

## Report of the Fourth Quadrennial Session

Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Held at Jersey City, New Jersey, March 29 - April 9, 1932



F. H. ROBBINS



H. J. DETWILER

Elder F. H. Robbins was called from the ministry in the West Pennsylvania Conference in 1910, to the presidency of the West Virginia Conference. He served that conference for a period of more than four years. In 1914 he was called to the presidency of the West Pennsylvania Conference, where he served for four years and was then called to the presidency of the Ohio field. In 1919 he was called to the presidency of the Columbia Union Conference where he has administered the work most successfully the past thirteen years. Elder Robbins was elected Religious Liberty Secretary of the Columbia Union Conference, which responsibility he will carry in connection with his work as president of the Chesapeake Conference.

As he lays his Union Conference burden down, workers and people are deeply appreciative of the sterling quality of their former Union Conference President and wish for him abundant success in his new field of labor.

Following his graduation from Mt. Vernon, in 1913, Elder H. J. Detwiler entered the ministry and labored in the East Pennsylvania and New Jersey Conferences until he was called to teach Bible at Mt. Vernon Academy. In 1922 he was called to the principalship of Mt. Vernon Academy. In 1924 he was called to the presidency of the West Virginia Conference, where he labored four years. In 1928 he was called to the presidency of the New Jersey Conference, where he labored until he was called to the presidency of the Columbia Union Conference, at the Jersey City Union Conference meeting in April, 1932. Elder Detwiler has enjoyed success in his work in the various capacities in which he has labored. His background of experience, under the blessing of Heaven, prepares him for the heavy responsibilities that fall upon his shoulders in his new field of labor as president of the Columbia Union.

## ROLL CALL

The Fourth Quadrennial Session of the Columbia Union Conference was called to order by the President, Elder F. H. Robbins, at 10:45 A. M., Wednesday, March 30, 1932. All joined in singing hymn number 124, "Publish Glad Tidings." Elder J. L. McElhany, President of the North American Division, read for the Scripture Reading, Rev. 22:1-7. Prayer was offered by Elder C. H. Watson, President of the General Conference.

The delegates were then seated and the following responded to the roll call:

### GENERAL CONFERENCE

C. H. Watson, J. L. McElhany, I. H. Evans, W. H. Branson, H. H. Votaw, J. A. Stevens, H. T. Elliott, M. E. Olsen.

### COLUMBIA UNION

F. H. Robbins, E. J. Stipeck, J. P. Neff, E. M. Fishell, E. A. Manry, A. J. Clark, C. V. Leach, W. A. Nelson, D. A. Rees, W. M. Robbins, H. J. Detwiler, W. P. Elliott, W. R. French, D. W. Reavis, B. G. Wilkinson, C. E. Palmer, Mrs. F. H. Robbins, Mrs. Elizabeth Bacon, Mrs. B. G. Wilkinson, Miss Esther Bergman.

### CHESAPEAKE CONFERENCE

N. C. Van Horn, M. S. Banfield, J. H. Wierts, J. S. Washburn, Edward Jackson, C. W. Guenther, I. D. Coffman, U. D. Pickard, Curtis Quackenbush, L. W. Kurz, Miss Emma Newcomer.

### EAST PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

W. H. Jones, R. M. Spencer, H. A. Vandeman, J. E. Cox, M. R. Coon, Carl Becker, G. S. Rapp, W. J. Venen, Jessie Weiss, J. C. Holland, R. B. Clapp, Herbert Frizzell, W. E. Stephen, John Ott, Charles Ertel, Tell Nussbaum, H. G. Lewis, James Jamieson.

### NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE

C. H. Kelly, B. E. Miller, E. H. Swanson, J. A. Dominski, F. C. Phipps, M. H. St. John, S. E. Norton, Carl Bruck, M. G. Conger, Dr. S. O. Silvers, H. J. Adams, J. C. Dickson, Miss R. C. Wilcox, C. H. Keslake, R. S. Lindsay.

### OHIO CONFERENCE

A. E. King, A. A. Cone, W. F. Schwartz, W. H. Walden, C. E. Welch, D. S. Teters, G. W. Hosford, G. T. Harding, Geo. Butler, H. K. Christman, O. S. Hersberger, I. M. Evans, Mrs. A. E. King, R. F. Warnick, R. B. Craig, D. F. Roth, O. F. Schwedrat, J. G. Hanna, L. C. Evans, J. W. Schultz, W. W. Ellis, O. H. Bronkar, I. D. Richardson, J. W. Franklin.

### WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE

C. M. Paden, O. G. Carnes, S. M. Robbins, J. E. Meredith, J. H. McHenry, Miss N. E. Mead.

### POTOMAC CONFERENCE

W. B. Mohr, H. A. Morrison, J. W. MacNeil, C. H. Dougherty, L. W. Graham, B. F. Bryan, J. A. Bee, W. S. Mead, C. P. Sorensen, Mrs. C. P. Sorensen, H. L. Shoup, J. Lee Price, M. O. Bradford, R. D. Hottel, C. J. Coon, J. G. Dasent, A. E. Webb, A. W. Werline, F. D. Nichol, H. G. Gauker, Mrs. L. E. Patton, B. E. Connerly.

### WEST PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

H. E. Garrarde, L. H. King, C. B. Newmyer, C. W. Weber, T. M. Rowe, Dr. S. O. Cherry, Dr. W. A. Kelly, G. W. Herdman, R. E. Crawford.

### WASHINGTON MISSIONARY COLLEGE

Professor H. H. Hamilton.

### MOUNT VERNON ACADEMY

Professor A. J. Olson.

### SHENANDOAH VALLEY ACADEMY

Professor W. C. Hannah.

### REVIEW AND HERALD

F. M. Wilcox, R. W. Conard.

### WASHINGTON SANITARIUM

C. C. Pulver.

## Columbia Union Visitor

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President's Report

## FOURTH QUADRENNIAL SESSION

of the

## COLUMBIA UNION CONFERENCE

Greetings to the delegates and those assembled in the fourth quadrennial session of the Columbia Union Conference.

While there is war, unrest, and trouble in the world today, we come to this session with rejoicing in our hearts that He who has all power is our strong tower of defense. . . . His resources are limitless.

"God is our refuge and strength,  
A very present help in trouble. . .  
He breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder;  
He burneth the chariot in the fire.  
Be still, and know that I am God:  
I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted  
in the earth.

The Lord of hosts is with us;  
The God of Jacob is our refuge."

"According to Thy name, O God,  
So is Thy praise unto the ends of the earth:  
Thy right hand is full of righteousness.  
Let Mount Zion rejoice,  
Let the daughters of Judah be glad,  
Because of Thy judgments. . .

"This is our God forever and ever:  
He will be our guide even unto death."

### *Religious Liberty Department*

In almost every State in the Columbia Union Conference the Sunday law advocates are seeking to pass more drastic Sunday laws. Especially in the District of Columbia a desperate effort is being made to have Congress pass a compulsory Sunday observance bill. Following is a statement by Brother Millard C. Taft, Associate Religious Liberty Secretary of the General Conference:

"The past four years have witnessed much stir in the religious liberty field in this union. Nine Sunday observance bills were introduced into Congress and three are now pending. During the last session of Congress one of these bills came very near being enacted into a law, and there is now grave danger of one of these measures being placed on the Federal statutes.

"The reform calendar plan was also considered before Congress and before the League of Nations, but the providential hand of God has seen fit to postpone legislation along these lines and give us an opportunity to finish our work in peace.

"In our local conferences Sunday bills were introduced into every state legislature, and hearings were conducted. Elder A. J. Clark, the Religious Liberty Secretary of this Union, had the privilege of speaking before the legislative committees, not only on the subject of Sunday legislation, but on the guarantees of human rights and religious liberty. He addressed the Constitutional Convention Committee of West Virginia. He also spoke before different city councils on Sunday legislation. Elder H. H. Votaw, Associate Secretary of the Religious Liberty Association, and Elder Clark appeared before the Ohio legislature in protest against the teaching of the Bible in public schools.

"As a result of the blue law raid on the delicatessen stores in the city of Baltimore, there was introduced by Hon. Francis Michel, Speaker of the House of Delegates, a bill granting the right of home rule. Hearings were arranged by Elder Clark, and he and M. C. Taft appeared before the committee at Annapolis.

"During the last session of the Pennsylvania legislature, the Religious Liberty Department Secretary was given an opportunity to speak before the joint session of the Senate and House Committees in favor of the repeal of the Sunday blue laws of Pennsylvania, at which time the House of Representatives for the first time in the history of the State voted for the repeal of the Sunday laws of Pennsylvania.

"There is a great work yet to be done in the field of religious liberty, for the Lord's Day Alliance and other reform associations are pushing forward their campaigns for the enactment of more drastic Sunday legislation."

### *Medical Work*

During our last quadrennial period much has been done in educating the members of our churches to give simple treatments and to care for the sick. Schools of health have been conducted in different places, and our people are giving more attention to healthful living. Quite a number have completed the Home Nursing class, and have received special instruction in dietetics and cooking.

The Washington Sanitarium and Columbia Union Conference have united in a program to hold week-end meetings, schools of health, and to bring before our people more fully the importance of living the health principles, as given from the Bible and Spirit of prophecy. In "The Ministry of Healing," page 149, the statement is made:

"Every church should be a training-school for Christian workers. Its members should be taught how to give Bible readings, how to conduct and teach Sabbath-school classes, how best to help the poor and to care for the sick, how to work for the unconverted. There should be schools of health, cooking schools, and classes in various lines of Christian-help work. There should not only be teaching, but actual work under experienced instructors."

A great work remains yet to be done in medical lines. Our people should not only receive the ministry of the health message, but should be taught how to give it to others. The simple treatments given intelligently in time of illness are a great blessing. Doors are open into the homes and hearts of people who are ministered to by those who know how to give these treatments. We hope that the good work begun in the Columbia Union shall continue to grow until all of our people shall become efficient in making known these God-given principles of health to their neighbors and friends.

### *Educational Work*

Eight years ago there were 64 church schools in this Union; four years ago there were 72; and now there are 84. Eight years ago there were 85 teachers; four years ago there were 100; and today there are 120. The enrollment eight years ago was 1408 pupils; four years ago

it was 1553; and today it is 1784. Thus there has been a gradual and substantial increase in the number of schools, the number of teachers, and the enrollment.

The qualifications of the teachers have greatly improved during the last eight years. Eight years ago we had 22 teachers who held only permits. Today there are no teachers holding permits; all hold certificates. Eight years ago there were only 11 who held "professional and life" certificates; today there are 59 teachers holding these certificates. Likewise there has been a larger decrease in the number of second grade certificates, and a correspondingly large increase of first grade certificates. This shows our teachers are better prepared for their work than in the past. This improvement in preparation of teachers is manifest in the general satisfaction that our schools are giving, and in the ever-decreasing number of complaints that come to those who are directing the schools.

The school system in this Union has now reached that point where a definite step has been taken to carry out the full curriculum proposed by the General Conference as to the requirements in music, manual training, and other lines. There is still need of greater improvement in the school rooms and equipment. There has never been very satisfactory attainment for these needs. Most important of all, the teachers are giving more attention to the spiritual education of the children, and are definitely working for the conversion of the children in their charge.

Our college and academies are doing excellent work. These schools are upon a firm basis for rendering service to the cause for which they were established. We are grateful to notice that the college this year has the largest enrollment in its history. The printing and carpentry departments have done well financially, and have given work to a large number of students which has enabled them to pay their way through school.

#### *Publishing Work*

As the Saviour sat upon the Mount of Olives, He foretold what would take place in the world just before His second coming. He said: "The gospel must first be published among all nations." Mark 13:10. We are pleased to be able to report to you the splendid work accomplished through this department during the last four years. A number have been won to the truth through the personal efforts of our colporteurs, and many more no doubt, will be saved through reading the books placed in their homes.

The book sales for the Quadrennial period 1924 to 1927 amounted to \$941,135.71, and for the last period 1928 to 1931, \$915,025. The average number of colporteurs per month for this period was 172. One hundred and twenty-eight new Sabbath-keepers were won, and approximately 1,000,000 souls were warned.

#### *Missionary Volunteer*

This department reveals encouraging progress in every phase of its endeavor. At the close of the first year of this quadrennial period, there were 175 societies, while at the close of 1931 there were 189 societies organized in the Union. The membership of these societies throughout the Union totaled 3586, which represents about 27 percent of the membership of our churches.

Work for the salvation of our young people constitutes a fruitful field of evangelism. During this quadrennial period 1711 were added to our churches by baptism. We are interested in observing that our young people are carrying a heavy share of the evangelical work of our churches, and, also, are providing a large part of the funds to prosecute our work in the regions beyond. The reports show that they distributed more than 1, 143, 111

periodicals, and over 253,799 tracts during this four-year period. They also gave and gathered for missions a total of \$155,979.61. The work of our Young People's Department merits our confidence and support, and as workers we should not be satisfied until we see every boy and girl in the homes of our people brought under the saving influences of this message, and trained for some line of service in the great world-wide work.

#### *Sabbath School*

It is gratifying to notice the progress which has been made in the Sabbath School Department. The largest membership reported was in 1931, with the largest average attendance for the same year. The largest total Sabbath school offering to missions was given in 1929. Many of the Sabbath school members in this Union have received the Honor Cards, which are given in recognition of perfect attendance and on time, and studying the lesson every day for a single quarter. And a large number have received the book marks showing that a perfect record has been made for the entire year. The total offerings received for the last four-year period were \$663,919.14. Our people have shown their love for the truth by their liberality, and we thank God for the progress which has been made in the Sabbath school work in this Union.

#### *Home Missionary Work*

During the four year period just ended, success has marked the work of our lay members. In this period \$50,644.89 has been raised in the Mission Extension Fund. This sum of money has assisted in building publishing houses, erecting dispensaries, and aided in educational institutions. Not only has it done this, but it has forwarded the truth by the books sold in the home field. Two thousand five hundred forty Crisis books were sold by the laity. The sum of \$481,650.40 was raised in the Harvest Ingathering. 1929 being our banner year, the General Conference credited us with \$126,732.08, which is a gain of \$80,092 over the former four-year period.

At present more than 3,250 persons are reporting missionary work each month. This is a gain of about 5 percent. Just to show how God is leading His people into service, it may be well to compare a few items:

	Former Four-year Period	Last Four-year Period
Bible readings	98,816	134,843
Missionary visits	370,225	570,224
Articles of clothing given away	157,930	385,598
Books, tracts, papers and magazines	4,174,558	6,093,579

During our last four years the Union has circulated 3,174,218 copies of *Present Truth*. Since 1919, the beginning of the reporting of the circulation of *Present Truth* by conferences and unions, the Columbia Union circulated 9,790,658 copies of *Present Truth*, an annual average of 753,127 copies.

The laymen of the Union have entered into every phase of soul-winning endeavor. In the last four years more than 1850 persons were won to the truth by the lay members. These, no doubt, will win others, so that the work started will not cease until the close of probation.

You have observed the many achievements of our church members. During the last four-year period they have held 134,834 Bible readings or cottage meetings, given out 384,498 articles of clothing, distributed 6,093,579 books, tracts and magazines, and have given 71,000 treatments. While these activities have been in progress, our people have helped in a vigorous way to liquidate the indebtedness on our institutions. A few years ago we

raised \$6,000 annually in the Big Week campaign, and it has grown until this sum has more than doubled itself each year. Two hundred thousand books have been used in these campaigns. No one can estimate the good accomplished by the \$50,000 passed on to the General Conference to build publishing houses, schools and dispensaries in the mission fields. Our home missionary secretaries have led out in a strong way, and the foregoing figures show the results.

### *Tithe and Offerings*

Financially the Lord's blessing has rested upon our Union Conference. The tithe for the last quadrennial period amounted to \$2,159,789.40, more than was raised in the entire denomination in 1915. During the same period our mission offerings, including the per cent of tithe to missions, amounted to \$1,430,254.08, or more than was raised by the entire denomination in 1906 for all purposes.

The total tithe and mission offerings for the last quadrennial period amounted to \$3,511,183.31. Of this amount approximately \$2,000,000 were turned over to the General Conference.

### *Growth Since Organization, 1907*

It may be of interest to note the marvelous growth of the work during the twenty-four years that this Union has been in existence. The membership in 1907 was 5,717; in 1931 it was 13,303. The Missionary Volunteer Department was just being organized when the Union was formed. Today we have 189

societies. In 1907 we had only 25 church school teachers; in 1931 there were 120 teachers. The number enrolled in church schools in 1907 was 289; in 1931 the enrollment was 1784. The tithes in 1907 amounted to \$71,621.01; in 1931 they were \$483,783. Mission offerings in 1907 were \$14,262.67; in 1931 the mission offerings were \$317,869.56.

### *Conclusion*

As to the future, we desire to do more effective and fruitful work in soul-winning. May the Lord help us to lay broader plans to reach more people in the cities and country, and to enlist the services of every member in our churches. We want to see more church schools established where our children can be gathered in. We desire to do more in shepherding the lambs of the flock. We are deeply interested in seeing Washington Missionary College, Mount Vernon Academy, and Shenandoah Valley Academy have a larger attendance of our young people. We also desire to see these institutions freed entirely from debt. We earnestly desire that every branch of the work may grow and make progress as never before.

We realize that the great conflict of the ages is soon to be decided. The servant of the Lord has said that the substitution of the laws of man for the law of

God, the exaltation by merely human authority of Sunday in place of the Bible Sabbath, is the last act in the drama. When this substitution becomes universal, God will reveal Himself. He will arise in His majesty to shake terribly the earth. He will come out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity, and the earth shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.

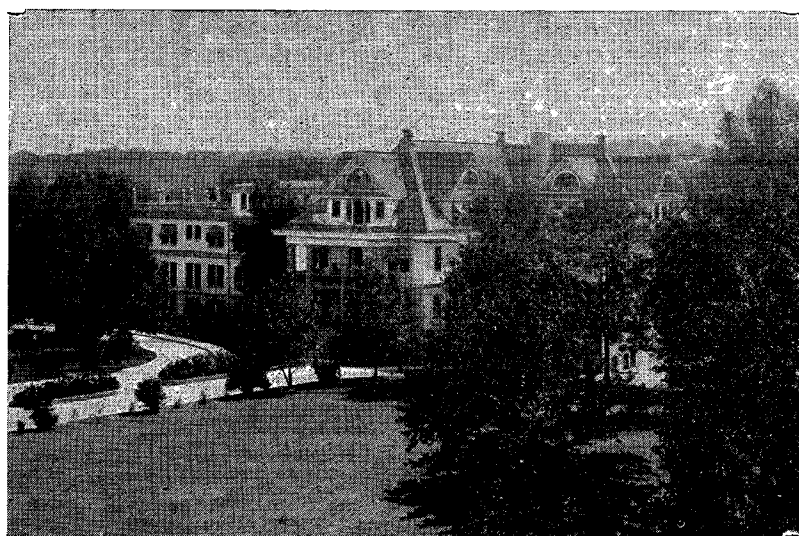
Now, as never before, Satan is exercising his deceiving power to mislead and to destroy every unguarded soul. Soon all the inhabitants of the earth shall have taken their side either for or against the government of heaven. Let us put forth every effort to arouse the people to prepare for the great issues before them. May the Lord help us to give the warning to those who are out of the ark of safety. May the principles of righteousness be so clearly presented to the people that they will discern the difference between following the great apostate in disobedience to God's law, and in following the Son of God who declared, "I have kept my Father's commandments." Let us pray earnestly that the angels will hold the four

winds a little longer until the gospel message has reached every honest soul in the world. The searching question comes to us, "Have we faithfully discharged our duty?"

In the words of the great apostle of the Gentiles, I would say, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might." May God help us to do a greater work for Him in the future than we have done in the past in carrying forward the truth. The world

needs salvation more than anything else. May we as Daniel cultivate and use every faculty in proclaiming the gospel to the people.

—F. H. Robbins.



WASHINGTON SANITARIUM

"I greatly appreciate the confidence that the Columbia Union has shown in me by electing me for three successive terms as its president. I appreciate still more the co-operation, and courtesy, and love that have been manifested toward me on all occasions. My service has not been perfect. The human must have appeared to you many times. But in spite of all of our weaknesses, God has marvellously blessed His work.

"As I look back over the years of progress, I take no credit to myself. The blessing of the Lord, together with your co-operation have achieved the splendid results that we see today.

"I ask that you will cover with the mantle of charity my mistakes and defects and pray that God will forgive my shortcomings and failures.

"My service, as your president, comes to a close, and I shall turn over the Chair to my successor, when he is duly elected and appears to enter upon his duties."

—F. H. Robbins.

## REPORT OF THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Time has marked off another period of four years for every child. Four years of life's golden opportunity has passed for every member of Columbia Union—four years less for the church to work for its children.

We rejoice in what is being accomplished for the education of about 2400 of our children and youth, each year. But why should these receive a Christian education while nearly twice that number are growing up in the Columbia Union without any systematic religious training? It ought to bring us to a serious thought that we should be found to allow so many of our children, in these perilous days, to grow up through childhood to manhood and womanhood educated apart from God.

We are gratified, however, that the enrollment and teaching force have not suffered loss in these days when so many sister unions have experienced serious curtailment. Last year the Pacific Union and the Columbia were the only two unions in North America that gained in the church school enrollment. Nearly every union, on the contrary, suffered great losses. We thank God that He gave our people courage to trust Him. We must give credit to the loyal superintendents who maintained the courage of the people and led them to see that although the need of bread might stare us in the face, we must not fail to provide the bread of life for our children. We are glad to report that the academies held their own, and that the College climbed a little higher each year.

We here acknowledge the guiding hand of God in the administration of the schools and the faith of the people through divine grace, so that when they stepped forward upon the seeming void, they found the Rock beneath. Somehow He saw them through and provided everything that was necessary. We are happy to report the following record:

Number of schools eight years ago, 64; four years ago, 72; there are now 84. Number of teachers eight years ago, 85; four years ago, 100; today, 120. Number of pupils enrolled eight years ago, 1408, four years ago, 1553; today, 1784. This is a gain in the number of children being educated in our church schools over eight years ago of 26 per cent, and a gain of 15 per cent during the past four years.

We count much on the number of our children that are actually enjoying the benefit of our Christian schools. But this alone could never satisfy us. The physical, the intellectual, and the spiritual conditions must take first place in considering the progress of the work.

### *The Physical*

We are glad to report that our children are being systematically examined by a nurse or physician, and that this work is being followed up by endeavoring to remove defects and promote good habits. More attention is being given to proper diet, exercise, and rest.

### *The Intellectual*

The standards of scholarship are rising. Each year the teachers are becoming better qualified. We have more life certificated teachers, more normal, and fewer of the lower grade certificates. Better qualified teachers means better teaching, and higher standards. They accomplish more and better work.

### *The Spiritual*

Our schools have no right to exist except on the basis that they accomplish definite, positive, wholesome, permanent results in spiritual lines. Here we note our greatest advance. More, far more, attention is being given to the spiritual welfare of the children as it relates to character, to spiritual insight, to personal faith, and to Christian activities. We have seen more conversions, and we have noticed a marked decrease in disciplinary problems.

We report a healthful condition in the church schools, and more general satisfaction on the part of the church members. We have better cooperation, and less resistance to the schools. There is a better appreciation of the aim and purpose of Christian education, and more sympathetic relations with the church members generally.

Owing to our having only two academies in the Union, we have found it advisable and necessary to provide more and more opportunity for pupils to pursue ninth and tenth grade work in the church schools. We have 171 taking academic work in the church schools. We are getting excellent results in these classes. If we did not make this provision nearly all of these young people would be compelled to attend the high schools. Were that so, we should lose nearly all of them. They would become interested in the high school activities, and their interest in our own higher schools would fail. But by holding them in our schools through the ninth and tenth grades, they go on to our academies or college for the rest of their education. These schools are not all that we desire but this arrangement is the best we can do under the circumstances. They are superior to the high school, at least for our children; and they hold them to our own ideals and furnish the stepping stones to the doors of our own schools.

We thank God for what has been accomplished, we look forward to the future with courage and confidence. We regret that so many of our children and youth are still drifting hither and thither, but we believe that He who has begun this sacred work for the children will carry it forward in the days that are to come, and that He will accomplish His work even unto the end.

—J. P. Neff.

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Through Christ had been communicated every ray of divine light that had ever reached our fallen world. . . . In him was found the perfect ideal. To reveal this ideal as the true standard for attainment; to show what every human being might become; what, through the indwelling of humanity by divinity, all who received Him would become, — for this, Christ came to the world. He came to show how men are to be trained as befits the sons of God; how on earth they are to practise the principles and to live the life of heaven. Ed. pp. 73, 74.



## Missionary Volunteer Department

The children and youth are the most precious asset of the denomination. They are, also, its most sacred charge and "of such are the kingdom of heaven."

To shield the youth from the snares of Satan, to keep them separate from the world, to place before them right motives and incentives, to give them the light of truth to lead them to Jesus the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and to guide them in service is a responsibility too great to express in human language.

Nevertheless, this is the high calling of God to His church. It is all embraced in the simple words of Jesus: "Feed my lambs." When children are brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, no man can despise their youth.

What have we done for the youth during the past four years? We have needed more fathers and mothers in Israel who would take a loving interest in them. Many of the youth who were with us four years ago are walking no longer with us. But this report is not to tell what we have done for them or what we have failed to do—all of that is with God, and that report awaits the inevitable hour when all must make a final report of their work.

What have the youth in Columbia Union done since 1927? What can we report for the Department? Four years ago, 1927, there were 175 societies, in 1931 we had 189. The membership of the societies in 1927 was 3,236, in 1931 it was 3,586. The number of conversions and baptisms during the past four years was 1711. During the past four years the youth gave 22,681 Bible Readings. The number of treatments given to the sick was 11,201. The societies' offerings for local work amounted to \$10,024.10. The offerings of the societies for foreign missions was \$14,228.21. The youth of Columbia Union raised in Harvest Ingathering \$133,540.98. They raised in Big Week the sum of \$6,009.74. The total amount raised by all methods for missionary work amounts to the splendid sum of \$163,803.03.

The number observing the Morning Watch increased from 918 in 1927 to 1303 in 1931, or more than 40 per cent. The Bible Year certificates issued total 2137, which means that perhaps more than 2,000 different persons read the Bible through during the past four years. We have issued 6,834 Reading Course certificates, and 739 Standard of Attainment certificates.

We submit that these figures show us a body of noble young people engaging in a series of activities that are not only enriching their lives, but affording them an experience that will greatly enlarge their possibilities for future achievement in the work of God. These youth have engaged in many other lines of missionary endeavor, but we shall not take your time to mention them now.

We should not close this report without calling your attention to the Junior activities which have been encouraged and pursued to some extent. We hope that more interest will be manifested in these attainments than heretofore. We believe this will be true as our society leaders and church school teachers become better qualified to lead in this line.

We note in this connection that the Potomac Conference held a summer camp in 1930, and again in 1931, and Ohio also held a summer camp for its youth in 1931. All of these were regarded as worth-while and successful. If the depression had not prevented many from attending, the camps would have served much larger groups.

You will see that the Columbia Union has been active along all lines of youthful endeavor. We thank God for the victories won, and we have begun 1932 with even larger plans and hopes for the future.

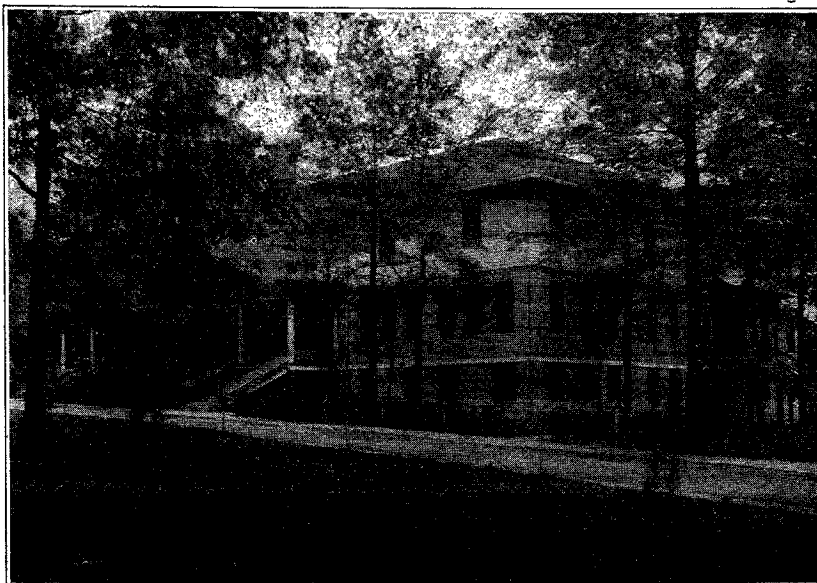
The most precious as well as the most valuable heritage of the denomination is its children and youth. In these intense days their feet tread the most perilous pathway. If they do not come to learn and to love the message as they grow up to manhood and womanhood, they have missed the way, and we have failed. Unless they understand and embrace the plan of salvation during those years while they are in our homes and at school, we have lost our supreme opportunity and little hope remains for the future.

The supreme task of the Young People's Department, its one chief and all-absorbing purpose must ever be the conversion and Christian training of the children and youth. All else may matter, but matters little in comparison with this great end.

The Spirit of prophecy has most fitly called our schools the "cities of refuge" for our young people. No place in the world is safe today. The times are full of danger, especially for the youth; but the schools are the safest place for them. In the remaining days we would solemnly urge all the young people's secretaries, the educational superintendents, the pastors and elders of the churches, and the fathers and mothers in Israel to gather the youth into our own schools, "away from those who are disregarding the commandments of God and practicing evil."

The conditions in the world are desperate. The night is almost gone, the day is breaking. Omens of the end are all about us. Today is your opportunity, your last opportunity for saving many of our youth.

—J. P. Neff.



W. M. C. DORMITORY

## REPORT OF FIELD SECRETARY

In this, the Columbia Union Conference of approximately 27,000,000 people our colporteurs have secured during the past quadrennial period orders for our books and periodicals to the amount of nearly one million dollars—to be exact \$915,025. This represents a slight loss in sales over the corresponding quadrennial period.

During this period we have had a monthly average of 172 colporteurs carrying to the homes of the people our truth-filled literature. It is this faithful army of colporteur evangelists that have made the above figures possible.

This delegation will appreciate the fact that the men and women comprising the Columbia Union colporteur army are not merely evangelists in name, but are emphatically that in very deed. Kindly note the following facts and figures.

During this quadrennium our faithful colporteurs have not only doubtless warned at least one million precious judgment-bound souls of Christ's second coming, but have reported (and we do not suppose the reports are complete) 138 new Sabbath-keepers. If these new believers were all grouped together in one church organization, it would form one of the major church units in this union of conferences. You, with us who are leaders in this great Publishing Department, will surely rejoice in this distinctly unique achievement.

While we have no way of ascertaining the great influence these new members of the faith—born into the fold through our colporteur organization—may and already have exerted in the Advent cause through the tithes and offerings given and other missionary endeavors too numerous to mention, yet we do know that God's truth for today will receive an impetus through the accomplishments of the past four years that will tend to greatly hasten a speedy climax to our combined endeavors, and make heaven's arches ring throughout the eternal ages.

And while I have been only able to help you to faintly sense the far-reaching lines of influence for good these 138 new believers will exert in the world until the close of time, I have said but little with reference to the millions of pages of truth lying in the homes of the people, waiting only to be read and do their appointed work on the hearts of those who have purchased them.

### *Only Touching the Possibilities*

If during the past four years we had actually delivered \$1,000,000 worth of literature to our 27,000,000 of population in this Union, we would have only approximately delivered \$.037 (three and seven-tenths) cents worth of literature to each individual. This will no doubt help you to better appreciate the stupendous proposition that confronts us in this populous territory.

To further illustrate the almost staggering task, we have on our hands to warn with the printed page the many millions residing in this prescribed territory:

If these 172 colporteurs were to reach and interview 45 individuals a day for each working day (five days a week) on the basis of 48 weeks, it would take nearly 16 years on the present program to reach the last individual in the Columbia Union. Therefore, in view of this almost superhuman task of carrying the message to these millions with the printed page—a duty which surely and solemnly devolves upon us as an Adventist people in the Advent movement, we respond to the challenge of Professor F. Griggs, of the Far East, with the same declaration of truth couched in the same language which is as follows:

"In this time of depression we must double our efforts to increase the sale of our literature. If a man is distributing literature, he is doing more to advance the gospel than if he were preaching."

At this time of scarcity of funds, limited resources and shortage of labor, should we not most earnestly formulate such plans that will enlist many of God's people in this self-supporting but sufficiently remunerative literature ministry? A few concrete illustrations of the character of the work this army of intrepid champions of God's cause is doing in the individual conferences of the Union may be of interest to those of you who may not be as intimately connected with this phase of the work as are those who are giving it direct supervision.

### *Ohio*

I shall not attempt to merely state here what the individual conferences have done in dollars and cents and actual sales during the past quadrennium, but rather to dwell upon the soul-winning aspect of this great line of evangelistic endeavor.

About one year ago Evangelist C. L. Evans and colporteur Pride began an effort which materialized from a book which had been sold at Struthers, near Youngstown. From that effort has developed a sturdy little company of Sabbath-keepers. Five of these new converts, all of whom were high school graduates, attended our recent January institute. We have high hopes that all of these young people will develop into efficient, permanent workers.

At Ironton and Portsmouth two successful efforts have been bound off by Evangelist Ellis, (who, by the way, spent several years in the colporteur work) both of which were primarily developed through the seed that was sown through the years by colporteurs Booth, Daily, and others.

The following from the pen of our beloved Brother Craig conveys a clear idea of the true character of the work our genuinely consecrated colporteurs are accomplishing.

"Have just sent a check for \$50 to missions. Last year I turned in \$130 Harvest Ingathering, and sent a check of \$100 to missions besides \$25 Big Week, and \$25 Institutional Relief. It has been my plan for many years to put in the Sabbath school \$1.00 each week. It pays to do business for the Lord. The record I have made since 1924 is as follows:

Year	Delivered
1924	\$2800.00
1925	3200.00
1926	2300.00
1927	3600.00
1928	3400.00
1929	3200.00
1930	3100.00
1931	2500.00
	<hr/>
	\$24,300.00

"I only worked a little more than 31 weeks this year in Ohio, but averaged over 57 hours per week."

These achievements all speak well for the able leadership of our beloved Brother I. M. Evans, who has carried forward a successful work in Ohio. Brethren Alexander of Cincinnati; and Curry, of Cleveland, have also produced enviable records in both soul-winning and literature circulation.



*East Pennsylvania*

During the past two years or more, East Pennsylvania has carried the record of delivering more books than any other conference in the Review and Herald territory. All of this is in favor of the efficient leadership of Brother O. C. Weller, who has had the supervision of our colporteur work in East Pennsylvania during the past seven years. The following incident further illustrates the important part the colporteur work is playing as a single factor in the prosecution of the cause of truth in many fields.

Peter Jaswinski, our Polish colporteur, who, having embraced the truth last September, I believe, and who having exhibited considerable ability as a colporteur, has not only demonstrated capacity for Christian service in this respect, but also an aptness to bring souls into the message. I think I can correctly state that he has prepared some twenty of his nationality for baptism. Brother Johnson, of Harrisburg, who is so successful in selling the book "The Great Controversy," has, if I am correctly informed, developed a company of some twenty new believers. Many other outstanding colporteur men such as Joseph Ledoni, the Italian colporteur, and C. W. Lorenz could be mentioned. Sisters Carrie Morris and Mamie Holmes are also doing excellent work.

*New Jersey*

Brother Thumwood has our colporteur work in charge in the New Jersey conference, and very acceptable work has been conducted under his consecrated leadership. The majority of scholarships earned by our students in the Columbia Union have been secured in New Jersey. Speaking of the high merits of this form of service, Elder Detwiler has this to say:

"It was indeed a renewal of my colporteur experience to associate with Brother Raymond Numbers and also my own son, Howard, for a few days in making their deliveries. All together about \$800 worth of books were delivered during the time that I spent with these young men in the field, and I cannot tell you how much I have appreciated the splendid work accomplished by the student colporteurs in New Jersey as illustrated during my association with these two young men in their deliveries, in the finest homes as well as the poorer homes throughout the field. They are doing a work just as important as that of the gospel minister. They have carried on this work with undaunted courage. I have heard the highest tribute paid to these young men by those who received their books. Surely every young man aspiring to the ministry should not only look upon the colporteur work as a means of training, but as a great opportunity to win souls."

Brother Myers, who was then acting as Brother Thumwood's assistant, sold literature to one by the name of Bennett, a contractor residing in Asbury Park. Out of this sale and several contacts which Brother Myers had with Mr. Bennett and his family, and through the influence of a "Bible Readings" which had been purchased many years before, the family felt impressed to give a lot to the conference upon which to build a church. From this providential meeting between the colporteur and this fine, Christian family, there now stands a beautiful church building dedicated to the advancement of the third angel's message—a fitting tribute and monument to the work of colporteur evangelism.

During the past two years Miss Widmer has delivered more than \$7,000 worth of "Bedtime Stories," which would, in round numbers, amount to 2,000,000 pages of truth placed in the homes of the people who have small children. Part of this fine work was done in the cities of New Jersey and Philadelphia.

*Potomac*

Excellent progress has attended the circulation of the printed page in the city of Washington, and in Virginia under the leadership of Brother J. A. Bee and J. R. Britt his assistant. One sister has been successful in placing "The Great Controversy" in the hands of such prominent men as Senator Hefflin, and others of national reputation. Brother Wilcox, the veteran colporteur worker in this Union, and one of the world veterans, has the distinction of having worked for more than forty consecutive years, during which time thousands of families have been visited and doubtless tens of thousands of individuals benefited by the literature purchased from him. Through an unbroken period of time Brother Perciful has also done very acceptable work.

*West Pennsylvania*

Brother J. R. Ridenour has been blessed of God in accomplishing a splendid work in the West Pennsylvania conference during the past four years. Elder Nelson and Brother Garrarde have also taken hold of the work in a good strong way, uniting their efforts with Brother Ridenour to make the thing a success.

I only wish time and space would permit mentioning the work of many of our colporteurs and leaders by name but I must take the time to briefly speak of the work of Brother Dornburg, of Pittsburg. In response to a request of mine, Brother Dornburg sent me the following data and figures of his work in the great city of Pittsburg:

"My total hours for the three years in the book ministry is as follows: Six thousand nine hundred sixteen. Amount delivered, nine thousand nine hundred fifty dollars. These are figures I am proud of. The souls I won during this time are only eight, of which I am ashamed."

You will all agree that this is an unusual record. Doubtless the future will reveal things of far greater interest in connection with this fine record that we cannot now see on the surface. I wish I might mention some of the fine exploitations of Brethren Higgins, Buttermore, and others. They are men of real worth to our cause.

*Chesapeake and West Virginia*

We have had a good corps of colporteur laborers working in Chesapeake and West Virginia. Many thousands of pages of our literature have been placed in the homes of the people in these conferences, and we believe eternity will reveal to us many precious souls won to the Saviour through the efforts of our earnest colporteurs in these two conferences.

Brethren Carter and Kurz are working hard to warn the people in their sections of the world field of the second coming of Christ. Their labors will be rewarded. Just now Brethren Kurz and Winley have a fine corps of colored colporteurs working in the city of Baltimore. We bespeak a promising future for the circulation of our book work in Baltimore under the able leadership of these two faithful brethren.

While other experiences equally as interesting and unusual in character might be added to those I have mentioned, space and time forbid much further narration.

There is a phase of our colporteur work which we have been featuring that has given us cause for rejoicing, and that is our colored work. In three large cities, Philadelphia, Washington, and Baltimore, respectively, we have our colored colporteurs under colored supervision and leadership. Three strong leaders were chosen in the persons of Brethren Gibbons, Britt and Winley. These three men have exhibited splendid leadership, and demonstrated that a strong and healthy literature work can be built up

in the negro constituency. This feature of our work has proved to be a real asset to the publishing program. No doubt much more could be accomplished than is being done in this respect in other of our large cities if proper colored leadership could be procured. I might add, that we believe we are right in saying that the Columbia Union has the honor of originating the idea north of the Mason and Dixon line of placing the colored colporteur work under colored leadership in conjunction with our general lines of colporteur endeavor.

In this connection I wish to express my appreciation for the hearty support and cooperation which all the executive members of the Union have so freely rendered to make the book work the success which it has been through the years. Many others whose duties do not lie along executive lines have also used their influence for the prosecution of this branch of God's ministry. We take occasion to thank all such for their contributions in this respect.

In conclusion I would add that our leaders of this department were never of better courage. To us there are no difficulties, no obstacles, no adversities. The modern Jerichos, Goliaths, and all the Philistines shall not stand before this host of God's workers. We are fully persuaded that in a large degree the work is to be finished through the medium of the printed page. We are committed to this fact, and are prepared to make this business of giving the circulation of our literature a greater impetus our sole objective. Therefore we bookmen are not only undertaking great things for God in 1932, but are expecting great things from God.

"God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent: hath He said, and shall He not do it? or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?" Numbers 23:19.

—E. M. Fishell.

## SABBATH SCHOOL REPORT

Are there not many here this morning for whom the words of this song express some of the earliest and fondest Sabbath school recollections?

"Sweet Sabbath school! more dear to me  
Than fairest palace dome,  
My heart e'er turns with joy to thee,  
My own dear Sabbath home.

"Here first my willful, wandering heart,  
The way of life was shown;  
Here first I sought the better part,  
And gained a Sabbath home.

"Sabbath home! blessed home!  
Sabbath home! blessed home!  
My heart e'er turns with joy to thee,  
My own dear Sabbath home!"

With the high praises of God on their lips, with the inspired Bible and Christian song book in their hands, with the converting law of the Lord on their hearts, with rich gifts in their pocketbooks, and with Christ's soul-winning missionary spirit permeating all, 13,562 devoted believers, during the past quadrennium, assembled from week to week and from one Sabbath day to another in nearly 300 Sabbath schools throughout the seven states and the District (of Columbia) comprising the Columbia Union conference.

Blessed of heaven, 2,120 Sabbath school members have been baptized during this quadrennial period. We are pleased to report that this is 200 more than were won to Christ during the previous corresponding period. We recognize that this good work is not to be credited alone to Sabbath school influence, for this splendid result was brought about through the cooperative endeavor of many. Nevertheless, we must ever keep the ideal before us that, "The Sabbath school should be one of the greatest instrumentalities and the most effectual in bringing souls to Christ." (T. S. S. W., p. 20.)

In the foreign field our Sabbath schools are eminently successful as soul-winning, evangelizing agencies; it behooves us to make them increasingly so in the home field. No stranger, no visitor should ever be able to come to a school without being cordially welcomed by several and royally entertained with the heavenly manna and with

the water that springs up into everlasting life. Relatives, friends, and neighbors, the youngest and the oldest, should be always welcomed and should be invited to our Bible studying Sabbath schools.

In this connection we recall the awakening declaration: "Wonderful opportunities are passing by unimproved in our Sabbath school work." T. S. S. W., p. 93. Immediately following this is the invitation: "Let men and women of varied gifts come into the work and in the fear of God do their best to save our youth." Id., p. 93.

Perhaps, the very best soul-winning opportunity, which should be constantly improved, is presented to our officers and teachers in the children and youth who weekly attend our Sabbath schools. Not only among our own, but also among non-Adventists, there are precious soul-winning privileges. This is indicated in the experience of one of the Sabbath school teachers in our Union field who invited two young boys, of non-Adventist parents, to attend the children's class. The seeds of truth found good soil in their honest, unprejudiced hearts. While the weeks went by the interest developed. As the boys grew into youth they continued to attend the Sabbath school, accepted Jesus as their Saviour, and observed the Commandments. By patient, continuous effort, entirely through the agency of the soul-winning Sabbath school, these two boys were prepared for baptism. They joined the church, and by means of their converted lives exerted a strong influence for good, creating much favor for the truth. Today, grown into young manhood one of these brothers is preparing for service in Washington Missionary College, the other will soon be graduated as a physician from our Loma Linda Medical College.

During the past four years our average Sabbath school membership in this Union exceeded the average church membership by 1,099, which indicates a healthy condition; only, it should be more so. This does not mean that all our church members are enrolled in the Sabbath school, because there are many unbaptized children and youth who swell the Sabbath school membership. Four years ago it was reported that there were approximately 2,700 missing members. We are glad to note improvement, for during this period just closed we have sought and found 500 of them. Nevertheless, there are still 2,200 church members who are not availing themselves of Sabbath

school privileges. These hundreds, yea thousands, of missing members reveal an element of weakness that every conference worker, Sabbath school officer and teacher should earnestly endeavor to change to an element of strength.

This problem calls for the concentration of all our Sabbath school powers to the task of increasing the Sabbath school membership by enrolling every church member. Every proper method should be employed. We suggest the following:

(1) A faithful search for every available Home Division member will increase our Sabbath school membership.

(2) Distributing the names of able bodied, but indifferent, non-attending Adventists among the teachers and members of the various classes in order that they may make a personal effort in the behalf of the missing members is bound to increase Sabbath school membership.

(3) One who knows tells us: "Our Sabbath schools should be made more interesting." If successful in training our Sabbath school officers and division leaders to conduct more interesting Sabbath schools, the increased attendance which is so desirable will surely result.

(4) Assigning a full half hour to the class Bible study appeals to every teacher and Bible loving member and has a strong influence to build up Sabbath school membership.

(5) "Be thou an example in all things," applies right here with force to every minister, conference and institutional worker, and church leader. Strange, yet true, that many, far too many, of our church leaders are among this large number of missing members.

(6) The best solution is to win them to the Sabbath school in just the same way in which they were first won to the truth; namely, through a lively personal interest:—

"If to Christ our only King,  
Men redeemed we strive to bring  
Just one way may this be done—  
We must win them one by one.

"So, you bring the one next to you,  
And I'll bring the one next to me  
In all kinds of weather we'll work together,  
And see what can be done;  
If you bring the one next to you,  
And I bring the one next to me;  
In no time at all, we'll have them all,  
So win them, win them, one by one."

The study of the Bible is the chief feature of our Sabbath schools. To prepare for this weekly study-recitation period, our Sabbath school members are encouraged to search the Scriptures daily, for at least ten minutes by means of the Sabbath school lesson. Each member is also invited to regular and punctual attendance. In recognition of reaching these attainments for one or more years we have issued 4,275 ribbon bookmarks. To those having completed perfect quarterly records during the quadrennium we have presented over 27,000 Honor Cards.

Our total Sabbath school offerings for the four years just closed are \$663,919.14 which, notwithstanding the past two lean years, represents a gain of \$35,684.44, over the previous four-year period. During the past two quadrenniums the Sabbath schools of this Union presented to our mission treasury approximately 50% of the total offerings to missions received from all sources.

When one considers that the Sabbath school materially assists in preparing hundreds of its members for baptism and also supplies half of all our mission funds for soul-winning work abroad, one begins to realize the force of Sister White's statement which reads: "The Sabbath

school work is important, and all who are interested in the truth should endeavor to make it prosperous." Test. Vol. 5, p. 127.

The many Sabbath schools in our Union employing efficient goal devices, as a means of increasing mission offerings, have amply demonstrated their helpfulness. Conference Sabbath school secretaries have found that where a goal device has been used for a period of time and the school has realized increased success that even those schools which objected to goals and devices have been fully convinced of their desirableness.

Four mammoth springs of never ceasing flow is the Sabbath school's source of the gold and silver stream steadily flowing missionward.

1. The regular weekly mission offerings donated on the twelve Sabbaths of every quarter, and which during the past four years in this Union amounted to approximately a half million dollars is the first spring. And what a mammoth spring! One thousand one hundred and twenty-one loyal Home Division members gave \$20,974.71 of this amount,— a worthy accomplishment shared with the able Home Division leaders.

2. The 13th Sabbath, at which time "the grand old dollars for the Missions" come to the surface is the second mammoth spring. Sixteen times during the past quadrennial period the Missions Quarterly focused on the 13th Sabbath and thus promoted the giving of \$180,826.40 to designated mission fields.

3. The Investment Plan, increasing returns of which indicate increasing interest, is clearly the third of the series of mammoth springs. In a perennial four-year flow this fountain head yielded the splendid sum of \$22,418.28.

4. The fourth mammoth spring is commonly known as Birthday offerings. Nearly \$10,000.00 was gratefully given for new work through these special thank offerings which goodly amount is practically twice as much as was given in the previous quadrennium and forcefully demonstrates the value of better promotion methods.

Our conference workers, Sabbath school officers and teachers everywhere should be seriously reminded that when our schools have adequately developed the regular twelve Sabbath offerings and the special 13th Sabbath offering, that they have then tapped only one-half of our Sabbath school plans for promoting mission offerings.

While some of our schools are securing many dollars from the Investment and Birthday springs, yet a large number of other schools are treating these sources of mission income with laxness or total neglect. To such schools these are as undiscovered fountain heads.

We see the possibility of a wider, deeper gold and silver stream as larger numbers of our local Sabbath schools are led to successfully tap these two sources and then, by means of increasingly skillful methods, continue to cause a freer, more abundant flow.

Our Sabbath schools have an abiding mission in helping to fulfill the Gospel commission. The burden of our mission is more apparent in this period of continued financial depression and shrunken funds. After two years of a downward trend one might think we had reached the bottom and would begin to climb upward. We are all sad that conditions cause us to acknowledge it is not so.

In view of the depleted mission funds, we are earnestly requested to increase our Sabbath school mission offerings at the rate of five cents or more for each church member each week. A new Sabbath school slogan is: "A nickel or more than heretofore." To which we respond, "We'll gladly try!" If this suggested minimum increase can be actually secured, we shall receive each Sabbath during the

year throughout the Columbia Union territory over \$600.00 more than heretofore.

Sabbath school officers must talk this up and also "say it in song." Sabbath school teachers must be enlisted to see that this increase is forthcoming in their particular classes each week. Young people and children should be solicited to share in the privilege. And let us pray that men and women of means will be moved to give liberal personal gifts so that our missions can be maintained, and the work of God suffer "no defeat and no retreat."

So urgent is it that we are admonished to "work for this as if the house were burning, as if the ship were sinking, as if our beloved missionaries were in a mine that had suddenly caved in, work bravely, continuously, with invincible courage until the crisis is past."

Enterprising Sabbath schools look carefully to their tools. It is our united purpose that every officer and teacher have access to the *Sabbath School Worker*,—a periodical especially designed for their needs. Some of our local conference fields have been successful in this to the extent of over-subscribing their assigned "Worker" goals. Our schools also seek to supply the young people with the *Youth's Instructor*, and to furnish every family having small children attending the Sabbath school with a weekly copy of the appreciated paper known as: "Our Little Friend." "Memory Verse Cards" are used by 118 Sabbath schools in this Union, while the "Picture Roll" does double duty by being mailed as free missionary literature to mission stations in all parts of the world. "Midget Pictures of Bible Stories," the sand-table, and blackboard, are all available and are all used in impressing divine truth upon animated clay.

"We miss you" postcards mailed to many missing members have helped to increase attendance and good will.

The three books, "Testimonies on Sabbath School Work," "The Soul-Winning Sabbath School," and "Fifty Model Sabbath School Reports," are three master tools which our Sabbath school workers in increasing numbers are learning to use and are finding indispensable for efficiency.

Realizing that good leadership is essential to good success, many hundreds (1346) of Sabbath school officers and teachers better prepared themselves for their sacred trust by studying the "Sabbath School Workers' Training

Course." A large place awaits consecrated, trained Sabbath school officers and teachers and more successful, fruitful service is the sure result.

Thus, during the past four years, to the praise of the Lord, our Sabbath schools as the pioneer missionary organization, the advance guard of our Christian army have been repeatedly established at many strategic points. It is already largely true that "There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard." Through their gifts of men, money, and prayers, beams of light and words of power have gone forth to the ends of the earth. They have changed and glorified the destiny of hundreds of thousands and have more influence today than in any part of our previous history. They are destined to increase in influence and power until encompassing "every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people" they are carried over to the new earth state where eternally from one Sabbath to another all flesh shall worship before God.

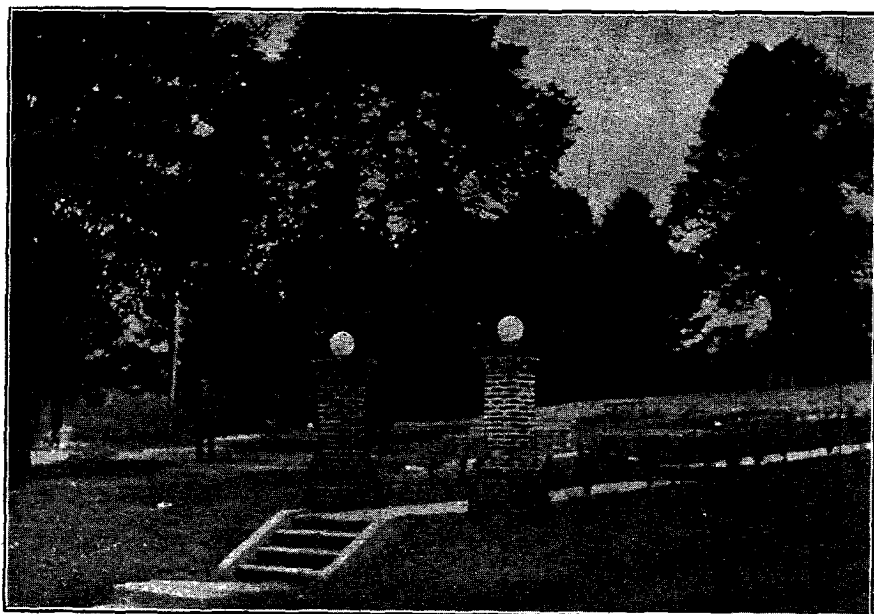
#### *God Bless Our Sabbath Schools*

"God bless our Sabbath schools,  
May right their precincts rule;  
God bless our schools.  
Send down Thy grace divine,  
May every one be Thine,  
In love our hearts entwine  
God bless our schools.

"All our endeavors bless,  
And give us large success  
In seeking truth.  
May each encouraged be,  
Here learn Thy face to see,  
Finding new joys in Thee;  
God bless our schools.

"So may our schools increase,  
In knowledge, love, and peace;  
God bless our schools.  
And may we each be true,  
Thy service here to do,  
Till in the earth made new  
We dwell with Thee."

—Milton G. Conger.



ENTRANCE TO CAMPUS, MOUNT VERNON ACADEMY

## Report of the Home Missionary Department

During the last four years the lay members of the Columbia Union, under the leadership of devoted conference secretaries and conference officers, have reached a higher plain than ever before in the history of the Union. The great objective of all missionary work is to win souls to Jesus. Four years ago the delegates assembled in Cleveland were told by this department that one of the plans for the future was to train our laity to win souls for the Master.

Since we last met in a quadrennial session 1851 persons have been won for Christ. What does this indicate? It plainly shows that a part of our objective has been accomplished. The number of individuals won by the laity in four years exceeds the membership of either the West Pennsylvania or the Chesapeake Conferences. These new members are full of enthusiasm, and, of course, are workers for the Master.

Just to illustrate what 1851 persons can do in a year let us take a few of the figures produced by a conference composed of 1060 members. In one year West Pennsylvania put out more than 540,000 *Present Truth* and raised \$12,000 Harvest Ingathering. One year the Chesapeake conference raised \$2200 in Big Week, \$4000 in Institutional Relief, and \$12,000 Harvest Ingathering, to say nothing about the regular Sabbath offerings. 1851 persons won by the laymen is a work of no small importance when we consider the price put upon humanity by Jesus. He gave His life to make it possible that even one soul might be saved. The estimated cost for one convert in North America is \$600. At \$600 a convert, 1851 members won by workers would represent an expenditure of \$1,110,600.00.

How were these souls won? A few became interested in the truth by being invited to church by the members. Eighty thousand persons came to our services in this way.

"There are many things that persons may do if they only have a mind to work. There are many who will not go to church to hear the truth preached. By personal efforts in simplicity and wisdom these might be persuaded to turn their feet to the house of God. Conviction may fasten upon their minds the first time they hear a discourse upon present truth. Should your solicitations be refused do not be discouraged, persevere until success crowns your efforts." Review and Herald, June 20, 1880.

"Visit your neighbors and show an interest in the salvation of their souls. Arouse every spiritual energy to action. . . . Tell them of the blessing that comes to you as you sit at the feet of Jesus, and learn precious lessons from His word. Tell them of the gladness and joy that there is in the Christian life. Your warm fervent words will convince them that you have found the Pearl of Great Price. Let your cheerful, encouraging words show that you have certainly found the higher way. This is genuine missionary work, and as it is done, many will awake as from a dream." Testimonies, Vol. IX, p. 38.

In the last four years 570,234 missionary visits were made by the laity. Doubtless many of those who came into the truth were inspired by the lives of the men and women who visited them in their homes.

One hundred thirty-four thousand eight hundred thirty-four cottage meetings or Bible readings were given. No one can estimate the value of this service. Had these services been paid for at the regular rate paid for such instruction, it would have cost \$135,000. These studies

given by the laymen had a large part in bringing in the 1851 converts.

"The plan of holding Bible readings was a heaven-born idea. There are many, both men and women, who can engage in this branch of missionary labor. Workers may thus be developed who will become mighty men of God. By this means the word of God has been given to thousands; and the workers are brought into personal contact with people of all nations and tongues. The Bible is brought into families, and its sacred truths come home to the conscience. Men are entreated to read, examine, and judge for themselves, and they must abide the responsibility of receiving or rejecting the divine enlightenment. God will not permit this precious work for Him to go unrewarded. He will crown with success every humble effort made in His name." Gospel Workers, p. 192.

### *Welfare Work*

During the period just closed 385,598 articles of clothing have been distributed to the needy. One small church gave out in a few months 11,000 garments, 1000 pairs of shoes, and hundreds of dollars worth of food. At present many of our churches throughout the Union are helping the needy. In fact, practically every church in the Union is under the load and lifting. The 58th chapter of Isaiah appeals to us, and we delight to clothe the naked and feed the hungry.

### *Health Work*

In the last few years much stress has been placed upon the medical work in the churches, and at the camp meetings. Every conference has its able advocates of the advantages of living up to the principles given us in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Home Nursing classes have been conducted in many places, and 444 have finished the course, and have their credits from the General Conference. Last year 125 certificates were granted. The visits by our sanitarium doctors to the churches, and the educational work carried on by our nurses at the camp meetings have been a great benefit to our people.

"When properly conducted the health work is an entering wedge making a way for other truths to reach the heart. When the third angel's message is received in its fullness, health reform will be given its place in the councils of the conference, in the work of the church, in the home, at the table, and in all the household arrangements. Then the right arm will serve and protect the body." Testimonies, Vol. VI, p. 327.

Of course we are pleased with the progress made, but we will never be satisfied until every church member measures up to the standard. "The medical missionary work should be a part of the work of every church in our land."

During the last quadrennial period, 71,000 treatments have been given. Words cannot describe the gratitude of those who have been relieved from pain and instructed how to live.

### *Literature Distribution*

There are more than fifty lines of missionary work to be promoted in a conference; and one of them, scattering the printed page, holds a very important place. "If there is one work more important than another it is that of getting our publications before the public, thus leading them to search the scriptures. Missionary work introducing our publications into families, conversing and praying

with and for them — is a good work." Christian Service p. 145. In the last four years 5,965,908 books, tracts and magazines have been given out. We sometimes estimate that at least five persons have access to every piece of literature distributed. If this estimate holds true, then more than 30,000,000 individuals had access to some portion of the message.

### *Campaigns*

Four years ago the indebtedness upon the three schools in the Union amounted to about \$200,000. Now, after four campaigns, we find the indebtedness reduced to \$76,000, or a reduction of \$124,000. We surely thank the Lord for this.

### *Big Week*

Mission Extension work has appealed to our people strongly. It has been a delight to visit the churches and notice the pleasure shown by our people as they were given an opportunity to unite their efforts in establishing schools, dispensaries, and publishing houses in mission lands. Fifty thousand six hundred thirty dollars and fourteen cents have been raised in Big Week. This amount exceeds the record of the previous quadrennial period by \$16,062.76. We surely can see the hand of God in this. Two hundred thousand five hundred forty Big Week books were sold in these campaigns.

### *Harvest Ingathering*

No effort on the part of our people calls for more time and energy than the Harvest Ingathering for missions. Each year witnesses a greater number of our people taking part, and each campaign closes with a larger list of interested persons found by our solicitors. In one of our conferences practically the entire corps of workers have been busy following up interests found in the campaign. Four hundred eighty-one thousand, six hundred fifty dollars have been passed on to the General Conference in four years, or an average of \$120,412 a year. This sum exceeds the previous period by \$84,092. Notwithstanding the great depression of 1931, through the blessing of God and thorough organization we lacked only \$5,400 of making the high 1930 record. We surely praise our heavenly Father for His many blessings upon us, and we

rejoice that we have a part in this great closing work that is going on in the earth.

### *Plans For The Future*

Our objective is to train every member in the Union to be a successful soul-winner. We have been told that "the work of God in the earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers." Testimonies, Vol. IX, p. 117. This will be brought about by educating the laity to use the talents God has given them. Just now what is needed most in addition to consecration is explained in Volume IX, page 117.

"In every church there is talent, which, with the right kind of labor, might be developed to become a great help in this work. That which is needed now for the upbuilding of our churches is the nice work of wise laborers to discern and develop talent in the church,—talent that can be educated for the Master's use. There should be a well-organized plan for the employment of workers to go into all our churches, large and small, to instruct the members how to labor for the upbuilding of the church, and also for unbelievers. It is training, education that is needed. Those who labor in visiting the churches should give the brethren and sisters instruction in practical methods of doing missionary work."

The outlook is indeed bright for the accomplishment of God's purpose. Each conference is well manned by a secretary who knows from experience how to do things. We have the cooperation of the entire staff of workers in this great movement of winning souls for the Master. We have our orders.

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Matt. 28:19, 20.

The Great Captain of our salvation has never lost a battle, and it is He that has ordered an advance. Work and pray, and pray and work is our motto.

—E. A. Manry.

## Report of the Religious Liberty Department

During the past four years in the Columbia Union Conference, the Religious Liberty work has presented many opportunities to bring this movement and our faith before many prominent and influential people; yet the possibilities along this line have only been touched with the tips of our fingers.

The servant of the Lord has told us in *The Great Controversy* page 610: While many of our rulers are active agents of Satan, God also has his agents among the leading men of the nation. The enemy moves upon his servants to propose measures that would greatly impede the work of God; but statesmen who fear the Lord are influenced by holy angels to oppose such propositions with unanswerable arguments. Thus a few men will hold in check a powerful current of evil. The opposition of the enemies of truth will be restrained that the third angel's message may do its work. When the final warning shall be given, it will arrest the attention of those leading men through whom the Lord is now working; and some of

them will accept it, and will stand with the people of God through the time of trouble."

This branch of our work has been organized to bring the truth to the attention of these men, and no other branch of our work affords such an opportunity to reach them.

There have been thirteen hearings conducted in the state and city legislatures within this Union during the quadrennial period: one in Ohio, one in Virginia, two in Pennsylvania, three in Maryland, two in West Virginia, two in the city of Philadelphia, and two in the city of Baltimore. At these hearings we have not only presented the reasons why church and state should be separate, but have had an opportunity at some of them to present the Sabbath truth.

In Maryland a year ago a bill was introduced in the state legislature seeking to grant to the city of Baltimore the right to settle by referendum the Sunday law status for that city. After the passage of this bill the city of



Baltimore passed an act, to present to the voters of the city for their ratification, a repeal of certain restrictions now found in the Sunday law. Hearings were held on these bills both at Annapolis and in Baltimore. At these hearings contacts were made with many prominent and influential men, which has placed our movement in a very favorable light.

Since the passage of the bill to place the matter of repeal before the people, the Lord's Day Alliance has taken the matter into the courts endeavoring to restrain the Board of Supervisors from placing the question on the ballot. The Attorney General of the state defended the Board at the trial. It was the privilege of this department to furnish much of the material used in his argument. The Lord's Day Alliance lost the case in the lower court, and immediately appealed to the Court of Appeals, where it is now pending. This election is to take place on May the second of this year, and the higher court has promised to hand down its decision by April 9, so if they pass favorably on the bill we will have three weeks to work. One of the charges against the act in the mandamus of the Lord's Day Alliance, was that if it passed the vote of the people, it would be detrimental to the Christian religion. The attorney general in his answer to this charge argued that the Bible was the foundation of the Christian religion, that Sunday observance nor even first day observance was not a command of the Bible, therefore if this act passed the vote of the people it could not be proved it would be detrimental to the Christian religion. He also argued that as Sunday observance as a Sabbath could not be proven by the Bible, it must be a man-made institution, and as a matter of fact, history showed that Sunday was not observed until long after the Christian religion was founded. One entire afternoon was spent with the attorney general helping him prepare this argument. Judge O. Danrie, the judge before whom this case was argued was also furnished with literature from this

department, and it was very plain when he rendered his decision, which took more than an hour, that he had not forgotten what our literature contained.

To show the possibilities in this line of work, at one of the hearings held in the city of Philadelphia, we had a remarkable opportunity to present the Sabbath truth to the city fathers of that great city. One of the representatives of the ministerial union, said that the Sabbath, of course he meant Sunday, was as old as the world, it was instituted by God himself at creation, and spoken by Him at Sinai. When opportunity was given us to speak, we challenged this statement, and said, "The gentleman knows, I am sure, that the Sunday he is fighting for is not the Sabbath instituted at creation, nor the one commanded in the commandment given at Sinai. One of the members of the city council interrupted at this point and asked how Sunday ever came to be observed. He said he had been perplexed over this question, and for twenty minutes we had the privilege of presenting the truth regarding the Bible Sabbath, and when and how it was changed. Who knows but that some of these men will be among the men that will accept and defend the truth at the time of trouble as the servant of the Lord has said.

Another line of work conducted by the department during the four year period, has been the bringing of our work and message to the Jews. Because of the Religious Liberty principles in our message, we have gained favor with the Jews and had the privilege of speaking before a number of Jewish congregations. Representatives of the General and Union Religious Liberty Departments have spoken in twenty-seven different synagogues, in New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. It is a very easy thing to secure these opportunities and through this branch of our work many Jews can be reached. In Acts of the Apostles, we read: "When this gospel shall be presented in its full-



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ness to the Jews, many will accept Christ as the Messiah." A. of A., p. 380. Again on page 381 we read: "In the closing proclamation of the gospel, . . . God expects His messengers to take particular interest in the Jewish people." Is it not to be supposed that the Lord would have us take advantage of this line of work to reach these people?

Many personal interviews have been held with senators, congressmen, members of state and city legislatures, lawyers and prominent business men, and thousands of pages of our literature on all phases of our message have been given to them.

Now is our time to do this work. We stand in favor

with men influential in political circles, and are recognized as the people that have the truth on this subject. Many, many men will be reached through this branch of our work that will never be reached in any other way.

The end is near, the time of trouble is right upon us and what we do along this line as well as every other line of our work must be done quickly.

Pray that the Lord will bless the work that has been done and bless the literature distributed, and that some at least of these men will yet accomplish a great work in the closing scenes of this message.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. Clark, Sec'y.

## Report of the Medical Department

During the last quadrennial period progress has been made in medical missionary work throughout the Columbia Union. The importance of the health work is expressed by the Servant of the Lord in these words: "Those who live in the last days of this earth's history need to be fully established in the principles of health reform. They need to recognize that the medical missionary work is ordained of God." T. S., p. 198. Three definite reasons are given; (1) "The work of health reform is the Lord's means of lessening suffering in our world and (2) of purifying His church." Vol. 9, pp. 112, 113. (3) It is the entering wedge for saving souls. Vol. 6, p. 327; T. S., p. 89.

C. T. B. H. pp. 7-11. "The violation of physical law, with its consequent suffering and premature death have so long prevailed that these results are regarded as the appointed lot of humanity, but God did not create the race in such a feeble condition. This state of things is not the work of Providence, but of men; it has been brought about by wrong habits and by violating the laws that God has made to govern man's existence."

The five diseases which head the list as being responsible for the most deaths are to a great extent preventable. These diseases do not attack an individual suddenly, but as Paul tells us, are the result of a harvest sown. Gal. 6:7. "Be not deceived for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap."

1. Heart disease—Luke 21:34. Men's hearts failing for fear.

2. Cancer—Each one can say for himself how far he is willing to go to avoid cancer.

3. Brights Disease—Doctors order no meat.

4. High blood pressure—No factor over which we have control has a more profound influence upon our blood pressure than the food eaten.

5. T. B.—Treatment. Pure air, sunshine, nutritious food. The eight natural remedial agencies for the want of which thousands perish are listed in Ministry of Healing, p. 127.

Hosea 4:6, we read: "My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge, because thou hast rejected knowledge."

Vol. 3, pp. 171, 172. "Those who have the light and do not follow it, but disregard the requirements of God, will find that their blessings will be changed into curses and their mercies into judgments."

Jer. 8:22. "Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?" It was said concerning Israel when they lived in harmony with God's divine

principles, Ps. 105:37, "There was not a feeble person in all their tribes." We as a people have the balm but it must be applied to be effective.

2. What part does health reform have in sanctifying the soul? "He who cherishes the light which God has given upon health reform has an important aid in the work of becoming sanctified through the truth, and fitted for immortality." Vol. 3, pp. 162-163. C. T. B. H., p. 10. God permits light to shine enabling man to see that in order to live a perfect life he must obey the natural laws which govern his being. How important then that man should walk in this light, exercising all his powers, both of body and mind to the glory of God. "It is impossible for man to present his body a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, while, because it is customary for the world to do so, he is indulging in habits that are lessening physical, mental, and moral vigor." Rom. 12:1, 2. T. S. p. 35. "The human being who is careless and reckless of the habits and practices that concern his physical life and health, sins against God. This is shown by the injury done to the body in violation of physical law." 1 Cor. 6:19, 20.

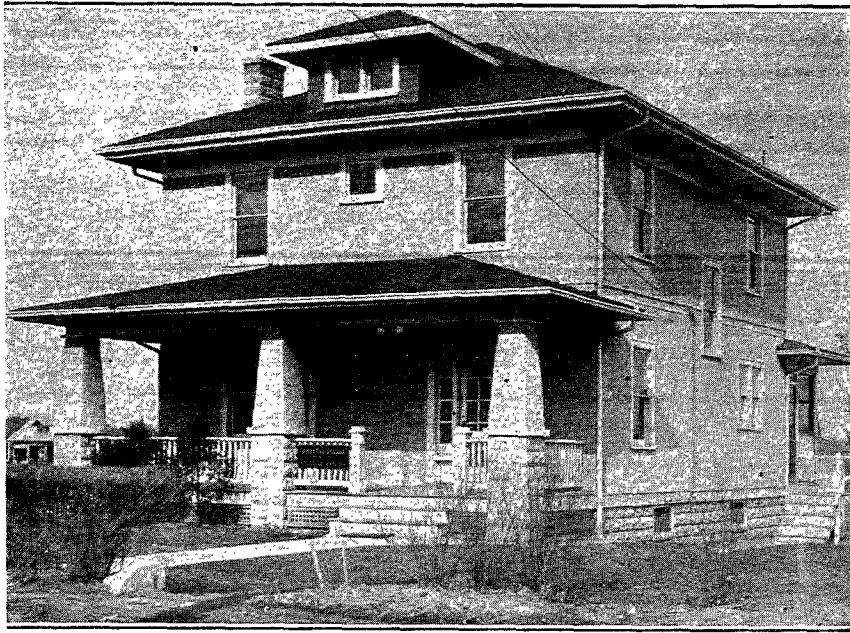
3. The third reason for medical missionary work is stated in Vol. 9, pp. 112, 113. This work bears the signature of heaven and will open doors for the entrance of other truths. So it has been called the entering wedge. But that is not all, it has also been called the right arm of the message. It is true the body can exist without the arm, but O, how we pity an individual thus handicapped.

We can thus see that the medical missionary work is not only the entering wedge, but a demonstration of the actual working of the gospel and many an honest heart will thus be brought to a saving knowledge of the truth. Are we willing that God should demonstrate through us to the world what he can make of sinful human beings when the moral image of God is restored in us?

There is a definite statement in the Spirit of Prophecy that this work must be done in the church.

Vol. 8, p. 75. "If you will not encourage medical missionary work in the churches it will be done without your consent, for it is the work of God and it must be done."

"The church of Christ is organized for service. Its watchword is ministry." Its members are soldiers to be trained. Vol. 7, p. 62. "We have come to a time when every member of the church should take hold of the medical missionary work. Everywhere people are perishing for a lack of knowledge of the truths that have been committed to us." M. H. p. 149. Every church should be organized for service and be a training school for



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Christian workers. But we are told workers should be sent who will live the principles of health reform, or they will prove a snare to the church. The knowledge imparted should be taught to others by precept and example, since truth that is not lived or that is not imparted will soon lose its life-giving power. Freely ye have received, freely give. And again it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Home nursing classes properly conducted can restore "the breath of life to the church" and be a soul winning agency. At the present time in connection with our work at the dispensary a home nursing class is being taught. The class is made up of Adventists and unbelievers. Now that they have learned to make a bed, change it with the patient in bed and give a soap wash in bed, each member of the class is assigned to a sick member of the church to render this service. All who go are anxious to return the next week and since the class numbers more than twenty, it makes it possible to care for three sick people each week. Those not of our faith are impressed with the missionary spirit and have remarked that they are anxious to learn more about our people.

The Columbia Union has demonstrated an intense interest in the medical missionary work by arranging for a physical examination of all the children in our church schools, number 1800, as well as our young people in the academies and at the Washington Missionary College.

In many of these schools a second examination or re-check is made during the close of school. We are no longer attempting in school to direct the progress of bodiless minds. We read in "Education," p. 291, "The greatest wrong done to a child or youth is to allow him to become fastened in the bondage of evil habit." Health is our greatest temporal possession. Wealth, learning, honor, fame, or any other accomplishment is dearly purchased at the expense of health. C. T. B. H., p. 151.

"Keep the work of health reform to the front is the message I am instructed to bear. Show so plainly its value that a widespread need for it will be felt." Vol. 9 pp. 112, 113.

At our camp meeting an earnest effort has been made to lift our people on a higher plane of Christian living with the most gratifying results.

The standard God holds out to each individual is expressed in these words: "It is the duty of each individual to do all in his power to present his body to Christ a cleansed temple physically perfect. Paul has given us the same instruction in Rom. 12:1.

The Washington Sanitarium has shown their interest and realized their responsibility by sending out each Sabbath a medical group to different churches to present our health message, different phases of health reform being presented by the members of the group thus endeavoring to give a balanced health picture. Churches far and near, large and small in all conferences of the Union have thus been visited. These meetings have proven a real inspiration and blessing wherever conducted.

Dr. Wilkinson has demonstrated his belief in the statement from inspiration, Vol. 6, p. 300; that "God wants the ministers and the church members to take a decided active interest in the medical missionary work," by insisting on a twenty minute medical talk preceding his lecture in an effort conducted in the city of Washington. Not only are the people becoming familiar with our health message, but the ministerial student can observe how the medical missionary work can be combined with a soul winning effort.

Christ is no longer in this world in person, to go through our cities and towns and villages, healing the sick. He has commissioned us to carry forward the medical missionary work that he began.

When all other branches of the work have ceased, we are told that medical missionary work will be done. G. C. Bulletin, 1901, p. 204: "I wish to tell you that soon there will be no work done in ministerial lines, but medical missionary work."

In view of all the Lord has seen fit to tell us of the importance of medical missionary work, shall we not rally to the hour's great need and make use of the right arm of this message?

—Miss Esther Bergman.

God calls for Christian families to go into the dark places of the earth, and work wisely and perseveringly for those who are enshrouded in spiritual gloom. P. K. p. 172.

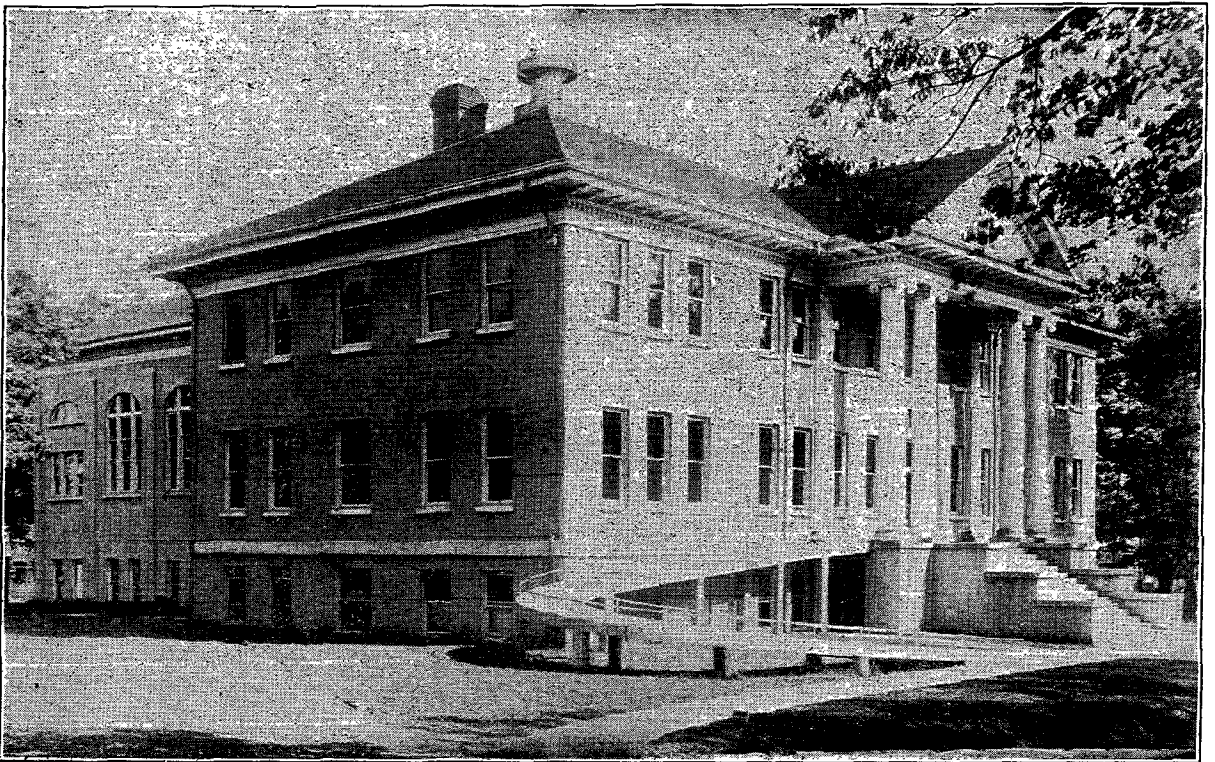
## High Points of Report on Washington Missionary College

The highest attendance the College ever had was last year, when there were 404, and we have 402 now. Despite a very hard year the young men and women have come to us just the same. Many of those young people earn half or more of their way, in connection with our industries. I believe God blesses those industries, and I want to tell you about some of them.

We have a Wood-working Shop that makes ironing boards, chairs, stepladders, and other things. That shop has made us a net profit of \$1,000 a month for three years. Some of your boys work in this shop.

I want also to say a word about the young people who have made their way by selling books. The colporteurs coming to our institution do not give us any concern; but when we make calls for field days they volunteer their services, and they go anywhere we send them. The student colporteur work is a wonderful blessing. These young people work with our ministerial students and do a great deal to make it a spiritual place.

Of all the students in the institution who have to walk the "straight and narrow," the premedical students have to be the most careful. Let one of them make one slip



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We have a Print Shop that has made practically a thousand dollars profit a month for three years. It runs night and day, so we are able to make full use of our equipment. We have six or eight periodicals that bear a date and have to be published at a certain time. That work is done by the students. People come to us and ask us how we get those boys and girls to work; but the biggest difficulty we have is writing a heartbreaking letter and saying to other young people that we do not have the work for them.

But the most important part of the institution is the spiritual atmosphere that permeates the place. It is not numbers that make success. If that were true Columbia University with its 35,000 students would be, I suppose the most successful institution on this globe. We have a little institution, but we have a great big truth back of it. Our Theological Department is educating the young people to go into the fields. I think from the sermons you have heard here from our Bible teachers that you are quite satisfied that they know how to give the truth of God as it should be given in these days in which we live. The atmosphere and influence of the Theological Department permeates the whole institution.

in a disciplinary way, and Loma Linda wipes his name off the slate. They know that they must walk "the straight and narrow" all the time. Somehow I wish every student had to do the same. While I have told you it is a spiritual place, all the students do not have wings; but I think most of them are going to be workers in this cause.

We praise God for His marvelous providences to us, which we can account for by no kind of management, because other people can manage things just as well as we can; but we believe the Lord has blessed in our efforts to carry out the instructions with regard to having industries connected with the school.

I might stop and pay tribute to the hard work and sacrifice of the other members of the faculty, for they are all just as deserving as those I have mentioned, though we cannot point to quite such tangible results. But they are just as painstaking, and we praise God for the wonderful work they are doing.

F. H. Robbins: Washington College is doing a wonderful work in preparing our young people for service in this cause.

—H. H. Hamilton.

## Partial Report of Mount Vernon Academy

Mount Vernon Academy, our oldest academy, is located in the very heart of good old Ohio. It serves the three fine conferences of Ohio, West Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. During the thirty-seven years since it was founded it has been a "Haven of Refuge" for thousands of our young people. Nearly six hundred and fifty graduates have gone out from this school and most of these have entered our work.

### *School Plant*

Mt. Vernon Academy not only has a beautiful location but, on the whole, a fine school plant and equipment. The school plant measures up well with some of our Junior Colleges. The Administration Building, the Girl's Dormitory, Music Studio, and the Press Buildings are all substantial, commodious and practically new buildings. The Library, containing about three thousand volumes and the well-equipped physical laboratory measure up well with the requirements for academies.

During the past four years, twenty-one acres of land were purchased, bringing the total acreage up to over one hundred acres. The present worth of land, buildings and facilities today is \$130,775.55 as compared with \$82,-021.39 four years ago.

There has been an increase in enrollment for the past four years as follows:

1927-28 .....	168
1928-29 .....	171
1929-30 .....	188
1930-31 .....	184

It may be of interest to note the enrollment by states. Last year this was as follows: Ohio, 125; West Pennsylvania, 28; West Virginia, 17; New Jersey, 4; Michigan, 3; other states, 6; and from far off Jerusalem, 1. Of this number 87 were girls and 97 boys. By grades, the division was 9th, 32; 10th, 48; 11th, 62; 12th, 41. Each year the enrollment in the higher grades is getting larger and in the lower, smaller. We have about 50 who are graduating this year.

More important than enrollment is the spiritual atmosphere and missionary activities of the school. Students are taking a real interest in our Friday night meetings. The Bible classes under the able teaching of Elder H. K. Christman, have played an important part in giving a fine mold to the spirituality of the school. The Seminar and Bible Workers' Band number about 40. The Literature and Sunshine bands are doing excellent work. The Fall and Spring Weeks of Prayer are always seasons of real spiritual growth. Usually practically the whole student body dedicate themselves to the Lord on these occasions. The last Fall Week of Prayer was a week of victory and spiritual growth. Elder Holst of West Virginia was with us for the week. The student prayer bands met each morning during the week and these were well attended. As we daily mingled with the students in their prayer bands, we were glad to see that nearly all students took an active part each morning. At the close of the last Week of Prayer, a baptismal class was organized. On a recent Sabbath we rejoiced to see eleven of our boys and girls follow their Saviour in baptism. The largest number of students baptized any one year during the past four years was eighteen.

Students and teachers, in spite of limited territory and lack of large cities have endeavored to loyally support the cause of missions in all dollar campaigns. The total

amount of Harvest Ingathering raised by the school during the past four years is about \$3,000. Our best results in Harvest Ingathering for one year was about \$1,100. The past four years the school family have raised altogether about \$1,000 during the annual Week of Sacrifice. To accomplish this, it has meant the sacrifice of absolute necessities for some. Students and teachers have also taken an active part in the Institutional Relief Campaign. The largest amount raised in any one year for this purpose was \$400. One year the Senior Class raised \$200 for Institutional Relief as their class gift. I believe no Senior class has ever obtained more enjoyment in connection with their class gift than this class did.

### *Standing*

As some may know, Mt. Vernon Academy became recognized last year as a first-class High School and I want to emphasize that this recognition was obtained without making any change whatever in the school curriculum. Prospects are also fairly bright that this school can qualify for financial help under the Federal Smith-Hughes Act and thus be able to offer full courses in Agriculture, Home Economics, and Industrial Trades. When we consider that the greatly reduced finances of conferences and institutions as well as the foreign field means that fewer young people can enter our organized work, it would seem proper and right to provide the opportunity for and to encourage many to take these practical courses that they may have the preparation needed to make a living and at the same time be workers in the cause.

### *Industries*

Mt. Vernon Academy has the following industries: press, farm, dairy, poultry, and a small bakery. In these industries and in connection with the work in the dining department and repair work, students have earned the past four years:

1927-28 .....	\$12,238.44
1928-29 .....	13,329.97
1929-30 .....	13,017.52
1930-31 .....	13,600.85

The total earned for the four-year period is \$52,-186.78.

This means an average of about \$130 for each of the dormitory students. We usually have about 100 dormitory students and about 180 all told. Besides the work provided for dormitory students, from 15 to 25 girls earn all or most of their school expenses by working in homes in Mt. Vernon. Our problem, now, however, is to find additional remunerative labor for about 15 or 20 of our dormitory boys.

### *Indebtedness and Operation*

During the past four years we have worked hard to maintain or improve the quality of the work done by the school and at the same time operate inside of our income. The results for the four years are:

1927-28 .....	\$112.84 Gain
1928-29 .....	335.35 Gain
1929-30 .....	170.58 Gain
1930-31 .....	1784.31 Loss

or a net loss of just over \$1,000 for the four year period.

The annual financial statement for year ending June 1, 1927, showed a note indebtedness of \$66,360.00. Then



there were two items amounting to \$4,500.00 that had accidentally been omitted from the books bringing the total indebtedness June 1, 1927 to \$70,850. This had been reduced by February 23, 1932 to \$41,378.57 or a reduction in a little over four years of nearly \$30,000.00. Besides the reduction in indebtedness the financial load has been greatly reduced as we now pay 4 per cent interest on about \$40,000.00 as against 6 and 7 per cent on \$70,000.00 only four years ago.

#### *Graduates*

During the past four years 112 have graduated and during the 38 years that have elapsed since 1893, nearly 650 have graduated from this school. Many of these graduated when the school was a Junior or Senior college.

As we scan the ever increasing number of names of those who have gone out from this school, we feel that the statement of Sister White in connection with the founding of this school that it "would give character to the work" has largely been fulfilled. The best information available shows that more than 400 Mt. Vernon students have entered the organized work at home and in the foreign field. Those of us who were present at the Mt. Vernon Academy and College reunion held one evening in connection with the last General Conference in far away San Francisco realized as never before the important part this school has had in our rapidly growing work. Among the thirty (former students) who spoke that night were: Dr. Harry Miller, Vice-President of the General Conference for China; Carl Weak, Associate Secretary of the General Conference for the Publishing Department; B. L. House, Head of the Bible Department of Union College; Elder and Mrs. Votah of the Religious Liberty Department of the General Conference; Roy F. Cottrell, Chaplain at Glendale Sanitarium; Virgil Thurber, Editor of the Watchman Magazine and former mis-

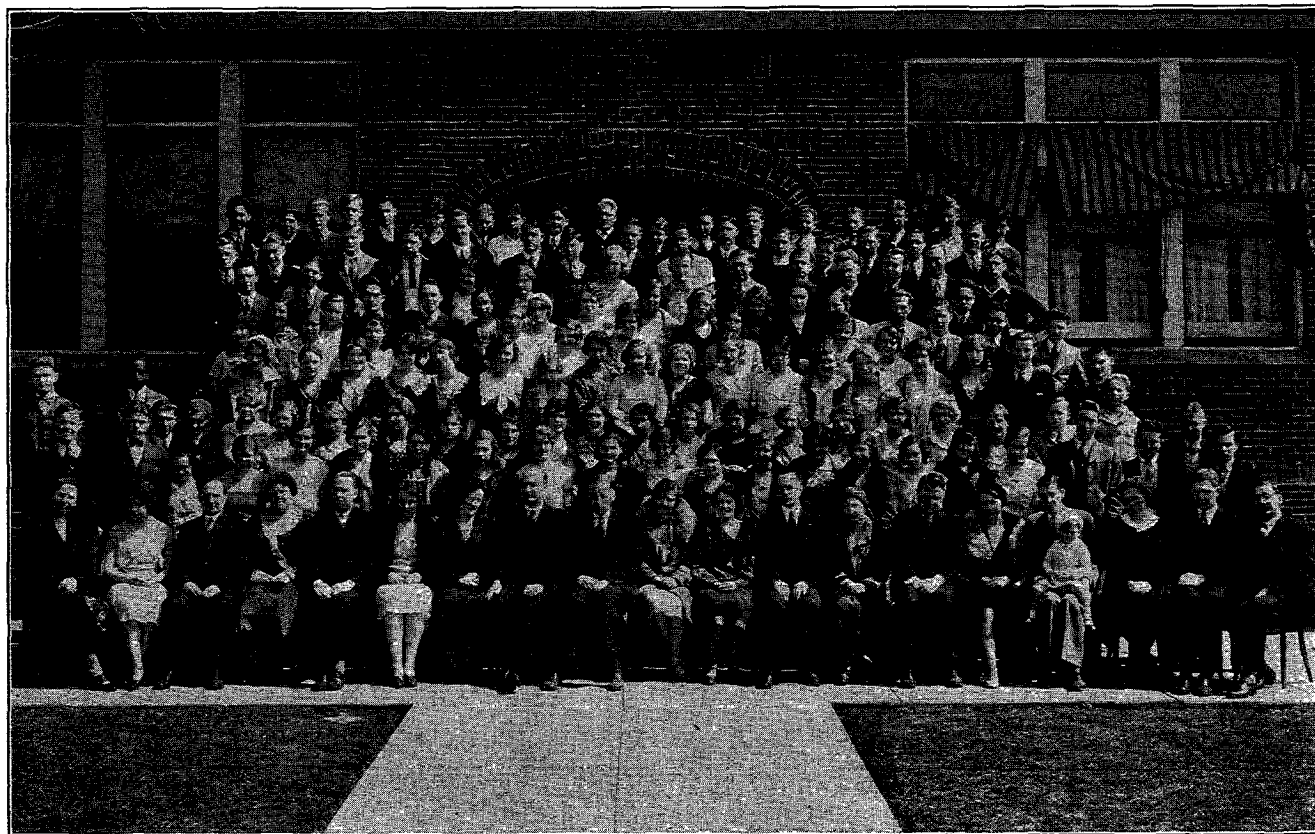
sionary to Burma; Elder Moffat, President of the Eastern Canadian Union; Elder Ned S. Ashton, until recently President of the Southern Union Conference; Professor Samuel L. Frost, Educational Secretary of the China Division; James Shultz, Evangelist; H. K. Christman, Bible teacher and pastor; Clarence Morris, Treasurer of China Division; C. V. Leach, President of Ohio Conference; H. J. Detwiler, President of New Jersey; D. A. Rees, President of West Virginia; and Frank Wells, President of the Maine conference. I must not name more.

About five years ago our Senior class made a partial check-up of "What our graduates are doing" and found the following: 8 Conference Presidents; 57 Ministers and Missionaries; 69 Teachers and Educators; 62 Departmental Workers; and 27 Physicians, Dentists, and Nurses, besides the large number who as wives of workers, or who, while in private life or on the farm and in the city, are nevertheless active workers and leaders in local churches.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the president and the other officers of the Columbia Union for their loyal support at all times in behalf of this school. While Ohio and the other conferences in our territory have nobly supported their school, yet what has been accomplished could not have been done without the strong financial backing of the Columbia Union.

—A. J. Olson.

The great principles of education are unchanged. "They stand fast forever and ever;" for they are the principles of the character of God. To aid the student in comprehending these principles, and in entering into that relation with Christ which will make them a controlling power in the life, should be the teacher's first effort and his constant aim.—Education, p. 30.



THIS YEAR'S STUDENT BODY AT MOUNT VERNON ACADEMY



## Shenandoah Valley Academy

The Shenandoah Valley Academy was established by the old Virginia Conference in the year 1908, and so has been in operation for practically one quarter of a century. This school is located in the midst of the beautiful valley of Virginia and is ideally located to serve the purpose for which it was established.

In several respects this school occupies a unique position among our boarding academies. It is located in the country about one mile from town and as there is no surrounding Adventist community, all of our students live in our school homes, with the exception of two or three. At present we have about eighty students in attendance, making up a large, happy, home family. We feel that the work in our school homes is particularly well organized and this year although we have had a few cases rather difficult to handle, we have had no serious disciplining.

Our students are recruited from the several conferences of East Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Chesapeake, and Potomac. The brethren in these fields have cooperated with us in getting together a very high class group of young folks.

It would be foolish for me to tell you that we do not have our problems, financial and otherwise, for we do. However, with the Lord's help we will close our school this year with our bills paid and the statement will show a nice balance on the right side of the ledger.

While we have made no change in our charges, we have been operating in such a way as to give every student an opportunity to work a considerable part of his expense each month. Only a few students, perhaps eight or ten pay in cash as much as thirty dollars per month. Most of the bills run around \$25.00, a number are less, and several work their entire way.

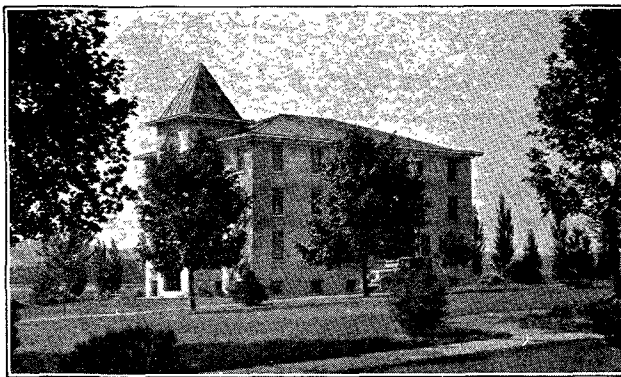
The school has a faculty of ten and we carry all the grades from 1 to 12. Several of the church school children in the lower grades come from nearby homes.

Of course it is a fact that much of the work offered students does not bring financial profit to the school, but we have a fair sized farm connected with the school and we are endeavoring as far as possible to supply the table with the products from the farm. By careful supervision we have found it possible to supply the kitchen with these things at local market prices, and still have the farm about **break** even. We pay the students from fifteen to twenty-two cents per hour for the work done.

We also have a dairy herd supplying an abundance of **milk** and cream for our needs, as well as poultry to supply

eggs. This year we have raised several thousand broilers, selling them at a good profit on the Washington market. Several students earn a substantial part of their expenses working with the poultry.

In the past our cannery has taken care of our surplus vegetables.



MAIN BUILDING, SHENANDOAH VALLEY ACADEMY

In connection with campaigns, the students and faculty working with the local church members, have been successful in reaching all of their goals, including Harvest Ingathering, Big Week, Institutional Relief, etc., for the entire four year period.

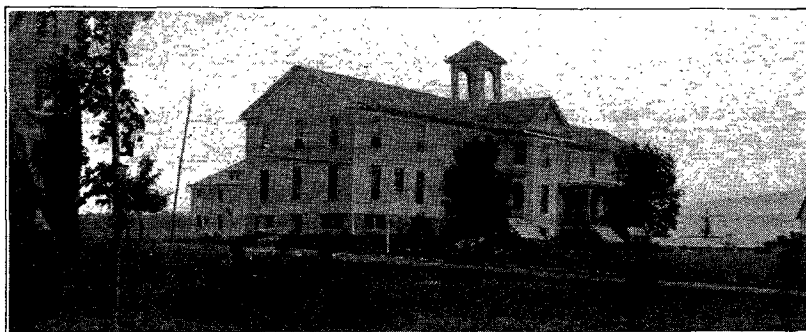
Each year the school has been turning out from twelve to fifteen graduates, and most of these have been finding their way to our college and sanitariums.

We secured an excellent English teacher last year who, while well trained and holding a college degree, unknown to us did not have enough hours in certain educational training, and we were left off the list, but next year all of our teachers will be certificated, and we will be fully accredited with our own Association as we were before this present year.

There are many things which we would like to do to improve conditions in our buildings and we have a definite program outlined to make them much more presentable and serviceable, but have been held up for lack of funds.

Personally, I have enjoyed my stay in Virginia very much, and feel that I have received sympathetic cooperation on the part of the local conference officials, as well as the officers and department heads of the Columbia Union.

W. C. Hannah.



SHENANDOAH VALLEY ACADEMY

## East Pennsylvania Conference Report

The East Pennsylvania Conference comprises the territory of thirty-five counties. This territory has a population of approximately 6,000,000 people. There are a number of large cities in East Pennsylvania; Philadelphia with a population of more than 2,000,000, two other cities numbering more than 100,000, three cities of 75,000, four cities of more than 50,000, eleven cities of 30,000, fourteen cities of 20,000, and twenty cities of a population of more than 10,000.

We have in our conference 46 churches, including the conference church, with a total membership of 2402. We have for the four-year period a gain of 302 members and baptisms 723. We wish there might have been many more baptized, but these with others taken into the church cause us to rejoice in the power of the message to change lives and bring souls into the truth.

During the four-year period a number of evangelistic efforts have been conducted. Most of our ministers have held some kind of an effort. Elder M. R. Coon conducted one theater effort in West Philadelphia, and one in Media. In 1931 Elder Coon and Elder Vandeman held a successful theater effort in Stroudsburg. During the last four years, Elder Cox has conducted four large tent efforts in South Philadelphia. Mrs. Jessie Curtis, better known as Miss Jessie Weiss, raised up a church in Drums, as a result of a tent effort, and also has erected a nice church building for the new company free from debt. Throughout almost the entire year of 1931, Elder R. M. Spencer broadcast over WRAK, Williamsport, and held Sunday night meetings in the Williamsport church. This effort resulted in a number of new Sabbath keepers, and has greatly strengthened the Williamsport church.

A valuable lot has been provided for the North Philadelphia church located on Roosevelt Boulevard and Fifth Street. Elder Rapp, Miss Belmont, and the entire church is earnestly working to establish a building fund with the hope that we shall soon be able to begin the erection of the new church. This beautiful lot has been donated by Brother W. E. Stephen, and Brother Walter Wetzel.

Elder Becker, Dr. Venen, and Elder Clapp, have all held Sunday night efforts in their churches, in addition to doing strong Bible work, which has resulted in a number of baptisms. Most all our ministers at the present time are engaged in some kind of an effort. Elder Coon is just closing a strong theater effort in Norristown where more than 200 have signed the covenant card to obey the truth. Elder Cox has recently baptized 28 souls as a result of his Sunday night meetings in South Philadelphia. About three weeks ago Elder Vandeman baptized 14 candidates in Stroudsburg as a result of the Stroudsburg theater effort. We are glad to have Mrs. Lydia Kester join Elder Vandeman in binding off the Stroudsburg effort.

Elder Spencer is broadcasting over WGBI, Scranton, and holding Sunday night meetings in the Scranton church. Mrs. Jessie Curtis has been conducting a winter effort with the Polish people in Stairville. Elder J. A. Dominski has given us two weeks' help in the effort, which has been much appreciated. Two weeks ago twenty-four fine Polish people were baptized as a result of the good work Mrs. Curtis and Elder Dominski have done for the Polish people in Stairville. We have baptized about seventy since the first of the year 1932.

### *Financial Report of the Conference*

We are glad to show an increase in our tithe and offerings for the past four years. Our tithe for 1928 was

\$97,682.32; 1929, \$106,506.10; 1930, \$98,370.95; 1931, \$91,511.98; making a total for the four-year period of \$394,321.35. The total tithe for the previous quadrennial period was \$372,563.77, showing a gain over the previous four years of \$21,567.58.

Our mission offerings covering the same comparative period are an additional source of encouragement. 1928 to 1931 our total offerings for missions were \$246,387.50. The total mission offerings for the previous four-year period were \$228,829.11, or a gain of \$17,558.39. These encouraging figures have been made possible under the blessing of God and through the faithful cooperation and earnest missionary endeavor of our loyal workers and laymen. The following figures give our present worth at the close of 1931: Conference, \$9,578.00; Association, \$18,030.16; Book and Bible House, \$4,144.61.

### *Sabbath School Department*

We recognize the Sabbath school as one of the strongest departments of our work in promoting the message. The Sabbath school has been a great blessing to our people, and through this channel many thousands of dollars have been sent on to the mission field. We have fifty Sabbath schools in our field with a total enrollment of 2,353 members. We have 236 home division members who gave the nice sum of \$6,103.76. During the four-year period 5,408 Perfect Record Cards of Honor were issued. The total number of bookmarks was 617. Included in the above total are the one-year bookmarks, 349; two-year bookmarks, 121; eleven-year bookmarks, 3; and twelve-year bookmarks, 2. Seventeen schools qualified in the membership goal, 22 reached their goal of thirty-cents-a-week to missions, and 22 qualified in "Dollar Day." Our thirteenth Sabbath offering for the period was \$33,603.34. Our Investment Fund totals \$3,863.51, birthday offerings \$1,973.39. During the quadrennial period we have the nice sum of \$123,683.04 given through the Sabbath school department. We are glad to report, as a chief objective of our Sabbath school, 483 souls baptized through this channel during the last four years. Miss Ernestine R. Hochschorner has charge of the Sabbath school department of our conference and is working for still greater results.

### *Educational Department*

Miss Hochschorner also has charge of our educational work. Our educational work made a nice showing during the past four years. We have had an average of 15 church schools per year during the quadrennial period and we have had an average of 18 teachers. Our average enrollment was 281 for the four-year period. The average enrollment for the previous four years was 231. It is encouraging to note there has been a gradual growth in the enrollment of our church school children. Our church school teachers and children have gathered the splendid sum of \$6691.77 for Harvest Ingathering, or a per-capita of \$5.97. The Week of Sacrifice offerings from our church schools total \$915.38, or a total per-capita of \$6.34 in Harvest Ingathering and Week of Sacrifice combined. Six church schools have been built during the last four years by the following churches: Harrisburg, Honesdale, Scranton, Drums, and Telford. We believe in strictly following the instruction given in the "Testimonies" that a church school room should be provided for in every church building that is erected in

the conference. It is encouraging to see how our church school children are qualifying in other ways. There were issued 835 Reading Course certificates. Eighty-five read the Bible through during the four-year period. We are grateful for this encouraging report of our boys and girls comprising our churches.

#### *Colporteur Department*

We believe the literature sales report serves as a good index to the condition of the conference generally, and that the colporteur work should be kept strong and new recruits should be constantly pressed into service. Our colporteur work has shown a marvelous gain during the quadrennial period, considering the financial depression which has been on. We have had an average of 30 colporteurs in the field during the four-year period. The deliveries have totaled \$148,738.77. For the preceding quadrennial period the deliveries were \$118,438.47, or a gain of \$30,438.47. While the increased sales in our territory have been most encouraging, we feel we have not nearly realized the great possibilities there are for the literature ministry in East Pennsylvania. In the year 1930 East Pennsylvania led every conference in North America. In 1931 we led the Review and Herald territory. The colporteurs have set their goal for the present year at \$40,000. Our faithful colporteurs are not working only to qualify in hours and financial goals, but are working for souls. Many in our conference are rejoicing in the truth today as a direct result of work done by our loyal colporteurs. Brother O. C. Weller, and Brother Virgil Gibbons, our field secretaries, have given faithful and strong leadership to the book work.

#### *Missionary Volunteer Department*

We have a fine army of young people in East Pennsylvania. There are 31 Missionary Volunteer societies with an average membership for the four years of 415, and an average attendance of 390. Our young people are very active. These 31 societies report 18,629 missionary visits that have been made by our young people during the last four years. They have reported 3,757 Bible readings

or gospel meetings held. Our youth have taken 4,048 persons to Sabbath school or other services. The hours of Christian help work done by these societies total 29,631. The papers, tracts, and magazines distributed total 257,119. We are glad to report the splendid work done by our youth in the Harvest Ingathering campaigns. During the past four years they have raised a total of \$15,559.22 in the Harvest Ingathering, and in Big Week \$1,699.70. The total funds raised by our Missionary Volunteer societies for foreign missions is \$17,258.92, and to complete this good report 311 young people have been baptized and added to the church during the last quadrennial period. Our young people are active in cooperating with the church program. They have shared faithfully in the combined work of the church under the good leadership of Brother R. J. Christian.

#### *Home Missionary Department*

The Home Missionary Department is also under the leadership of Brother Christian. The report by our Home Missionary Department is a very encouraging one. When we consider that all this work that has been done has been accomplished by only 38% of our members. The average number of reporting members totals 742. The successful development of missionary work done by our church members shows progress. The missionary visits total 78,146, Bible readings 20,044, treatments given 10,402, the number of pieces of literature distributed 995,550. The Harvest Ingathering total for the four years is \$90,317.64, the Big Week \$8,123.12 and the Institutional Relief \$5,349.01. The total funds raised for local work total \$103,789.77. Through the faithful missionary work done by our church members, 288 souls have been won to the truth.

For all the accomplishments which this report sets forth, we wish to give the praise to Him who has called us to His glorious work, and, as a conference, we pledge to the Union and the General Conference our untiring efforts in the accomplishment of the objective committed to us as a people.

—W. M. Robbins, *President*.

## New Jersey Conference Report

To the delegates assembled in Columbia Union Conference Session, the constituency of the New Jersey Conference extends its sincerest greetings. New Jersey with its present population of more than four million, so often spoken of as a conference of cities with its renowned sea, lake, and pleasure resorts, its peoples of many tongues, constitutes a field with problems of the greatest magnitude. With an increase in its population of 28% during the past ten years alone, the immensity of our task (our earnest endeavor to proclaim to all these nationalities the glad news of a soon-coming Saviour) is further set before us. God's call through the Spirit of Prophecy for large numbers of laborers of different talents to enter these great centers of population, the populous cities of the East, with special mention of pleasure and health resorts so numerous in this field, places upon the local leadership a burden that grips with no ordinary concern.

#### *History of Steps Leading Up to the Organization of the New Jersey Conference*

In the early days of the presidency of Elders H. E. Robinson and A. E. Place, New Jersey, Delaware, Mary-

land, the District of Columbia, and the City of New York comprised one local conference. As the work developed, the lower section,— Delaware, Maryland, and the District of Columbia was cut off. Still later a proposition was presented to unite South Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania into one conference, and North Jersey and the seven lower counties of New York State with the Greater New York Conference.

The constituency in New Jersey was not large enough to make of that State a self-supporting conference at that time. Some of the brethren counselled that because of the railway systems and business and social relationships of South Jersey and Philadelphia on the one hand and North Jersey and New York City on the other hand, it was more economical and practical to associate North Jersey and the seven lower counties of New York State with the Greater New York Conference and Southern New Jersey with Eastern Pennsylvania.

While this proposition was being considered Sister White counselled the brethren to make New Jersey a conference and subsidize it as might be necessary. That counsel was followed, and New Jersey was organized

into a separate conference; the first year's subsidy paid amounted to \$1500.00. From this small beginning with a few churches and only a handful of believers, the conference has grown to its present membership of 1806 believers and 44 churches.

### *Evangelism*

We have earnestly endeavored to make evangelism our watchword. The counsel given years ago through the Spirit of Prophecy concerning our responsibility to these great cities of the East is so direct that I need but refer to it in placing before you the tremendous burden that grips all of our heart as associated workers in this large conference of cities.

"In Portland, Maine; in Boston and the towns round about; in New York and the *populous cities close by*; in Philadelphia and Baltimore and Washington, the Lord desires us to proclaim the Third Angel's Message with power." Vol. 9, p. 99.

"I am instructed to point our ministers to the unworked cities and to urge them by every possible means to open the way for the presentation of the truth. In some of the cities where the message of the second coming of the Lord was first given, we are compelled to take up the work as if it were a new field. How much longer will these barren fields, these unworked cities, be passed by? Without delay the sowing of the seed should begin in many, many places." Vol. 9, p. 123.

"In the world-renowned health resorts and centers of tourist traffic crowded with many thousands of seekers after health and pleasure, there should be stationed ministers and canvassers capable of arresting the attention of the multitude." Vol. 9, p. 122.

"In the cities of today where there is so much to attract and please, the people can be interested by no ordinary efforts. Ministers of God's appointment will find it necessary to put forth extraordinary efforts in order to arrest the attention of the multitudes." Vol. 9, p. 109.

These clear, ringing, stirring, testimonies apply with special emphasis to this conference with its forty-nine cities of a population exceeding ten thousand, or its 36 cities with a population of 15,000 to 400,000. The city of Newark is the twelfth city of the United States with a population of almost half a million.

During the quadrennial period earnest efforts have been made to evangelize New Jersey's cities. In 1931 fourteen tent, hall, and church efforts were conducted in various parts of the state. Since January 1, of the present year, nine evangelistic efforts have been held. At the present time Elders R. S. Lindsay, E. H. Swanson, and G. H. Clark, and Sister Jessie B. Mayberry, assisted by a splendid group of volunteer lay workers and colporteurs, are concluding an encouraging effort in this city in People's Palace Auditorium, one of the best and most favorably known auditoriums in the city. This city alone has a population of more than a quarter of a million.

A splendid work in evangelism has been carried on for the three hundred forty-five thousand (345,000) Germans of this state through the untiring efforts of Elder Carl Bruck and his faithful companion. The limits of this brief report make it impossible to give personal mention of the earnest labors of New Jersey's cooperative, efficient, and highly appreciated army of workers. This field has been blessed with the services of able evangelists.

"Give us a watchword for the hour,  
A thrilling word, a word of power,  
A battle cry, a flaming breath,  
That calls to conquest or to death.

"A word to rouse the church from rest  
To heed her Master's high behest.  
The call is given: Ye hosts, arise,  
Our watchword is, Evangelize!

"The glad Evangel now proclaim  
Through all the earth in Jesus' name.  
This word is ringing through the skies,  
Evangelize! Evangelize!

"To dying men, a fallen race,  
Make known the gift of gospel grace.  
The world that now in darkness lies,  
Evangelize! Evangelize!"

### *Language Groups*

New Jersey is literally a polyglot of nations. We have within this state both foreign and native-born more than 500,000 Italians, more than 147,000 Russians, more than 262,000 Poles, more than 72,000 Hungarians, more than 29,000 Swedes, more than 20,000 from Switzerland, more than 28,000 from France, more than 80,000 Czechoslovakians, more than 23,000 from Lithuania, more than 13,000 from Rumania, more than 11,000 from Greece, and 7,000 from Spain. In addition we have thousands from Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, Belgium, Finland, Palestine and Syria, Turkey, and French Canadians. A small beginning has been made to reach our 72,000 Hungarians. An effort has just been opened in this city for the Czechoslovakians. Several efforts have been carried on in Swedish and in Polish. A small beginning has been made to reach the half million Italians of this state.

We freely confess our failure to fully accomplish all that should have been done for these neglected nationalities in order that they might be prepared for the coming of the Lord.

### *Baptisms*

During the past quadrennial period we added to the church by baptism 337 precious souls. These results are not all that we had hoped for. They do not seem to be commensurate with the earnest efforts put forth.

In these eastern conservative cities every advance step in the proclamation of the message seems to be challenged. The allurements of city life and the pull of the world seem to have controlling power over the great masses. Our hard working, faithful evangelists in these populous centers need the prayerful, sympathetic assistance of all the conference officials as they labor against great odds to evangelize these strongholds of Satan.

### *New Church Organizations and Buildings*

Since the last quadrennial session we have organized two new churches, both colored: one in Montclair, created through a series of evangelistic meetings held by Elder J. M. Campbell; and another in Bridgeton, South Jersey developed through the earnest sacrificing efforts of Elder G. W. Holman. Two splendid church memorials have been erected,—one more is in process of erection and plans are being laid for the beginning of the erection of another.

Our friends who spend the summer months by the sea, either in Asbury Park or Ocean Grove, are invited to worship with us in our own church building on Asbury Avenue. This building came to us in a most providential way. The lot valued at five thousand dollars was deeded over to the church free from encumbrances by a family not of our faith. This family became interested in our work through the colporteur ministry of Brother Myers.

Through the united efforts of this church, a beautiful building was erected upon this donated lot within nine months after the gift was made. This representative memorial erected by a group of only thirty members at a present valuation of \$12,000.00 marks the beginning of larger things for Asbury Park, a resort city well known in many neighboring states.

The Dover-Rockaway church, just completed, serves a large number of believers in the northwestern part of the conference near Morristown, a beautiful section of the State where a goodly number of nurses, graduated from some of our leading sanitariums, have found employment ministering in the homes of the wealthy.

Plans have been laid to erect a new church building in Cape May Court House along the main artery of travel by the shore, where thousands of tourists pass daily during the summer months. This church, which doubled its membership since the last quadrennial session has entirely outgrown its present quarters.

### *Tithes and Offerings*

World conditions clearly indicate that financially we have struck upon lean years. Unprecedented prosperity followed by the greatest panic of a century has created problems in these industrial centers that are freighted with most serious consequences. In the face of these great obstacles at a time when it seems as though the "rivers of difficulty have overflowed all their banks," the cause in this state has made steady progress.

Our secretary-treasurer, Brother C. H. Kelly, reports for the quadrennial period, 1928-1931, a total tithe of \$309,723.63, a loss of \$26,891.47, or 8 per cent compared with the former quadrennial period. For the year 1931 alone the shrinkage in tithe receipts represented a decrease in the earning capacity of our constituents of almost \$100,000.

We rejoice to be able to report for the same quadrennial period, in the face of all obstacles an increase in gifts made to foreign missions. This conference subsidized to the extent of \$1500.00, the first year of its organization, turned over to the General Conference foreign mission treasury \$249,404.27, almost a quarter of a million dollars for the past quadrennial period. As compared with the former quadrennial period, these figures indicate an increase in missions giving of \$20,302.96, a gain of practically 11 per cent. So while our total tithe receipts were decreased by 8 per cent, our total mission offerings were increased to the amount of 11 per cent. The per capita average of the former quadrennial period was .551. During the present quadrennial period .573. Our mission offerings have kept up well during the depression years as illustrated by the following receipts:

1928	\$49,210.80
1929	53,483.90
1930	51,738.21
1931	50,631.73

A check representing the largest amount for missions ever written in the history of the New Jersey conference for one single month was sent on through the Union to the General Conference for the month of October 1931. A tribute of praise is justly due our loyal ministers, workers and laity who made possible this large monthly remittance.

The constituency of New Jersey have nobly responded to the numerous appeals for larger gifts during this time of financial stress and strain so that there might be no retreat in our foreign mission work. During the quadrennial period, 1928-1931, \$514,789.27 was received in tithes and offerings. Of this more than half million dol-

lars contributed, \$303,200.39, or 59 per cent, was sent out of the local field; \$272,228.04, or 53 per cent, to the General Conference; \$30,972.35, or 6 per cent, to the Union Conference.

### *Literature Ministry*

No group of workers deserve honorable mention more than our loyal band of God-fearing, self-sacrificing colporteur evangelists. In heat and cold, storm and sunshine, these messengers of the cross place their silent preachers in the homes of the rich as well as the poor, the learned and unlearned. Under the direction of Brethren Thumwood and Myers, this army of laborers have literally scattered the precious pages of truth in many sections of the state like the leaves of autumn.

The actual sales of the Book and Bible House for the quadrennial period were \$83,038.42, a gain of \$13,153.26 or 19 per cent, over the former quadrennial period.

During this period New Jersey had the honor of granting forty-six scholarships; several of these were super-scholarships. Eternity alone will reveal the results of this outstanding accomplishment, both in the lives of the young men and women who received thereby a splendid training for a larger spiritual ministry, and also in the eternal results of souls gathered through the ministrations of the silent preachers placed in the homes of the people through the efforts of these able and consecrated students.

### *Departments*

We are not approaching the work of our secretaries in this conference from the viewpoint of departments, but rather from the place and value in the work of the church and the relationship of the church officers, members and ministers to these soul-winning departments.

**Sabbath Schools:** Elder Milton G. Conger reports for New Jersey's nearly half hundred Sabbath schools a membership exceeding the total church membership of the conference. The Sabbath school department truly represents the church at study. It occupies first place among the agencies in our plans for the training and salvation of our children and youth. Long before interested persons and Sabbath keepers are accepted into church membership they are organized into Sabbath schools fostered by the general oversight of our Sabbath School Department. During the quadrennial period the Sabbath schools contributed \$91,338.98 to foreign missions. \$2,043.61 was given by 119 Home Division members alone.

**Home Missionary:** The Home Missionary Department, also under the direction of Elder M. G. Conger, more nearly reflects the endeavor of the whole people than any other department in the conference. This department has most efficiently promoted all lines of Christian endeavor,—the *Review and Herald*, the *Signs*, the Religious Liberty, the Institutional Relief, and the Missions Extension Campaign, not mentioning the educational phase of this department in conducting strong regional conventions embracing the whole conference. Last year we increased the *Signs* circulation almost 50 per cent in this field. The success of the Harvest Ingathering work has almost been phenomenal.

The following inspired counsel when followed, we believe, will bring relief to our foreign mission board in these times of stress and trial: "Times are growing hard and money is difficult to obtain, but God will open the way for us from sources outside our own people. I cannot see how anyone can take exception to the receiving of gifts from those not of our faith. . . . This is God's world and if God could move upon human agents so that the land which has been in the hands of the enemy may be

brought into our hands so that the message may be proclaimed in regions beyond, shall men block up the way with their narrow notions?" T. M. G. W., p. 210

For the quadrennial period, \$86,144.01, was gathered in through Harvest Ingathering methods,—a gain over the former quadrennial period of \$21,254.48, or 32 per cent. Our conference has averaged more than a \$12.00 per capita goal during the whole quadrennial period.

**Educational.** Miss Ruth C. Wilcox, of the Educational Department, reports for the quadrennial period, 1928-1931, an average of ten church schools with an average yearly enrollment of 188, an increase in enrollment for the period of 37 per cent. From our schools of today come the workers of tomorrow. These children are worth more than banks of gold and silver. In gold and silver they gathered for the quadrennial period almost \$4,000.00, \$1,000.00 each year to evangelize the foreign fields. This is an increase for the period of 100 per cent.

**Missionary Volunteer.** The secretary of this department reports twenty-nine societies with an average membership for the quadrennial period of five hundred eleven (511), one hundred ninety-seven (197) baptisms. The

societies raised and contributed to missions a total of \$25,704.72. During the past four years these organized youth sold and gave away 178,812 books and magazines, 219 read their Bibles through, and 734 Reading Course certificates were awarded.

### Laborers

Fifty-seven laborers are presently engaged in the various lines of soul-winning work in the conference,—21 colporteurs, 14 church school teachers, besides the regular ordained and licensed ministers, conference and office secretaries and workers.

The best spirit of cooperation exists between all classes of workers in the conference. Blessed harmony and brotherly love prevail, and for all the accomplishments of this report we wish to give the praise and glory to our Heavenly Father who hath called us to this glorious work. As a band of conference laborers we pledge to both Union and General Conference our untiring efforts for the accomplishment of our denominational task.

—H. J. Detwiler.

## Quadrennial Report of the Ohio Conference

The Ohio Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was organized June 30, 1863, with nine churches and approximately 125 members. This was eleven years before the denomination sent out its first missionary. An executive committee of five members was elected. The first annual financial report shows that a total of \$332.20 had been received into the conference treasury for all purposes.

At the end of 1931, after sixty-eight years of growth and development, we find seventy-two churches, with a membership of 3,530. Our financial report for the quadrennial period ending December 31, 1931 shows that tithe and mission funds total \$1,108,872.05. The total net business of the Book and Bible House for the period was \$143,438.06, thus making a grand total of \$1,252,310.11, tithe, mission offerings and Book and Bible House business, an annual average of funds passing through Ohio conference channels of \$313,077.53. The past seventy-eight years our membership has grown twenty-eight fold, and resources approximately one thousand fold.

As indicated above, the Ohio conference, as an organization, began its work with nine churches and approximately 125 members. The membership was doubled every decade up until 1903, when we reached a membership of 2,000. Our membership at the end of 1931 stood at 3,530. The beginning of the last biennial period showed a membership of 3,252; the end, 3,530,—a net gain of 278 souls.

### Finance

Tithe for the quadrennial period totals \$522,851.84. For the previous quadrennial period the tithe was 561,922.50. The loss we have sustained is \$39,070.66, which is 6.9 per cent. The past four years approximately 20 per cent, or \$100,000.00 of the gross tithe received has been forwarded to the General Conference Mission treasury, joining the 60-cent-a-week funds, flowing on into the darkened corners of the earth.

It is cheering to note that while the income of our people in the Ohio conference has been reduced approximately seven per cent during the quadrennial period, as indicated in decline of tithe, the mission offerings have

fallen approximately only three per cent. The prediction of the prophet that, "Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power," is fulfilled in this demonstration of loyalty to our world missionary program.

### Mission Funds

The total amount of Mission Funds produced the past four years is \$306,804.97. The previous four years, \$315,514.79, a loss of \$8,709.82, or 3 per cent. The total mission receipts came to the treasury through the following leading channels:

Harvest Ingathering .....	\$105,639.38
Sabbath school .....	153,626.08
Big Week .....	9,138.37
Mid-summer Offerings .....	4,904.87
Annual Offerings .....	4,219.97
Week of Sacrifice .....	7,292.65
Miscellaneous Gifts .....	21,983.65

It is encouraging to note that while we have had a loss of \$14,311.77 in Sabbath school offerings during the period, we have had almost an equal gain of 13,215.57 in Harvest Ingathering, and that while our Week of Sacrifice shows a loss of \$1,816.15, our Big Week Offering shows a gain of \$1,512.45. In Mid-summer Offerings we have a gain for the quadrennial period of \$225.25, and in Annual Offerings, a gain of \$950.32. While these gains are small, they show that notwithstanding the adverse conditions of the last two years, our financial trend is in the right direction.

### Home Work

The past four years we have purchased and paid for a large pavilion 80 x 120 ft., four new evangelistic tents 40 x 60 ft. and 25 new living tents, the total amount of investment in canvass being \$6,000. Our churches, in the main, have been slowly but gradually reducing indebtedness. We are happy to state that the heavy debt of Mt. Vernon Academy has been materially reduced. At the beginning of the quadrennial period the actual debt stood at \$63,744.34. At the end of May, 1931, it stood at \$45,041.07, a reduction of \$18,703.00 for the quadrennial per-



iod. To date this year the debt has been further reduced \$3,663.00, leaving a balance of \$41,378.57. The hearty cooperation of the West Pennsylvania and West Virginia conference, the loyal support of the Union and the help of the General Conference in reducing the debt, are greatly appreciated.

### *Baptisms*

The baptisms for the last quadrennial period total 862. The number of baptisms of the two quadrennial periods are practically the same. We feel this is especially encouraging since the loss in funds for carrying forward the work has occurred the last two years of the last quadrennial period. While there has been less money on which to operate, the soul-winning program in the conference has been intensified where we have been able to place men. The serious times have sobered the minds of men and many are ready to listen who in more prosperous times turned a deaf ear to the message. It seems that most any place in our conference where we hang up a chart and open our Bibles and begin to preach, we get an audience with a splendid group of deeply interested listeners. Truly the closing hours of the message are upon us and every effort should be made to reach the unwarned cities and unentered counties of the Ohio conference.

### *Departments*

The past quadrennial period has been a most active and successful one for our departments. We will first consider the Home Missionary Department.

#### *Home Missionary Department*

Hundreds of thousands of missionary visits have been made during the quadrennial period. Tens of thousands of Bible readings have been conducted. Tens of thousands of articles of clothing have been given to the needy, and millions of pages of missionary literature have been circulated. The net result to date of this activity, insofar as it is possible to measure results, on the part of the rank and file of the membership of the Ohio conference, is summed up in the winning of 321 souls.

The total amount of Harvest Ingathering for the quadrennial period was \$105,639.38, a gain over the previous period of \$13,215.00. This gain has been due to the earnest, energetic men who have headed the department and the faithful, loyal support of workers and laymen throughout the field.

The Big Week Fund also shows a gain over the previous quadrennial period of \$1,512.00. We are very much encouraged with these figures considering the heavy period of depression through which we have been passing. The work of the department at the present time is in a healthy condition and the outlook is good indeed in this field of missionary endeavor. Elder George Butler, our Home Missionary Secretary, writes as follows with respect to the present status of the work:

"A steady educational program is being carried to the churches through Home Missionary Institutes which are being conducted in the churches each week, from Wednesday night to Sunday night. Thirty churches are now engaged in systematic soul-winning work through Home Bible Study League methods. One hundred written requests and as many oral ones have been received, showing an interest on the part of the readers. Souls are being baptized here and there over the conference as a result of personal work. In six places local church officers are holding public meetings. Many lay members are giving Bible readings. Some are having the pleasure of seeing people baptized through their efforts. A total of 6,000

families are being visited weekly at the present time and these are receiving *Present Truth* systematically."

The possibilities before our Home Missionary Department are very great. We have touched only with our finger tips the reservoir of power that God has stored up in the hearts and minds of the rank and file of the Advent people. Undoubtedly one of the finest fields of opportunity before us is in the Home Missionary program of our conference.

### *Publishing Department*

For many years the Ohio conference has led the conferences of the world in book sales. In the recent past Ohio bookmen and colporteurs have taken off their hats to their friends residing in the eastern part of the great state of Pennsylvania. However, our hats are off only for a little while, for our sturdy publishing leader, Brother I. M. Evans, and his capable associates in the field are laying the foundation for a great forward movement against our common enemy, the devil. Of all workers in this great cause, we believe the devil hates the evangelistic colporteur most.

The gross sales of our colporteurs for the quadrennial period amount to \$216,659.40. The gross sales for the previous period amounted to \$275,417.61. We have sustained a loss for the period of \$58,848.21.

The circulation of the tens of thousands of books throughout the field is bearing much fruit. At the last institute in Cleveland the colporteurs reported eighty-eight people who had been led to keep the Sabbath during the past four years. Manifestly this is only a portion of those who have taken their stand for the truth because a colporteur passed that way. We believe that a wonderful harvest of souls is imminent as a result of the faithful missionary work that has been done on the part of Ohio's strong, aggressive group of bookmen who have been sowing the gospel seed these many years.

The Ohio conference has the privilege of having within its borders veteran bookmen who it seems to us are worthy of special mention in connection with this report: Brother R. B. Craig, of Cincinnati, who has reached the good age of 78 but who is still able to report 50 and 60 hours a week in service, and sales aggregating from three to five thousand dollars per year; Brother E. C. Alexander, who has served around twenty years and who is still at the front doing his part in taking the silent messengers to the homes of the people; and Brother Fred Hannah, who might be called the "apostle" to a group of southern Ohio counties, who for more than twenty years has gone up and down the highways and into the byways and hedges among the hills, seeking the lost. Some day these faithful men, together with their associates, if they are faithful to the end, will be received into the kingdom. The crowns of our faithful colporteurs will undoubtedly be studded with the largest number and the brightest stars of any of the crowns that will be worn by those who have given their lives to the winning of men and women to the ways of righteousness.

### *Educational Department*

The elementary schools of the Ohio conference have been a source of great encouragement and blessing to our work. During the past quadrennial period we have had an average of 22 schools, the largest number during the period being for the year 1931, when 24 church schools were operating in the conference. The average number of teachers employed in the training of our children was 27, the largest number being for the year 1931 when 30 teachers were employed in the church schools of the Ohio

conference. The average number of pupils for the period was 396, the highest number for one year being 1931, when the enrollment was 412.

These children, under this splendid group of Christian teachers, have not only been missionaries in training for the future, but have been little missionaries in the vicinity of their own homes and in their own churches. They have been very active in various lines of missionary endeavor that children can do. An important item in the accomplishments of the church schools during the past four years has been their gifts to missions. Our church schools contributed toward the world missionary program \$6,260.92, an average of more than \$1,500 a year.

The records show that 304 of the children graduated from our church schools have been sent on to our advanced schools the past four years, the largest number being sent in one year, being 1929, when 82 went from the church schools on to the academy, nurses' training schools and other institutions. However, the report is especially good for every year. 1930 was the lowest year, when the church schools sent on 70.

The church school is not only an educational center but it is a haven of refuge for our boys and girls where their spiritual life is encouraged and developed and their youthful characters are fashioned and molded for eternity. The Ohio church schools provided 180 of the total number of baptisms for the quadrennial period. This is an average of 45 children per year. The largest number for any year was the year 1930 when 64 were baptized. The lowest year was 1929 when 34 were baptized.

Our veteran Educational Superintendent, Prof. O. S. Hersherberger, who has given a goodly portion of his life to the building up of the educational work in the Ohio conference states: "In some churches the only baptisms in the church have been the children from the church school. In other churches the baptisms from the church school have been more in number than all other sources combined."

#### *Sabbath School Department*

The number of Sabbath schools at the end of the quadrennial period is 70 with a membership of 3,799, a little over 200 more than the church membership. The offerings for the quadrennial period total \$153,626.08, as against \$167,937.85, for the previous quadrennial period the loss of the last period under the previous period being \$14,311.77. We rejoice that the loss is not greater, in view of the serious financial situation that has obtained in the country during the past two years of the last quadrennial period.

The offerings for the first to twelfth Sabbaths during the quadrennial period were \$104,129.05. The Thirteenth Sabbath offerings for this period totaled \$43,760.05. The total of the Thirteenth Sabbath offerings for the quadrennial period is more than forty per cent of the offerings received throughout the first to twelfth Sabbaths for the period. The Birthday offerings have increased from \$558.00 in 1928, the first year of the quadrennial period, to the sum of \$925.20, the last year of the quadrennial period, the total Birthday offerings for the period being \$2,953.39.

Professor Hersherberger, our Sabbath school secretary, writes as follows with respect to the Sabbath school work of the conference:

"Our Sabbath Schools are making great efforts to improve in the daily study of the Sabbath school lesson, and there has been a steady increase in this line of endeavor. Some of our Sabbath schools are doing excellent work along this line. I will cite two notable examples for you: In Akron, along toward the close of the year, I visited

the Sabbath school one Sabbath and in the Primary Division I found they had a membership of 42 and every one had studied the Sabbath school lesson each day during the week, every member was on time that morning and every class reached its financial goal. Taking the Sabbath school as a whole, they had an attendance of 107 and 92 of them had studied the Sabbath school lesson every day during the week. A week later, in the Lakewood Sabbath school, with a Sabbath school attendance of 115, 96 had studied their lesson every day. They thought this was about as near perfection as they could reach, but the next Sabbath they had 97 who had studied the lesson every day during the week.

"One of the things that I consider one of the high points in our Sabbath school work was a series of fourteen Sabbath school conventions which were held in Ohio last year. Instead of having one or two large conventions in the conference and inviting delegates to these conventions, we held smaller Sabbath school conventions in our centers and then invited in the Sabbath schools that were nearby. In other words, we simply picked up these Sabbath schools bodily and took them in to a central location. We felt that this would bring much better results than the system of sending delegates to a large convention, and I am sure it has. This has made the work of a Sabbath school convention possible for practically every Sabbath school member in the conference.

"There is one financial item in which we did make some gain and that is the Investment Fund. In 1928 we had \$339.28, in 1929, \$386.90, in 1930, \$976.18, and in 1931, \$1,211.59.

"The difficult times through which we are passing are leading our people to make much greater sacrifice than they made before. Many of our Sabbath schools are working on a goal of reaching their 30c-per-member, even now during these troublous times. Our attendance is much better too; especially has it been so during the past year. People are taking a deeper interest in the work of the Lord, especially in the Sabbath School Department, than I have ever observed before."

#### *Missionary Volunteer Department*

Under the splendid leadership of Mrs. A. E. King, our Missionary Volunteer work has greatly prospered during the last quadrennial period. At the end of the period we have 29 Junior Societies with a membership of 718, and 20 Senior Societies with a membership of 386, making a total of 49 societies, and a membership of 1,104. At the end of the previous quadrennial period we had 45 societies with a total membership of 844. These figures indicate that the work has made a good, healthy growth.

In the following words Mrs. King has summarized the work of the Young People's organization in the Ohio Conference for the past four years:

"Under the blessings of God, and as a result of the faithful labors of our ministers and those chosen as laborers for the youth, 467 young people were baptized and brought into church fellowship during the recent quadrennial period. 259 Standard of Attainment Certificates were issued. In a special way our youth have been brought to realize the value of a personal knowledge of the truths that we hold dear and have been constrained by the love of Christ to action in passing on this knowledge to others. 5,409 gospel meetings and Bible readings have been reported. As to the fruits of these labors we shall only know when days of missionary activity are over and when the last gospel sermon and Bible reading have been given, but we are confident that souls will be saved

in the kingdom of God as the result of efforts put forth by our faithful God-fearing youth.

"Seven hundred Bible Year Bookmarks were presented to those reading the Bible through; 1,917 Reading Course Certificates were issued; and to help spread the Gospel to earth's remotest bounds, our youth have, during the past four years, raised \$40,125.34 for foreign missions. God's richest blessings have rested upon the youth, the heritage of the church, in the Ohio Conference during the years that have passed. May God continue to bless them and make of them a mighty factor in the completion of the work of God in the earth."

#### *Medical Missionary Department*

In the early part of the last quadrennial period the Ohio Conference employed a medical secretary who accomplished a splendid work among the churches in organizing "How to Live" societies. These societies proved to be very helpful to the churches. During the period many Home Nursing Classes were organized and scores of competent Home Nurses may be found among the churches throughout the state.

The Ohio Conference is favored in the medical institutions that it has within its borders. Mt. Vernon Hospital-Sanitarium, under the leadership of Prof. and Mrs. C. E. Welch, the Columbus Rural Rest Home, under the leadership of Dr. G. T. Harding and son, and Dr. F. H. Weber, and the Bowling Green Sanitarium, under the leadership of Bro. C. B. Williams and his wife, are doing a splendid work and exerting a far-reaching and valuable influence throughout the field. Prof. C. E. Welch, of the Mt. Vernon Hospital-Sanitarium, has carried the medical missionary secretaryship of the conference since the release of the full-time medical secretary.

#### *Religious Liberty Department*

The workers and members of the Ohio Conference have supported earnestly and enthusiastically the efforts of our General Religious Liberty Department to postpone the day of the passing of religious legislation. Our members have rolled up petitions of great length against Sunday laws and other religious legislation. We rejoice with our brethren in the victories that have been gained

as a result of the harmonious cooperation of the field in general against religious legislation.

We will remember that the year 1863 found our republic in the midst of a great conflict. The citizens of the United States were divided on a great issue, and troublous times were on. The Ohio Conference was organized and its work launched in troublous times. This, it would seem, is prophetic of the conditions under which the work will be finished. We have been counseled that the work which is not completed in peaceful times, will have to be finished under most distressing circumstances:

"The work which the church has failed to do in a time of peace and prosperity she will have to do in a terrible crisis, under most discouraging, forbidding circumstances." Vol. V, p. 463.

The certainty of the truthfulness of the above statement and the fact that we are about to enter the "terrible crisis," if this time of trouble is not already in its opening stages, should stir us on to greater earnestness and more intensive activity in the work of God in these days of comparative peace and prosperity.

In the providence of God this people have been called to herald a message world-wide in extent. While world conditions have been, comparatively speaking, favorable; while channels of communication have been open and free; we believe God has led in establishing the message in all the world. But the work at the home base is not done. We must keep before us the unwarned cities, towns, villages and country districts awaiting the message. The success in the small work we are able to do along evangelistic lines, encourages us to believe that a great ingathering of souls awaits the coming of the workers, lay and ordained. May the God of heaven help us to find ways and means to reach out and warn the waiting multitudes in Ohio and gather out the honest in heart. Four hundred members added to the church in Ohio has an annual potential lifting power of approximately \$10,000 in favor of the great world mission fields. The most effective way to quickly finish the work in the world field is to bring in the souls who, in all sections of our state, are waiting to be gathered in.

—C. V. Leach.

## Potomac Conference Report

The Potomac conference brings you greetings from the Nation's capital and from old Virginia, the land of friendship and sunshine. Our territory embraces 98 counties of Virginia, about two counties of Maryland, and the District of Columbia,—an area of 41,000 square miles with a population of approximately three million. Large sections of this vast territory are virgin fields so far as the Advent message is concerned. Though we have many isolated believers in the conference, still there are more than forty counties in Virginia in which there is not an Adventist living. It is more than five hundred miles from Washington to our most distant outposts. A great country is Virginia, calling to us from beautiful southern cities, from homes and estates of culture and refinement and from the more humble abode of farmers and sturdy mountaineers. They have waited long and the hour is late. We must hasten on in our efforts to bring them faith and hope in the triumphant return of Jesus the Saviour.

So it is that increasing efforts to carry on the Master's cause have been put forth these four years past and have

met with a generous measure of success. To the laity and workers has come a widening vision of responsibilities and opportunities, and confident fellowship has bound workers and members heart to heart in one common objective. In this unity of heart and purpose we have pressed the battle on until we can report that more souls have been won and baptized, more children have been gathered into our own schools, more tithe has been given, more money for the great world fields has been gathered, and more new church buildings have been provided within our own borders the past four years than in any other quadrennial period.

Perhaps the following facts regarding our work will be of interest:

At the close of 1931 the membership of the conference stood at 2,925. This represents a net gain over the membership at the close of the last quadrennial period of 320. We have organized two new churches giving us a total of 40 churches. We baptized during the period 589 souls. 213 of these were the direct results of the labors of lay members.

We have 44 Sabbath schools, 5 of which have an enrollment of 3,349 members, representing a net gain of 806 for the period. These schools have contributed \$168,434.32 toward our world work, which is an increase of \$33,955.92 over the last quadrennial period. Since the Sabbath School Department began fostering the Investment Plan, these schools have given \$12,977.61, through that channel. The Potomac Conference is a pennant conference now. We have held the pennant for fourteen consecutive quarters. Sister Plummer states in the *May Sabbath School Worker* (which contains her latest report) that at the close of the third quarter of 1931, the Potomac Conference was the one conference holding the pennant. At one time there were fifteen conferences in North America holding the General Conference pennant. The pennant stands for two financial goals met,—an average of thirty cents per week per member, and one dollar on the Thirteenth Sabbath per member. This is of special interest to us because it denotes that the attainments of our Sabbath schools have been reached through systematic giving and not by large contributions on the Thirteenth Sabbath by those who may have more of this world's goods than the average. The last quarter of 1931, our per capita giving for mission fields ranged from .007 to \$2.57 in the various schools. 23 of our 45 Sabbath schools are pennant schools. The per capita given through our Sabbath schools in 1928 was \$.29. For the year 1931 it was \$.33.

A total of \$846,935.12, was contributed in tithes and mission offerings in our conference these past four years. This is a gain of \$118,656.32 over the last period. The total amount of tithe amounted to \$515,984.34, and the total amount of mission offerings amounted to \$330,948.78. The tithe per capita is \$51.03. The mission per capita for the first year of the period was \$.57, and for the last year, 1931, it had risen to \$.65. We had a gain in tithe over the last period of \$37,926.34, and a gain in mission offerings of \$80,709.98. Last year was the best year in our Harvest Ingathering work the conference ever had. We raised a total of \$24,582.61. We have tried not to pull and tug too hard on campaign goals as such, but have rather emphasized the importance of every member being an active agent for Christ, bearing manfully his full share of responsibility in all gospel endeavor. We have tried to love and understand our churches and to nourish their needs. The departmental secretaries and workers are a united group in this program. We have erected four new church buildings and one other is in process of erection now. Two others are being planned for. The largest indebtedness on any of these buildings at completion was \$300.00. Two of them are entirely paid for.

There are in the Potomac Conference: 20 church schools, 2 home schools, 31 teachers, and the present enrollment is 680. During the past two years we have started three new church schools. About two years ago we closed two colored church schools because there were not children to attend. Otherwise we are maintaining all of the schools that were in operation at the beginning of this four year period.

This present year we have the highest enrollment that we have ever had in our schools. The other peak year was four years ago when our enrollment was 600. Our schools opened this year with a gain over last year of 153.

Our aim is to man all of our schools with Normal trained teachers and each year we find a larger number of College Normal graduates. At present we have 19 Normal graduates and 4 College graduates. All of our teachers with two exceptions have had some Normal training.

Every school in the Potomac Conference was rated last year. This was a stimulus to the respective school boards to make improvements. Consequently this year we find that some schools which last year were in the "B" class have raised their rating this year to the "A" class.

We have two new school buildings, one at Winchester and the other in Washington for the colored school. The enrollment in our colored school has more than doubled within the past two years until at present our enrollment there is about 90.

For six consecutive years now we have had an annual Teachers' Institute.

The average teacher's salary at present is fifty dollars per month. The highest paid is \$23 per week and the lowest \$25 per month and room and board.

We have an active, efficient Medical Department. 18 Home Hygiene classes have been taught, and 361 certificates granted those completing the course satisfactorily. Ten cooking classes have been held. Instruction in Hygiene and cooking has been given in connection with 14 evangelistic efforts. The work of this department among the students in our church schools has been very gratifying. As a result of examination and counsel given 1,465 physical defects among the children have been corrected. At the close of the first year's work by this department 39 per cent of our church school children were able to qualify as gold star children. At the close of the period 66½ per cent qualified.

We have 44 Missionary Volunteer societies in the conference with a total membership of 1,100. This is the highest membership we have ever attained. During the past four years our Missionary Volunteer societies have reached our conference goals in every goal feature of our work with the one exception of the number baptized in 1930. For the four year period there were 371 conversions, 235 passed the Standard of Attainment examinations, 466 read their Bibles through, 1,616 completed the Reading Courses and obtained certificates. \$1,917.58 was raised by the youth in Big Week undertakings, and \$34,578.11 was raised by them in Harvest Ingathering. In the matter of Harvest Ingathering our Missionary Volunteers in the Potomac Conference have been raising about 40 per cent of all the money raised by the conference. Last year for the first time they raised better than \$10,000.00 in the Campaign. Our secretary has studied earnestly together with the conference committee to build up three important phases of our Missionary Volunteer work. One is a Conference Library, and we now have on our shelves more than 425 volumes with an average circulation among the youth of 75 books all the time. We have organized a conference society in order that every isolated boy and girl might be definitely connected with the Young People's Movement. We have conducted a Junior Camp for the past two years with great success in the strengthening of our Juniors spiritually, mentally and physically.

At the beginning of this quadrennial period our colporteurs were selling from sixteen to eighteen thousand dollars worth of books a year. By the blessing of God in 1931, they sold more than \$40,000.00 worth. Our present group of colporteurs averages about twenty-five.

We believe by these few statements of facts that we have reviewed sufficiently the undertakings and results of the Potomac Conference in the past four years. We feel very grateful to our Heavenly Father for these evidences of His loving care and direction, and we trust to follow Him more faithfully and efficiently in the years that may come.

—W. P. Elliott.

## The West Pennsylvania Conference Report

Brother Chairman, Delegates, and Brethren:

The mightiest movement in the world today is that of the Third Angel's Message. When the hour of prophetic inspiration struck in 1844 there was born a movement that in a few short years was destined to encircle the earth with the power and influence of its message.

With no wealth, with no material resources, with no recognition from the world; but with a message born of Heaven, and with confidence in the certainty of that message, and with faith in the living God the early believers went forth in the light of a heavenly vision to proclaim the message of truth "to every nation, kindred, tongue and people."

Today that message is known in over four hundred languages by believers living in nearly 150 different countries.

Medical institutions, schools, colleges, and publishing houses have followed the progress of the message around the world until their value today is \$53,000,000.00.

It is inspiring to know that since the year 1900 more than 3700 missionaries have gone to the mission fields, and that since 1855 more than \$90,000,000.00 worth of denominational literature has been sold. Every activity of this people has had for its object the spreading of the message and the salvation of souls; and so great has been the blessing of God that "the membership at the close of 1930 constitutes one Seventh-day Adventist church member for every 6,234 of the population of the world."

So I repeat the mightiest movement in the world today is that of the Third Angel's Message; and what a wonderful privilege it is to be a part of that movement, and to be connected with such a work.

The West Pennsylvania Conference is a part of this organization, and has had a humble but no less significant part in the sacrifices, labors, and progress of the third angel's message as it has gone forth into the world enlarging the place of its tent, lengthening its cords, and strengthening its stakes.

The constituency of the West Pennsylvania conference are happy to be a part of this movement and are burdened to do all within their power to do their full part in finishing the work in all the world.

In giving this quadrennial report, I want to say that Elder W. M. Robbins served as president during the first two years and seven months of the period, when he accepted a call to the presidency of the East Pennsylvania Conference. Elder Robbins built up a strong work and laid a good foundation for further progress, making possible the results of the last year and five months of the period. Elder Robbins was loved by the constituency everywhere, and when he left for fields of greater responsibility, the prayers of West Pennsylvania for his success followed him.

During the quadrennial period just closed the sum of \$109,428.25 was raised for foreign missions, and adding to this the 11 per cent of tithe that goes to missions, the West Pennsylvania conference gave a total of \$128,979.72 to sustain and push forward the work in the fields beyond. The largest per capita on the Sixty-cent-a-week fund was .499 for the year 1930. We are sorry for the decrease of 4½ cents per week for 1931; but this decrease is far less than the proportionate decrease in the income of our members.

The interest of West Pennsylvania in foreign missions is manifested in the results of the Harvest Ingather-

ing work. During the past four years a total of \$44,439.26 was solicited by a force of loyal workers and a faithful people. It is encouraging to know that while the last two campaigns were carried on in the midst of financial depression yet the funds received exceeded the figure for the preceding two endeavors by \$3,426.19.

It is also encouraging to know that in 1930, the first winter of the depression the conference for the first time raised its General Conference Harvest Ingathering quota, and sent on to foreign missions the largest amount of any previous year. It is still more encouraging to know that in the recent campaign carried on in the depth of the depression (and West Pennsylvania is in the darkest part of the black belt of the depression) that the high figure of 1930 was exceeded, though due to bank failures \$250.00 are still tied up in a Pittsburgh bank. We are thankful to God for these results. They increase our confidence in the power of God and make clear that neither depression nor any other difficulty can hinder the work of the Lord.

The West Pennsylvania conference is strongly organized. Every district has a leader, and every church a pastor, and the departments are well manned. Each worker is burdened that his district or department does its full part in every endeavor, and consequently the whole conference works as one unit in every activity.

The total receipts from Big Week during the quadrennial period was \$5,670.52, or a per capita of \$1.23 for each year. We had hoped to reach \$2.00 per capita for 1931 but were faced with too great a handicap in that three districts with eight (8) churches were unmanned, and that included the largest church in the conference, the Pittsburgh No. 1. But notwithstanding this handicap, the conference stood second in the Union in the per capita amount raised.

During this same period the Sabbath schools of the conference raised for foreign missions the splendid sum of \$51,794.97. This represents real sacrifice on the part of a people who love this cause as much as their own lives. The largest amount of offerings for one year of this period was \$14,115.21 for 1929. At the present time there are thirty-five (35) Sabbath schools with a membership of 1204. Up till last camp meeting time the Sabbath school department was under the supervision of a worker carrying as well the heavy responsibilities of a district. Last July, Brother R. H. Fickling was asked to take up departmental work and is doing everything possible to promote every interest of the Sabbath schools throughout the conference.

There is a fine army of Missionary Volunteers in West Pennsylvania. They are organized into fourteen (14) local societies. During the last Harvest Ingathering campaign the young people took an exceptionally strong part, raising more than \$2,300.00. Our records for the period are incomplete but at the present time a large number are taking the Reading Courses and preparing for Standard of Attainment. Bible-marking classes are conducted in all the societies. The young people are entering upon this new endeavor with enthusiasm. Every society forms a unit of our work. All are active and faithfully reporting each month.

One of the greatest agencies given this Movement for the speedy finishing of the work is our truth-filled literature. The value of books delivered in the conference during the last four years totalled \$94,328.58. This is

a decrease of \$3,506.01 over the preceding quadrennial period. We marvel that the decrease is no greater in that the last two years were marked by financial depression. The greatest loss was suffered in 1931. By earnest prayer and strong promotion the department, headed by Brother H. E. Garrarde and Brother J. R. Ridenour, is endeavoring to find a way for progress.

We are glad to report that at this time we stand second in the Union in percentage of *Review* subscriptions, the *Review* being a regular visitor to 71 per cent of the homes in the conference.

The amount of Institutional relief raised during the last four years totals \$3,222.46.

The most serious problem we face is the loss in tithe receipts. The tithe for the period totalled \$177,740.70. This is a decrease of \$15,657.60 over the preceding period. \$13,000.00 of this came during the last eighteen months. Somehow by divine providence the work throughout the conference has not suffered. Both for 1930 and 1931 we showed a small gain in operating. The salary of our workers has been cut, operating expenses both in the office and the field have been reduced to the minimum. This is a real time of sacrifice for our workers; but there has been no complaint, and all are cheerfully working harder than ever that there be no lessening of effort to push forward the work to completion.

While we are burdened for the salvation of the heathen in the mission fields, we are equally burdened for the unsaved within our own borders. The West Pennsylvania conference has a population of four million. We have 375 towns and cities with a population of 1,000 or more without a living representative of the third angel's message. We cannot go on year after year doing little for these unentered cities. This responsibility has rested heavily upon all the workers of the conference and with the laymembers as well. With no funds and with few workers the task has seemed well night impossible. But God has given us faith to work with the rod, the sling, and stone, the few loaves and fishes that are in our hand.

To partly overcome the problem of securing a proper location for holding meetings, a year ago Elder C. B. Newmyer and Brother Stanley Brown solicited funds throughout the conference with which to purchase a tabernacle. A ready and willing response was given. A splendid new portable frame tabernacle, 40 x 64 with steel girders was bought. Portable benches with steel frames were secured, and the tabernacle is completely equipped with electric wiring, stoves, etc. The cost of the entire outfit has been fully paid.

We have no trained evangelists with the exception of Elder L. H. King who came to Pittsburgh last October. So Brother Luther Belote and Brother Stanley Brown, both young men not ordained, erected the tabernacle last summer at Bradford, a town of 20,000, conducting a series of meetings until Harvest Ingathering time. Following the effort, fifteen (15) were baptized, strengthening the church already established there.

The tabernacle is now pitched at Titusville with Elder Newmyer and Brother Brown in charge. All the meetings have been well attended. At this writing, forty (40) new believers are attending Sabbath services. A church will be organized at this place.

Every district worker last year brought into the church new converts. The total baptized during the last four years was 325. Of this number, 135 were baptized in 1931. Last year was the first in six years that the conference showed a net gain in membership; and we are confident that the membership will continue to steadily increase.

There are eight (8) efforts being held at the present time; and every conference worker is having some direct part in evangelism. All these efforts are, of necessity, self-supporting, and all the workers are handicapped by not having the help of a Bible worker. Everywhere large numbers are attending the services. Each Sunday night at the large Pittsburgh No. 1 church, Elder King is speaking to an overflow audience. The same is true of Elder Rowe's meetings in the Pittsburgh No. 2 church.

The Pittsburgh No. 1 church last year made extensive repairs and improvements to its building, paying cash for all improvements. They have a splendid edifice that is a credit to our work. Elder L. H. King, recently of Buffalo, is the pastor, and is promoting in a very strong way every department.

Located on a main thoroughfare within 2 blocks of the heart of the city, the church at Erie taking advantage of the low cost of labor and material, has completely remodeled and enlarged their building. Elder Clyde B. Newmyer is the pastor. He has promoted a strong work there for a year and a half. They are ready now for extensive evangelism.

We have one German church in the conference, at Pittsburgh, with a membership of 110. They own a very fine building. Elder C. W. Weber, the pastor, is our dean of ministers by virtue of his years of service. The German church never comes behind in any good thing. During the quadrennium Elder Weber baptized 31; seventeen (17) of this number were baptized last year, and so far this year seven (7) more.

The conference has one colored church, located in Pittsburgh, with a membership of 200. They own a very fine building in the heart of the colored section of Pittsburgh. Elder T. M. Rowe, in his two years as pastor here, has held three evangelistic efforts baptizing nearly one hundred. So far this year Elder Rowe has baptized twelve (12) and now has a baptismal class of twenty (20). Their goal is one hundred new members for 1932. The church is laboring under a heavy debt, but is courageously carrying its responsibilities. The West Pennsylvania conference is wide awake for evangelism.

Our newest church is the Serbian-Hungarian church, organized last year (with ten members) by Elder Ilija Belich.

#### *Laymans' Movement*

With a burden to reach the multitudes throughout the conference, a year ago we launched upon a new endeavor. We started an extensive circulation of *Present Truth* from the office. This work is under the leadership and development of Brother Ralph Crawford, and has grown to such proportions that more than 500,000 copies of *Present Truth* went into the homes of West Pennsylvania last year. Our mailing list included practically every post office in the conference. The papers were mailed out each week and went to the same homes for one year. This work is being continued for 1932 with a new list of names.

Special mailing privileges were secured so that the postage for one half million copies was less than \$250.00. Had this number been mailed by our churches the postage would have amounted to \$5,000.00. To have distributed this number during the year, week by week, would have been almost an impossible task for the membership. By making use of the Post Office Department, organized to reach daily every home, our work was greatly facilitated.

To operate *Present Truth* on a large scale, mechanical equipment was secured. This same equipment is used in all our campaigns, and has made possible quick and strong promotion. Within three hours we can have in the post



office a two-page letter to every member in the conference. In one afternoon a few weeks ago we sent out 5200 letters to readers of *Present Truth*. Our office has a postal permit that enables us to mail all circular letters at one cent each, saving as well a great deal of time in not having to use stamps.

The office sent out a letter with a program to all readers of *Present Truth* in Pittsburgh, inviting them to attend Elder King's services. For some time preceding the effort at Titusville, 1500 homes received *Present Truth* each week, followed by a letter inviting the readers to attend the tabernacle services. We see great possibilities in this co-operation between the office and the field. I should like to add that the name of every one purchasing a book from our colporteurs is added to the *Present Truth* list.

Hundreds of replies have been received from last year's readers, requesting more literature, with many sending an offering. It is an inspiration to read these replies. A

number are already keeping the Sabbath; many are requesting the visit of one of our ministers; and others are inquiring the location of our nearest church. There are a dozen towns that are ready for evangelistic meetings.

Our methods are improving and God is blessing this new endeavor.

We know not what the immediate future in the world will be. Times may become more difficult, the depression more severe. But of this we are confident that the cause of God will go forward with increasing success. We are living in the time of Joel 3:14, "Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision; for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision."

Now is the time for us to go forth everywhere by faith, strongly knit together by bonds of unity and with a steadfast purpose, speedily to finish the work. May God bless us to this end.

—W. A. Nelson.

## West Virginia Conference Report

Mr. President and Delegates of the Fourth Quadrennial Session of the Columbia Union Conference: Greetings.

For the blessing of God upon the work in our field during the past four years we are grateful. While no phenomenal gains have been made in our field still there has been a slow, steady growth.

### Membership

Numerically we are a small conference in West Virginia, and although our increase in membership has not been large during the past four years, still we are glad that there has been some growth. Our baptisms during the past quadrennial period total one hundred and forty, in comparison with ninety-five for the previous four-year period.

Our present membership of four hundred and ninety-four is divided into sixteen churches and companies, our youngest church having been organized in Weirton, West Virginia, as a result of meetings held there by Elder A. E. Holst.

A pre-dedicatory service was recently held at the new Buckhannon church building where Elder Baierle has spent three years, assisted by other workers in raising up the church which was organized one year ago. The church indebtedness, we understand, will not be over \$500 when it is finally completed.

Elder O. G. Carnes is continuing Sunday night meetings in Bluefield with a goodly attendance of interested people, who first became acquainted with the message as a result of his tent effort there during the past summer, and through listening in to his sermonettes, which were given over the radio. On Sabbath and Tuesday mornings Elder Carnes has been speaking over the radio for fifteen minutes by request of the radio company. These radio talks have provoked wide discussion in Bluefield and vicinity. One of the direct results has been the securing of a splendid new hall on the second floor, free of charge, where the meetings are being continued. A number of entire families are keeping the Sabbath, and we are looking forward to a baptism of a goodly number of staunch believers before long.

### Finances

The financial depression, which is being felt throughout the country, has been unusually severe in West Vir-

ginia during the past two years, as our statement of tithe shows a falling off of nearly 40 per cent during last year under what it was during the years 1928 and 1929. Our people are demonstrating their loyalty and giving, although they have less to give. Our tithe during the past quadrennial period totals \$74,896.30.

Our Sabbath schools have been struggling along endeavoring to raise their quota, and we appreciate their faithfulness in spite of the depression, which has thrown many of our believers out of work. During the past four years our Sabbath schools have given \$26,048.39 as compared with \$23,719.09 given during the previous four-year period.

Once again our people have shown their loyalty by their efforts in raising Harvest Ingathering money. During this last quadrennial period the Harvest Ingathering total amounts to \$20,776.17 as compared with \$18,926.00 during the former four year period and 17,835.00 during the quadrennial period previous to that.

In gifts to missions we again see the willingness of our people to sacrifice in order that the cause of God might be advanced. During the past four years our mission offerings have totaled \$53,803.54 in comparison with \$51,108.00 of the former four year period and \$47,546.00 of the previous quadrennial period.

As a result of the Big Week endeavors put forth, our people have raised \$2,054.03 for this extension work.

In our Institutional Relief campaign our people have raised about \$5.50 per capita. Realizing the difficulty with which money has been secured, especially during the past year and a half, we greatly appreciate these efforts, making a grand total of \$131,079.27 which has been raised in West Virginia to help advance the cause of God. This is a splendid showing for a small conference of less than 500 people.

As a result of our laymen's missionary movement a great many Bible readings have been given and a number have been added to the church. Our Missionary Volunteers are also lending their aid in the advancement of the truth and have raised a splendid per cent of mission funds which have gone from our field to the General Conference.

During the past several years our publishing work has been at a low ebb, owing to the closing of practically all of the mines, which have always been a fruitful field for

colporteurs. As a result, many faithful colporteurs have been forced to seek employment as a means of livelihood after repeated endeavors to make deliveries of their books; which have only been partially successful. Brother George Carter, our field secretary, has been working disinterestedly for the upbuilding of our colporteur work throughout the field. We are looking forward to the time when the statement of the Spirit of Prophecy will again be fulfilled in West Virginia that the printed page shall be "scattered like the leaves of autumn."

The prospects for the future of West Virginia are just as bright as the promises of God. In spite of the

many problems, reverses and perplexities which confront us, we know that the cause of God is destined to close gloriously. We are confident that there are greater triumphs for West Virginia than have yet been achieved.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank the Union for the financial help it has given us, thus making possible the degree of success which we have attained, and with you we are looking forward to the time when God's children bid a long farewell to all the ills of this present life as they are welcomed into the kingdom of glory.

—D. A. Rees.

## RESOLUTIONS

### EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO GOD—

Recognizing that the prosperity and progress that has attended the work in the Columbia Union Conference in all its phases, administrative, evangelical, departmental, and institutional, is due to the fostering care of our Heavenly Father; and further recognizing that all future success will be due to the same fatherly guidance;

We wish to express our gratitude to God for these manifestations of His love, and do pledge anew our lives to a greater success in the years before us, and to the soon finishing of His work.

### SYMPATHY—

WHEREAS, Our Heavenly Father in His all wise providence has seen fit to remove from our midst during the quadrennial period just closed the following beloved fellow workers: Elder W. F. Martin, Elder C. E. Ulrich, Brother George R. Apsley, and Elder E. R. Palmer of the Review and Herald;

WE RECOMMEND that as we as delegates bow in humble submission to the will of God, and mourn the loss of these fellow workers, we extend our sympathy to the bereaved families, and

We further recommend that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the immediate family of the deceased.

### APPRECIATION AND THANKS—

RESOLVED, That we express to the management of the Young Women's Christian Association, the Chamber of Commerce of Jersey City, the Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, and to Dr. Sadler, our appreciation of their many acts of kindness and courtesy extended to the delegates and visitors attending this conference.

### RELIGIOUS LIBERTY—

WHEREAS, The Servant of the Lord has told us, "The question of enforcing Sunday observance has become one of national interest, and importance. We well know what the result of this movement will be." And asked us the question, "But are we ready for the issue? Have we faithfully discharged the duty which God has committed to us, of giving the people warning of the danger before them?" Vol. 5, p. 711, and

WHEREAS, The efforts that have been put forth along this line have demonstrated that the Religious Liberty work affords a wonderful opportunity to give the third angel's message to men of prominence and influence, men who might never be reached in any other way, therefore

RESOLVED, That a more determined effort be put forth to advance this line of work in our Union, and take advantage of the opportunities that it affords,

1. By a systematic distribution of our Religious Liberty literature and holding mass meetings, wherever any agitation along this line opens the way.

2. By educating our people and all whom we can reach with the meaning of the danger which confronts us.

3. By securing subscriptions for and selling the magazine *Liberty*.

4. By cooperation with the Religious Liberty Department in the circulation of petitions and the presentation of memorials.

### PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT—

WHEREAS, The colporteur evangelistic work properly conducted is as good and successful a method as can be employed for placing before the people the important truth for this time; therefore,

WE RECOMMEND, (a) That the plan of granting conference papers to colporteurs be continued, thus recognizing them as conference workers; these papers to consist of (1) Colporteur credentials to those who have attained a satisfactory standard in all important features of their work, which includes a thorough Christian experience; a satisfactory financial arrangement with the conference and not less than one year of successful missionary service as outlined in the Publishing Department Recommendation, pages 26, 27. (2) Colporteur License to those of less experience, and (3) Colporteur Identification Card to the junior or beginning class.

(b) That we continue the denominational policy of employing devoted and experienced colporteur leaders to faithfully train these men and women in the institute and field.

(c) That we extend to the credentials and licensed group the courtesies recommended by the General Conference. (See Nos. 66, 67, 90, and 102 of Recommendations.)

(d) That at this time when many conferences are compelled to limit their ministerial staffs; special efforts be made to bring into our colporteur army a large number of men and women who love the truth and long for an opportunity to bring it to the attention of the people.

(e) That conference laborers seek to inspire our young people who are not in our schools, to enter the colporteur field and earn scholarships.

(f) That study be given to ways and means by which our books may be placed in the homes of foreign speaking people in this Union.

(g) That we give careful consideration to the action taken at the Fall Council in 1929 regarding Colored colporteurs. It reads: "That renewed efforts be made to

direct the attention of our Colored people generally to this line of work, and that the young people hold the object in mind of winning souls and securing a Christian education by earning scholarships."

That we give serious consideration to Colored leadership for this line of work and that where practicable, Colored assistant field secretaries be appointed to give special attention to these Colored colporteurs.

(h) That the attention of our lay members be directed to the missionary opportunities presented by our small subscription books, and study be given to the plan now being followed in some conferences of holding short institutes in a single church or for a group of churches for the benefit of home workers and part time workers, with a view to developing permanent colporteurs.

#### NEGRO DEPARTMENT—

WHEREAS, The great need for a school of Academic grades for the Colored youth in the North is increasing each year,

WE RECOMMEND, That we urge all our ministers and workers and all our churches in Columbia Union Conference to put forth earnest and determined effort to raise their share of the \$20,000 voted on by the General Conference for the proposed Northern school for our Colored youth.

WHEREAS, There are many towns and cities in our Union with a large Colored population that have never heard the third angel's message from the living preacher,

WE RECOMMEND, That plans be laid by which we could reach these people with the last warning message.

#### CAMP MEETINGS—

I. In order to leave the summer open for evangelism,

WE RECOMMEND, That in the early Spring, two camp meetings beginning at the same time be held, followed a week later by one or two other camp meetings. Then, as late in the summer as practicable one or two camp meetings be held beginning at the same time, followed by another camp meeting, beginning a week later.

II. WE RECOMMEND, That the Union consult with the officers of the General Conference, on the arrangement of help for the camp meetings, so as to avoid unnecessary duplications, thereby effecting economy in the labors of men, travel, and entertainment.

#### MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT—

Recognizing that conditions among our children and young people reveal a need for increased evangelistic and revival work among them, and that if properly directed our youth may be a powerful influence to help save others of their own age,

WE RECOMMEND, That as workers we give a concerted emphasis to evangelistic labor in behalf of youth, and that we encourage a movement among our young people to labor more earnestly for their friends and companions.

#### HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT—

WHEREAS, There is vital need of fostering in a very consistent way a missionary spirit and zeal for soul winning in the hearts of all our members, and

WHEREAS, Such a work can only be done successfully when the missionary leaders of the church have frequent opportunity to stress the importance of this work and to keep before the church the plans and methods best suited for carrying on this endeavor, therefore,

WE RECOMMEND, (a) That the plan of conducting the fifteen minute missionary service be carried out in all the churches of the Columbia Union Conference where

considered advisable, in accordance with the action of the Springfield Fall Council.

(b) That this service be held strictly within the limits of the time specified, special care being taken to see that it is not allowed to interfere with the Sabbath morning service.

(c) That this service not be made in any way a part of the Sabbath school program, either as to the use of time or organization during the regular Sabbath school period, but that it commence only after the Sabbath school exercises are closed in accordance with the recommendations of the Sabbath School Department; and that the Sabbath school shall not in any way encroach on the fifteen minute period, but that it likewise close promptly on time.

WE RECOMMEND, That the church be left free, after the Sabbath school is closed in accordance with recommendations of the Sabbath School Department, to form bands for missionary endeavor by the class band method or by any other method that may seem best adapted to the needs of the church.

#### THE HOME BIBLE STUDY LEAGUE—

WHEREAS, "In a large degree through our publishing houses is to be accomplished the work of that other angel who comes down from heaven with great power, and who lightens the whole earth with his glory," therefore

WE RECOMMEND, That all our churches put forth continued effort in the circulation of missionary literature, wherever possible following the Home Bible Study League plan.

#### CHURCH MISSIONARY LEADER—

WE RECOMMEND, That the most experienced and capable person in every church be elected as missionary leader.

#### THE MISSIONARY COMMITTEE—

WE RECOMMEND, That the church board be the missionary committee of the church, except as provided by the 1930 General Conference, the church missionary secretary to be the recording secretary for such meetings as have to do with the soul-winning activities of the church.

#### EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT—

WHEREAS, The Spirit of Prophecy points out three major lines of endeavor for the denomination stated in these words: "While we should put forth earnest efforts for the masses of the people around us and help to push the work in foreign lands, yet no amount of labor in this line can excuse us for neglecting the education and training of the children, and

WHEREAS, our educational work must be built up by increasing the number of schools and by securing a larger attendance in the schools already in operation,

WE RECOMMEND, (1) That all of our churches, white and colored, give earnest consideration to this matter. If schools are not already in operation, steps be taken immediately where there are six or more children to make a full investigation of the conditions that prevail.

By electing School Boards to ascertain the number of children that would attend if the school were established; the place that could be obtained for holding school; the expenses incident to establishing and maintaining the school; the financial support that may be depended upon from the patrons and members of the church.

(2) That we devote the month of July in a program to carry out the children ingathering plan recommended by the General Educational Department in order to

greatly increase the enrollment during the coming session in the church schools and academies and the college.

(3) That we urge our ministers, workers, and the heads of our educational institutions to cooperate with us in these plans.

WHEREAS, Great discouragement has come to some of our churches in maintaining their schools during the past two years, owing to lack of funds caused by the great depression through which we are passing,

WE RECOMMEND, That our churches weigh carefully all the conditions involved, seeking counsel from the conference superintendent and conference president, and from the educational secretary before thinking of closing the school, in order to see if there may not be some change of plan or some method whereby the school may continue to function, and in no case decide to close the school until it appears plain that there is no other choice, after full consultation.

### EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN—

WHEREAS, The people of the United States today are becoming increasingly confused by the vast propaganda of the liquor interests to discredit the benefits of prohibition; and,

WHEREAS, A crisis confronts the nation in the matter of the modification or repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment; and,

WHEREAS, This situation calls for an extensive dissemination of information as to the moral, economic, and physical advantages of prohibition, and offers at the same time unparalleled opportunity for educating the masses as to the effects of liquor on body and soul, and the benefits of the practice of the principles of temperance; and,

WHEREAS, The Seventh-day Adventist denomination has a particular responsibility and unique position in temperance education because of its beliefs, teachings, and practices, as well as being a nonpolitical organization; and,

WHEREAS, We have been exhorted in the following instruction to take the aggressive in the temperance movement:

"Of all who claim to be numbered among the friends of temperance, Seventh-day Adventists should stand in the front ranks. For many years a flood of light concerning the principles of true reform has been shining on our pathway, and we are accountable before God to let this light shine to others. Years ago we regarded the spread of temperance principles as one of our most important duties. It should be so today."—Gospel Workers, p. 384.

BE IT RESOLVED, That in the present serious situation, when the cause of temperance is in jeopardy, we as leaders in the great cause of truth recognize in these conditions the call of God to His people, who are personally and denominationally committed to the cause of temperance, for extensive activities in behalf of temperance, both within and without the denomination; and that the following outline of plans for the proposed campaign be adopted:

#### Public Work

That special attention be given in each conference to the selection of able public speakers who will address mass meetings, service club groups, and other organizations; that wherever possible they make use of the radio; and that our evangelists make temperance lectures a feature in their evangelistic series. We also suggest that our Young People's Societies prepare suitable programs that they may render before other young People's Societies not of our faith.

That a thorough program be entered upon for the education of our own people in temperance principles, and concerning the issues of the crisis now confronting the nation.

That we circulate widely the special Big Week books on the subject of temperance "Wet or Dry," and tract and leaflet literature that may be provided; and

That we indorse the plan of the Pacific Press Publishing Association to issue another temperance and prohibition number of the *Signs of the Times*, and urge that this be given the widest possible distribution during the summer of 1932.

### REAFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE TEMPERANCE CAUSE—

WHEREAS, The Seventh-day Adventists throughout all their history, both in doctrine and in practice, have upheld the highest standards of temperance, and have fought valiantly in the cause of outlawing liquor; and,

WHEREAS, The great cause of temperance as embodied in the 18th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States is now being challenged and threatened by reactionary forces that would again legalize liquor; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the delegates of the Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists assembled in Jersey City, New Jersey, do reaffirm our allegiance to the temperance cause, and do pledge ourselves to an aggressive, world-wide educational campaign, setting forth the physical, economic, moral, and spiritual advantages of temperance, and for the upholding in the United States of the 18th Amendment and its supporting laws as the best solution thus far developed for the liquor problem in the United States.

### CHURCH SCHOOL COLPORTEUR BANDS—

WHEREAS, The early impressions received by the child are the most deep and lasting in shaping the period of youth and later life, and

WHEREAS, Many of our youth feel unprepared to enter the colporteur work as a means of furthering their Christian education, largely because of a lack of early education and training, therefore

WE RECOMMEND, (a) That Field Missionary Secretaries unite with church school teachers of experience in the formation of colporteur bands in our church schools.

(b) That care be taken in the formation of these colporteur bands to include only students of mature development and definite Christian experience.

(c) That these bands meet at some suitable hour during each week for the study of colporteur methods and prayer.

(d) That care be taken to supervise the work of these church school student colporteurs by parents or other older persons, so that they have the personal protection and counsel of this supervisor as they carry on their work from door to door.

### HOME STUDY INSTITUTE—

WHEREAS, The Home Study Institute offers a large variety of courses in Bible, history, english, ancient and modern languages, bookkeeping, accountancy, and other timely subjects; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we encourage our ministers and our workers generally to avail themselves of this opportunity to broaden their knowledge and increase their personal efficiency.

RESOLVED, That we as workers place the Home Study plan before our people as we meet them in their homes

and at various gatherings with the view of fostering in every church and family the spirit of self-improvement and getting as many as possible of our people to devote their evenings and spare time to supervised study, and further

**WE RECOMMEND,** The organization in our churches of Home Study groups, the members of which will not only pursue a given course under the guidance of the Institute, but will meet together at stated times for mutual help and encouragement.

### SABBATH SCHOOL—

Inasmuch as the Sabbath school is the most popular channel for mission giving in North America, and presents the only denomination-wide method of regular systematic weekly giving to soul-saving work,

**RESOLVED,** That throughout the Columbia Union we again state and reaffirm the plan of raising at least an average of thirty cents a week per church member through the Sabbath school.

**WHEREAS,** Sabbath school employing goal devices, as a means of increasing mission offerings, have amply demonstrated their helpfulness,

**RESOLVED,** That Sabbath schools stir up their own local talent and also seek suggestions for devices from the Conference Sabbath School Department and where practical prepare and actually employ appropriate goal devices in the Sabbath school.

**WHEREAS,** During the depression of the last two years, our people have responded even to the point of sacrifice in providing funds to maintain strongly the work in the world field, making possible the continued proclamation of the message in many tongues, resulting in a rich harvest of souls, and,

**WHEREAS,** During recent months there has been a marked shrinkage of income to the General Conference in this hour of need when unprecedented openings for the proclamation of the message are everywhere significantly manifest, and,

**WHEREAS,** A small added donation if given weekly, even so small an increase as five cents a week per member might carry us through the present financial crisis,

**RESOLVED,** (1) That we ask our people everywhere to arise to the present need by giving such an increase of offering as they are able.

(2) That in the Columbia Union Conference we ask everyone through the Sabbath school to increase their offering five cents or more a week to help to bridge the present crisis.

(3) That we ask the Sabbath School Department to promote strongly in every Sabbath school the idea of the added offering of a nickel a week, or more, for missions.

(4) That the financial needs of the General Conference be clearly set forth at each union session, and every delegate attending these sessions be asked to endorse and strongly promote the plan of an increase of five cents, or more, for missions, through the Sabbath school.

(5) That we seek to emphasize through public effort, correspondence, and the COLUMBIA UNION VISITOR the need and possibilities of systematic giving, and call upon our people to give an increased offering of at least five cents a week per member through the Sabbath school in order to bridge the present crisis.

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** That we earnestly request our people whom the Lord has blessed with means, to come forward at this time with large special offerings to help save our missions from retrenchment.

**WHEREAS,** Many of our Sabbath schools are securing in the aggregate large sums for the work of God through the promotion of the Investment Plan and Birthday Offerings, and

**WHEREAS,** A large number of other schools are treating these sources of mission income with laxness or total neglect,

**RESOLVED,** That our conference workers, Sabbath school officers and Sabbath school teachers give proper attention to and ample promotion of these two sources, adequately developing them so that they, too, shall yield their full share, to help speed on the message.

**WHEREAS,** There are 2,200 church members in this Union not enrolled in the Sabbath school, and

**WHEREAS,** The servant of the Lord has told us that, "The Sabbath school work is important, and all who are interested in the truth should endeavor to make it prosperous." (Test. Vol. 5, p. 127.)

**RESOLVED,** That we put forth greater efforts than ever before to enroll as many of these missing members as possible.

**RESOLVED,** That as workers and delegates we pledge ourselves to a whole-hearted support of the Sabbath school and its program of soul-winning daily lesson study, offerings for missions and prompt and regular attendance.

## God's Measure of A Man

In ancient times the Prophet Samuel charged with the responsibility of selecting leadership for God's people, was divinely directed to the house of Jesse. Samuel's thoughts were centering on such qualities as are expressed by "stature" "countenance," "personality," "poise," "appearance." While these qualities are most admirable and desirable, yet it would be absurd that anyone blessed with whole-souled devotion, outstanding accomplishment, Christian character, inner worth, unselfish spirit and heart beauty should be thought disqualified for leadership because of a supposed or real lack of the mere physical features noted above.

We have been plainly told that, "No outward beauty can recommend the soul to God. . . . How deeply should we feel this truth in the judgment of ourselves and others." (Patriarchs and Prophets, page 638) This inspired statement is applicable not alone to the choice of leadership for one office, but to all offices; not only to this time, but to all time.

Eliab, more than the other sons of Jesse, was outstanding in stature and physical beauty. His comely features, well developed form, and princely bearing attracted the attention of the prophet, who thought he was the man of God's choice. But the word of the Lord to the prophet was: "Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; . . . for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7)

"We may learn from the mistake of Samuel, how vain is the estimation that rests on beauty of face or nobility of stature." (Patriarchs & Prophets, p. 638)

The divine standard of measurement is well illustrated in the experience of Sir Isaac Watts, poet laureate of England. Without seeing the poet and judging from his writings alone, an English lady chose him as her ideal of a man. One day Sir Isaac Watts, as an honored guest, passed through her town. Upon seeing him, small of stature, and crippled in form, she was disappointed and spoke out in disparaging remarks. Seemingly inspired for the occasion, the poet laureate aptly replied:

"Though I could reach from pole to pole,  
And grasp creation in my span  
I must be measured by my soul  
The mind's the measure of the man."

—Milton G. Conger.

## History of Columbia Union Conference In Figures

YEAR	MEMBER-SHIP	TITHE	TITHE PER CAPITA	MISSIONS	MISSIONS PER CAPITA	SABBATH SCHOOL	HARVEST GATHERING
1907	5717	\$71,621.01	\$11.81	\$14,262.67	\$.048	\$6,633.05	
1908	6376	87,638.75	12.52	24,720.04	.074	8,207.12	
1909	6359	90,221.82	13.29	21,984.49	.066	9,755.40	
1910	6456	97,842.78	14.47	29,681.25	.09	10,411.11	
1911	6576	106,554.81	15.40	28,002.28	.082	12,028.49	
1912	6649	120,375.08	17.10	51,648.22	.154	20,063.36	
1913	6949	131,542.96	18.18	57,298.18	.165	26,625.64	7,839.84
1914	7405	142,744.18	19.28	70,085.25	.20	31,469.86	6,413.77
1915	8174	153,541.67	18.78	73,573.03	.20	36,104.61	8,416.10
1916	8613	190,315.86	22.09	83,672.82	.22	41,257.34	18,722.57
1917	9605	244,489.09	25.45	99,733.74	.24	48,599.99	26,685.30
1918	10203	335,743.82	39.02	150,092.73	.335	66,068.42	41,548.09
1919	10852	416,711.70	43.38	191,801.42	.385	90,358.83	64,717.42
1920	11182	532,773.20	52.21	283,050.12	.53	128,966.56	104,765.62
1921	11456	456,596.80	42.08	257,520.16	.46	133,084.93	94,478.24
1922	11627	461,459.40	41.27	267,894.71	.465	122,339.26	90,678.70
1923	11828	538,246.00	46.98	294,082.24	.494	142,976.84	90,192.37
1924	11887	546,056.80	46.96	290,322.24	.481	153,133.87	85,842.34
1925	11879	552,454.80	46.71	296,710.69	.482	150,383.06	93,713.97
1926	12123	550,975.60	46.35	337,045.35	.55	164,682.98	108,150.61
1927	12337	563,729.10	47.45	322,355.82	.521	160,034.68	109,850.74
1928	12585	555,174.60	44.11	339,409.39	.538	163,095.03	119,824.02
1929	12746	585,997.20	47.51	354,859.10	.553	175,905.48	126,732.08
1930	12863	534,834.60	42.49	339,255.86	.518	169,217.15	120,439.45
1931	13303	483,783.00	37.95	317,869.56	.48	155,701.48	114,654.85
		\$8,551,424.63		4,596,931.36		2,227,104.54	1,433,666.08
		Total Tithe			\$8,551,424.63		
		Total Missions			4,596,931.36		
		Total Am't. Funds			\$13,148,355.99		

### COLUMBIA UNION CONFERENCE Comparative Statement of Income and Expense

INCOME	1928	1929	1930	1931	4 yr. Totals
Tithe	\$55,517.46	\$58,599.72	\$53,483.46	\$48,378.30	\$215,978.94
Interest	674.65	730.88	868.52	784.74	3,058.79
Rentals	522.54				522.54
Totals	\$56,714.65	\$59,330.60	\$54,351.98	\$49,163.04	\$219,560.27
EXPENSES					
Laborers' Salary and Expense	\$23,360.93	\$22,159.80	\$22,093.44	\$21,398.98	\$ 89,013.15
Administrative	2,479.13	2,531.50	2,831.01	2,403.16	10,244.80
General	3,587.30	3,469.31	6,469.28	6,206.92	19,732.81
Appropriation	30,988.73	29,797.12	25,108.17	19,315.13	105,209.15
Totals	\$60,416.09	\$57,957.73	\$56,501.90	\$49,324.19	\$224,199.91
Loss	3,701.44		2,149.92	161.15	
Gain		1,372.87			
Net Loss for Period				4,639.64	

### SUMMARY

Present Worth January 1, 1928	41,263.55
Net Loss	4,639.64
Present Worth January 1, 1931	36,623.91

—E. J. Stipeck, *Treas.*



## Chesapeake Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the tenth biennial session of the Chesapeake conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in connection with the annual camp meeting of the Chesapeake Conference of Seventh-day Adventists on the conference grounds, 24 Fusting Ave., Catonsville, Md., July 7 to 17, 1932. The first meeting of the Association will convene at 10:30 A. M. Monday, July 11, 1932. The purpose of the meeting is to elect trustees, and for the transaction of any other business that may properly come before the Association at that time.

F. H. Robbins, *President*  
N. C. VanHorn, *Secretary*

## Chesapeake Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the tenth biennial session of the Chesapeake Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in connection with the annual camp meeting of the Chesapeake Conference at 24 Fusting Ave., Catonsville, Md., July 7 to 17, 1932. The first meeting of the Conference will convene at 9:30 A. M., Friday, July 8 1932. The purpose of the meeting is to elect officers, and for the transaction of any other business that may properly come before the delegates.

F. H. Robbins, *President*  
N. C. VanHorn, *Secretary*

## West Pennsylvania Conference

The regular biennial session of the West Pennsylvania Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at Conneautville, Pennsylvania on the camp grounds July 14 to 24, 1932.

This meeting will be held in connection with our annual camp meeting for the purpose of receiving reports from all departments of the conference, for the election of officers for the ensuing term, and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the session.

The first meeting is called to convene at 9:30 a.m. July 15, 1932.

Each church is entitled to one delegate for its organization and one additional for each ten members or major portion thereof. All churches should elect their delegates at once and send a complete list to the secretary of the conference.

Milton G. Conger, *President*.  
C. M. Paden, *Secretary*.

## New Jersey Conference

The eighth Biennial Session of the New Jersey Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at 9:45 A.M., Friday, July 1st, 1932. This meeting will be held in connection with the annual camp meeting of the New Jersey Conference on the Trenton State Fair Grounds at Trenton, New Jersey. The meeting is called for the election of officers and for the transaction of any other business that may properly come before the Conference at that time.

W. A. Nelson, *President*.  
C. H. Kelly, *Secretary*.

## New Jersey Conference Association

Notice is hereby given that there will be a legal meeting of the New Jersey Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey, on the Trenton State Fair Grounds in connection with the annual camp meeting of the New Jersey Conference.

The first meeting will be called at 9:45 A.M., July 5th. The purpose of this session is to elect officers and trustees for the ensuing biennial term and to transact such other business as may properly come before the Association.

The delegates to the New Jersey Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are members of the above Association.

W. A. Nelson, *President*.  
C. H. Kelly, *Secretary*.

## Travel Routes to

## West Pennsylvania Camp Grounds

It is desired to give full information concerning the travel lanes converging at Conneautville, the location of our West Pennsylvania camp meeting. We are preparing for the largest meeting in the history of the field. Economies have reduced rates to the minimum and great efforts are being made to make it possible for all to come.

Those driving by auto from Pittsburgh will find the shortest and best route out East Street to Perrysville Avenue and then following Route 19 to Mercer, 58 to Greenville, 18 to Conneautville, where the camp is located a mile through the village. Greensburg folk may take Route 30 to Pittsburgh, then same route.

Johnstown, Altoona and intermediate places connect with Route 422 to Butler, 8 to Harrisville, 58 to Mercer and Greenville, and 18 to camp.

DuBois, Oil City, Franklin drivers take 322 to Conneaut Lake, then 18 to camp.

Bradford, Mt. Jewett, and Warren — Route 6 to Youngsville, 27 to Titusville and Meadville, 322 to Conneaut Lake, 18 to camp.

The West Ridge and Harmony Short Line buses cover the entire West Pennsylvania field and connect where needful with Pennsylvania Greyhound and Great Eastern Stages. Buses leave Pittsburgh at 7 a. m.; 11:30 a. m. daily, and on Sunday also at 2:30 p. m., Eastern Standard Time. The trip consumes about five hours by bus. The railroad fare is regularly \$4.01 one way. The bus fare will be \$5.60 round trip. Tickets good for sixty (60) days.

The Pennsylvania railroad runs one train from Pittsburgh area, at 8:35 a. m., reaching Conneautville at 11:57, a little more than three hours later. This company is working out a reduced rate schedule which will be announced later.

It is urged that churches make special efforts to arrange for the attendance and transportation of members by securing the services of some brother or friend who has a truck or other vehicle with a capacity sufficient to carry a number. Thus by pooling the expense the travel outlay may be reduced greatly. Members owning such vehicles are asked to make their rates as little above cost as possible, in order that many may go and receive the blessing. Here is an opportunity for harmonious cooperation on the part of all that will greatly glorify our Heavenly Father.

—L. H. King.

**DIRECTORY FOR COLUMBIA UNION CONFERENCE  
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**  
Office, 507 Flower Ave., Takoma Park, D. C.  
Telephone, Shephard 3163.

President	H. J. Detwiler
Secretary-Treasurer	W. B. Mohr
Auditor	W. B. Mohr
Educational Secretary	J. P. Neff
Field Missionary Sec'y	E. M. Fishell
Home Missionary Sec'y	E. A. Manry
Missionary Volunteer Sec'y	J. P. Neff
Religious Liberty Sec'y	F. H. Robbins

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

H. J. Detwiler, C. V. Leach, W. A. Nelson, W. M. Robbins, W. P. Elliott, F. H. Robbins, D. A. Reese, J. P. Neff, B. G. Wilkinson, D. W. Reavis, Dr. A. W. Truman, H. H. Hamilton, E. M. Fishell, Milton G. Conger, E. A. Manry, W. B. Mohr.

**Greetings to the  
West Pennsylvania Conference**

About the middle of April the writer received the call of the Western Pennsylvania Conference Executive Committee to the leadership of this field. It was nearly a month later, or during the latter part of May, that the completion of pressing work permitted of making my first visit to this field. Hastened on by the urgency of the important duties awaiting me my visit of two weeks was crowded full with conference committee meetings, locating of the camp meeting site, counselling with associate officers, attending the Mount Vernon Academy Board Meeting, addressing several of our Western Pennsylvania churches, and travelling by auto 1,200 miles throughout the conference visiting practically every district, every worker, and many church members.

Everywhere I find our workers and people of good courage in the Lord. My heart is cheered by the hearty welcome graciously extended and by the Christian love and hospitality freely rendered.

The Western Pennsylvania wide-spreading fields and mammoth mountain slopes are springing forth in luxuriance and in profusion. They give promise of a rich growth and an abundant yield. With a higher vision, we think of the scores of yet unwarned cities and villages in the mountains and in the great valleys of this great state and view them as fields white unto the harvest of precious souls.

As we now for the first time, extend Christian greetings to you, we also dedicate all to God and to you, dear brethren and sisters, for the continued success and glorious triumph of the work of God in this field. "Be of good courage and let us behave ourselves valiantly for our people, and for the cities of our God: and let the Lord do that which is good in his sight." (1 Chron. 19:13.)

—Milton G. Conger.

All around us are heard the wails of a world's sorrow. On every hand are the needy and distressed. It is ours to aid in relieving and softening life's hardships and misery. The wants of the soul, only the love of Christ can satisfy. If Christ is abiding in us, our hearts will be full of divine sympathy. The sealed fountains of earnest, Christlike love will be unsealed. There are many from whom hope has departed. Bring back the sunshine to them. Prophets and Kings, p. 719.

**Change of Conference Presidents**

NOTE: This word of farewell was written by Elder Nelson for the West Pennsylvania column of the "Visitor," just before his leaving the presidency of the West Pennsylvania Conference.

In response to the invitation of the New Jersey Committee and the counsel of the Columbia Union, I have accepted a call to the presidency of the New Jersey Conference, and have at this time entered upon the responsibilities of that field.

It is with sincere regrets that Mrs. Nelson and I leave the West Pennsylvania Conference. During the time of our service here we became very much attached to the members throughout the field; and very much appreciate the wonderful cooperation given by all in the promotion of a strong program.

The conference committee invited Elder M. G. Conger to the presidency of the West Pennsylvania Conference. Elder Conger has already entered upon his duties here. Elder Conger is a worker of broad experience gained from extensive labors both in this country and in China. You will find him a strong and capable leader, possessing merit and ability.

I know that you will give to him the same whole-hearted, unselfish cooperation that you so willingly rendered me in my services.

West Pennsylvania is ready for a wonderful work, and may the blessing of the Lord abundantly rest upon every member, every church, and every worker that a rich harvest of souls may result from your labors and that every department of the work may prosper.

—W. A. Nelson.

**Camp Meeting**

The camp meeting season is upon us. Many have already attended while others are making the necessary preparations to attend these spiritual convocations. We are truly living in the most wonderful period of the world's history, a time when the work of God is to be quickly finished. At this time all the powers of darkness are centering their forces against God and His church. Sin and wickedness are on the increase in the world. But the truth of God in the face of all obstacles is surging on with unprecedented rapidity.

Camp meeting is a time when God's people earnestly look to Him for the manifestation of His blessed presence, desiring to enter into the experience of a closer fellowship with Him. The revival meetings conducted on the Sabbath always prove a special blessing to both old and young. The Sabbath revival service usually results in many giving themselves to the Lord for the first time, and others who have been in the way for years receive special help.

"The camp meeting is one of the most important agencies in our work. It is one of the most effective methods of arresting the attention of the people and reaching all classes with the gospel. The time in which we live is a time of intense excitement. Ambition and war, pleasure and money-making, absorb the minds of men. Satan sees that his time is short, and he has set all his agencies at work, that men may be deceived, deluded, occupied, and entranced, until probation shall be ended, and the door of mercy be forever shut."—Vol. 6, p. 31.

The sacred work God has committed to us as a people requires our coming together in these annual gatherings to receive the special help needed to carry forward the work.

—W. M. Robbins.