIL SPRINGS	1.50	.50	
PETROLIA	16.45		
ALBINA	33.71		
INGERSOLL	1.		
TORONTO	9.81	.75	5.75
GURLEPH	23.	2.25	
LONDON	100.		
PALMERSTON			1.25
LORNE PARK			5.50
TOTAL	\$279.17	\$8.90	\$15.
SABBATH-SCHOOL OFFERINGS			
		PETROLIA	\$3.58
		OTTAWA	1.41
RELIGIOUS LIBERTY, BRANTFORD			4.50

Report of the Canvassing Work for Week Ending June 1, 1906

Name	Place	Book	Orders	Value	Value Miscellaneous Orders	Delivered
G. W. Sowler, Toronto, Ont.		B. R.			.80	45
J. Pengelly, Violet Hill, Ont.		C. K.	19	21.75	20.	
Henry Pengelly, Violet Hill, Ont.		C. K.	28	32.50	35.	1.25
Totals	4 Agents,		47	\$54.25	\$55.80	\$56.25