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Eastern Canadian Messenger

VOL. 16

No. 3

O. A. W. A., ONTARIO, JANUARY 18, 1916

Biennial Address of the President of the Eastern Canadian Union Conference

It gives me more than ordinary pleasure to welcome at this time the delegates to the eighth session of the Eastern Canadian Union Conference. One year and seven months ago we assembled as a Union Conference at Moncton, N. B. in connection with the Maritime campmeeting. Little did we dream at that time that the pent-up wrath of generations would break upon us in the form of the present convulsion raging on European soil. The future has still more terrible revelations in store for us and ere long the time of trouble "such as never was" will involve the world in irretrievable ruin. This reflection should stir our hearts to renewed consecration and devotion to the cause of God.

I am pleased to report that none of our laborers have fallen in death since our last session nor have any been seriously ill. For the watchful care of our kind heavenly Father over the representatives of his truth we feel to give heartfelt thanks.

MEMBERSHIP

In 1902 the reported membership of this Union was 861. In 1912, ten years later, the membership was 859, a decrease of two after ten years' labor. This condition of affairs caused many to feel that Eastern Canada was an unfruitful field. However, the record of the past three years would seem to indicate that this territory is capable of development to a very much greater extent than was supposed. In 1913 we had a clear gain of 70. In 1914 our net gain was 99. The year 1915 would show a still greater gain, but one of our conferences revised its records and lowered its reported membership to the extent of 92. In spite of this large depreciation we will show a material gain for 1915. While conservatism is strongly entrenched in this, the oldest section of the Dominion, it is nevertheless true that the third angel's message

will prove victorious here as elsewhere. However, it will take more than merely wishing and praying for success to bring it. Earnest, painstaking labor must be combined with our prayers and desires.

While the gains of the last three years are encouraging, they are nothing to boast of. Let us push the mark several notches higher for the present year.

FINANCES

The tithe has also made an equally encouraging gain. From 1902 to 1912 the tithe income in the Union drifted along from \$8,000 to \$12,000, but in 1913 it rose to \$17,000, and there has been a steady gain each year since. I am of the opinion that the tithe income of each conference in the Union can be greatly increased by setting before the people advance marks to which they shall be encouraged to work.

We are pleased to report that in 1915 our Union swept over the mark set for foreign mission offerings, for the fourth consecutive year. This speaks volumes for the devotion of a people who are undergoing the financial strain incident to war conditions. We trust that this Union will always take pride in overtopping every mark that is set before it.

PUBLISHING

Turning to our publishing department we find decided progress there. In 1913 our book and periodical sales amounted to \$10,000; in 1914, \$15,000; in 1915, \$22,000.

We installed a new Cottrell cylinder press in our printing establishment this summer and it is now nearly paid for. We are much in need of another small press to take care of our business, and hope to be able to secure it the present year.

The "Maple Leaf Series" of tracts is now traveling rapidly on toward completion. This series will have a number of entirely new tracts adapted especially to our field, combined with a reprint of our best standard tracts. The "Made in Canada" campaign

instituted by the government is bearing fruit in all parts of the Dominion, and it appears imperative that we should meet it by producing as much of our literature here as possible. We are arranging to have printed an edition of the new "Bible Readings for the Home Circle" with our Canadian imprint on the title page, and we aim to make a special effort with this book the coming season. We hope to bring out a French pamphlet similar to "World's Crisis" for the use of our French young people this summer.

At the organization of this Union at South Lancaster, Mass., in 1901, the following advice was given by the general brethren present:—

"That the Canadian Union Conference publish a monthly paper of from eight to sixteen pages as the necessities of the work may demand." I would suggest that thought be given by the delegates to the advisability of making the fourth issue of the MESSENGER each month a special missionary number so that our churches may take clubs of them for use in missionary work. This special number could consist of eight or twelve pages.

EDUCATIONAL

Four years ago the General Conference brethren encouraged us to plan for an educational system in this field that would train workers within our own borders. A good-sized appropriation was given to enable us to build a training school at Oshawa in which we were authorized to carry work as far as the fourteenth grade as conditions required. We were encouraged by the American brethren to do this because of the fact that few of our young people who went to the States for their training ever returned to labor in Canada. This deprived our field of its most talented young people, and in many cases the rest of the family followed the young people to the States, and thus we were constantly robbed of strength that should have remained for the building up of the work here.

Our Oshawa institution has experienced a steady growth since its opening. A full report of the school will be given by Professor Rowe, the principal.

Williamsdale Academy which serves the eastern end of the Union has also given a good account of itself and will be represented by its principal, L. O. Machlan.

At this session of the conference strong plans should be laid for branching out into the unworked sections of our field. Northern Ontario, Eastern Quebec, Prince Edward Island, and Labrador, are sections of the Union that have scarcely been touched. An effort should be made to interest self-supporting workers in some of these neglected fields. We have among us some who could do this to good advantage.

UNION INCORPORATION

In harmony with the instructions given by the delegates at our last Union session, a bill has been prepared for introduction into the present Dominion Parliament incorporating our Union Conference under the name of the "Eastern Canadian Union Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists."

TAX LITIGATION

Inasmuch as taxes were assessed against our Buena Vista Academy property by the township in which it is located, we declined to pay them because according to our understanding of the Provincial law we were exempt. The township brought suit against the Academy for the amount of the taxes and the case was heard this autumn at Whitby. The judge decided that our academy building and thirty acres should be exempted. He advised us, however, to appeal the case to the district court in Toronto which we did. We expect a final decision of the case the present month.

I trust that this gathering will prove a season of spiritual blessing to all, and that as a result of our deliberations the cause of God in this field will forge ahead at a greatly accelerated pace. May God in his infinite wisdom direct us in all our plans.

M. N. CAMPBELL, *Pres.*

Conference Notes

The officers elected for the coming four year term in the Eastern Canadian Union Conference are as follows:—

President, M. N. Campbell; Secretary and Treasurer, M. M. Hare; Asst. Sec. and Treas., Edna Leach; Educational and Miss. Vol. Sec., M. M. Hare.

Elder I. H. Evans paid a visit to the Academy at Oshawa and spoke to the students Monday morning. His address was a real inspiration to all who heard it.

The name of Buena Vista Academy was changed at this session of the Union Conference to the Eastern Canadian Missionary Seminary.

MARITIME

What Students Say About Williamsdale Academy (Concluded)

This is my third year in the Williamsdale Academy and I can say that I never enjoyed life better than since I came here. The reason, I am sure, is because it was here that I gave my life to Christ, and I am trusting in him to help me while here to prepare for some humble work in his cause.—ISAAC L. CARTER.

I can truly say that Williamsdale Academy has been a great benefit to me. I enjoy the association of the students here very much, and would advise every young person who desires a Christian education to attend.—LILLIAN JOHNSTON.

I have been here in Williamsdale nearly three years, and I have received many blessings. There is no better place for young people than Williamsdale. If you want to truly enjoy life, come to Williamsdale.—CARL ENOCH.

This is my second year at Williamsdale Academy, and I cannot say too much for our school. The influence has been invaluable to me, and I advise all young people in the Maritime Conference who would like to be better fitted for service in Christ's work to come to Williamsdale.—ARTHUR KIERSTEAD.

I realize that Williamsdale Academy has done much for me, although it is my first year, and I want to thank God for opening the way for me to attend.—GRACE L. DAY.

I thank God for the time I have spent at Williamsdale. I know that I have derived a great benefit from the teaching I have received. I know from experience that it will be the same help to others.—THOS EVANS.

Williamsdale Academy is the best place I have ever been in. I have received many blessings here. I have also gained more education in this half year than I would in a whole year in public school. I advise all of our young people to come to Williamsdale.—GUY SMITH.

Words cannot express my thankfulness for being at Williamsdale this year. I have received many blessings, and hope to be here next year.—CARRIE DAUPHINEE.

Williamsdale is an excellent place in which to gain an education. I, personally, have received many blessings so far this year. Williamsdale to me is the best place on earth. I advise any one who desires a good Christian education to attend.—WALTER KIERSTEAD.

Williamsdale is a lovely place, and it has done me a lot of good. This is my third year, and I hope to be here again next year.—NELLIE COLLISON.

I feel that the time I have spent at Williamsdale Academy has been very beneficial to me, not only in an educational line, but spiritual as well. I have received many blessings since being here.—LILLIAN STEELE.

I am glad of the privilege I have of attending Williamsdale Academy. It is a good place in which to be, and I would like to see the school filled with earnest young people.—WM. YOUNG.

I can say that the days and weeks that I have spent at dear old Williamsdale have not been spent in vain. I have received many benefits during my stay here both educationally and spiritually. My only regret is that this is my last year, and I have to leave. I want to carry with me the many good lessons I have learned while here.—IDA POLLOCK.

Williamsdale will always be remembered by me, not only for the education which I have received, but because while attending here, I was led to accept Christ as my Good Shepherd. I can truly say that I have received much during my three years here, and would advise every young person to try to attend Williamsdale Academy the coming year.—CHARITY CARTER.

Don't Debate

As the "Canvasser's Manual" tells us we are to send in the crumbs, I pen the following for the readers of the MESSENGER. As I was calling at the homes one woman met me at the door and in answer to my query, said, "Are you a Seventh-day Adventist?" I replied that I was, although I could see that she was ready for trouble. Her prompt reply was that she had no room for me whatever. To avoid the storm I said that we must agree to differ, and I thought it best not to debate. She then inquired if I had had my dinner. I said I had not. They had just finished theirs but she invited me to have some. Laying my books in a chair, I sat down at the table. In a few minutes they gave me fifty cents for two books they had picked up from the chair. They told me they had burned some of our good books. I talked with the family on the importance of prayer, and they said as I left that we were alike on essential points. I left with the impression that it would have been foolish to wrangle on doctrinal points.

F. Salway.

SISTER C. C. GRANT of Greenwood, Carleton Co., N. B., during her spare moments went out among her neighbors and gathered in \$9.50 for missions in the Ingathering Campaign. If each of our good sisters would do as well how large a sum might be rolled up for missions.

ONTARIO

Toronto Central Church

On Monday night, January 3, our little company held its annual meeting and elected officers for the coming year. This company has been in existence for a little over a year although it was not organized into a church till September last. The membership

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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
EASTERN CANADIAN UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTISTS

Office Address - - - - - Oshawa, Ont
Edna Leach - - - - - Editor

Entered as second-class matter. Price, 50 cents a year
in advance. All subscriptions expire December 31.

at present is 19. The average membership for the year was 13. The treasurer reports having received during the year, \$623.79, a per capita of \$47.98. The amounts received are as follows: Tithe \$326.70, Offerings \$208.17, Church Expense \$75.64, Home Missions \$13.28. Our offerings to missions during the year averaged a little over thirty cents a week for each member.

Our missionary secretary's report for the year showed the following work done:—

Harvest Ingathering funds raised	\$60.45
Letters written	200
Missionary Visits	226
Bible Readings	134
Subscriptions secured	18
Papers sold	873
Papers given away	461
Books sold	82
Books loaned	20
Tracts sold	280
Tracts given away	3127
Hours of Christian Help Work	371
Articles of clothing given away	156
Meals provided	39
Magazines sold	75
Magazines given away	27

This does not include 6,500 magazines sold by one of our members.

Our Sabbath meetings are held every Sabbath afternoon in a hall at 229 College street, with a good attendance. Our Sunday night meetings are well attended. Brother Allen is just presenting the Sabbath question and some are turning to the truth.

It is our earnest prayer and desire to see a good strong church here. MRS. MATT. J. ALLEN.

OUR readers will be pleased to know that the 1916 Temperance *Instructor* will be ready to mail January 1. The publishers assure us that this new temperance number gives evidence of eight years' experience in getting out temperance issues, it being by far the most practical temperance issue ever published. We solicit the earnest efforts of our readers in the generous circulation of this new temperance number. The special elections will soon be on. In many places there will be local option elections. Our people ought to do all they can in getting the Temperance *Instructor* in the homes just before these elections.

Did You Miss It

Miss what? Why the money you gave to missions last year. Do you feel poorer for having given it? I do not believe one of us can say that we are the poorer today for what we contributed through the various denominational channels for the cause of foreign missions. Suppose that we try increasing our gifts this year by at least 50 per cent. Quite a number of our Canadian Sabbath schools are going to try and average fifteen cents each Sabbath per member, and I am sure that having set this mark they will surely make it. Suppose all our schools make this their goal.

Should any deficit develop during the quarter, the thirteenth Sabbath offering would enable the school to "catch up" and keep up the full standard of 15 cents a week per member. Much depends on the superintendent. In one small school with which the writer is acquainted, the superintendent keeps the 15 cent goal before the school each Sabbath and every member is personally interested in seeing the offerings kept up to the mark, and they sometimes demand a second collection to make up a deficit that occurs. The secretary makes a report at the close of each session stating what the collection amounted to, also giving the attendance for the day.

I am sure that if the officers of each Sabbath school will take hold of this plan in earnest they can easily reach the 15 cent a week goal for their Sabbath school. M. N. CAMPBELL.

Colporteurs' Report, Week Ending Jan. 1, 1916

Ontario					
Name	Book	Hours	Value	Total	Del.
C D Terwillegar	GC		\$3 00	\$7 75	
J Heaver	DR	25			\$76 37
Total		25	\$3 00	\$ 7 75	\$ 76 37

Maritime					
Name	Book	Hours	Value	Total	Del.
*F Salway	WC S of B	50	16 00	16 00	34 50
*2 Weeks	Grand Total	84	\$19 00	\$23 75	\$110 87

OBITUARY

SHERK—Caroline Richelt, wife of Benjamin Sherk was born in Haldimand County, Ontario, in 1851, and later moved to Essex County. About 20 years ago she with her husband accepted the third angel's message through the labors of Elders Burrell and Leland and remained a believer until her death, which occurred at her home, Friday, Dec. 17, 1915, being aged 64 years 19 days. Sister Sherk was a faithful wife and mother and was always ready to lend a helping hand to those in need. Sister Sherk was much esteemed in the neighborhood as was shown by the large number of friends who attended the funeral at the Adventist church at Albuna Sunday, December 19th, which was conducted by Elder Nicola who spoke words of comfort from Ps. 17:15. Besides her husband a son and daughter survive. Interment took place in the Albuna cemetery. LEONARD PAYNE.