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The Attempt to Close Our Brantford Church School

Our people would doubtless be interested to learn of an effort on the part of city officials in Brantford, Ontario, to close our church school there.

About three weeks ago the truant officer of that place who is a Roman Catholic, served summons on two of the parents who were sending children to the church school, to appear in the police court to answer to a truancy charge for not sending their children to the public school. He was fully aware that the children were attending the church school. When they appeared in court a lay justice of the peace presided and the city school inspector and the truancy officer both tried to crowd through a decision against our school. However, the case was adjourned for one week. In the meantime I returned from the council at Washington, and upon being counselled in the matter, I advised the brethren to secure a first class solicitor to represent them before the court. This they did, and when the second hearing of the case came off he handled the case with skill. The regular police judge presided this time. It was evident however, that he was quite opposed to the idea of our operating a school of our own and was very severe in his criticism. The judge, chief of police, school inspector and truant officer were all decidedly against us and it looked rather dark for awhile. Miss Myrtle Patten, the teacher, was put under oath and sharply questioned concerning her qualifications as a teacher and the character of the work carried on in the church school. She answered all the questions without hesitation and was prepared to demonstrate both her own qualifications as a teacher and the high grade of work being done in the school. In spite of the effort to overthrow our work, every charge was refuted and the opposition silenced. The judge was disposed to dismiss the charges and throw the case out of court then, but at the earnest request of the truancy office and police chief it was adjourned un-

til Wednesday, November 1. At the close of the hearing I had a personal talk with the judge explaining to him our educational system and the reasons why we maintained schools of our own and gave him a copy of our General Conference Bulletin No. 14 which outlines the curriculum of the elementary schools. This conversation had a favorable effect on his mind and the character and extent of our educational work was an evident surprise to him.

I attended the third hearing Wednesday morning and we found a wonderful change had come over our opponents. They withdrew all objections to our school and the judge promptly threw the case out of court. This was a great relief to our people in Brantford as they had been considerably disturbed over the attack on their school.

For the benefit of our people in Ontario I will reproduce the school laws of the province so far as they effect our church schools and compulsory attendance, and it would be well to preserve them for reference in case similar attempts are made against us at other places.

Chapter 274

- (d) "School" shall mean a public or a separate school or a private school at which instruction is given regularly in reading, spelling, writing, grammar, geography, and arithmetic. 9 Edw. VII C 92, S 2
3. Every child between eight and fourteen years of age shall attend school of the full term during which the school of the section or municipality in which he resides is open each year, unless excused for the reasons hereinafter mentioned. 9 Edw. VII C. 92, S. 3.
- 5-(1) A parent, guardian or other person shall not be liable to any penalty imposed by this Act in respect of a child if (a) the child is under efficient instruction at home or elsewhere.

M. N. CAMPBELL

Home Missionary Report of the Ontario Conference for Quarter ending Sept. 30, 1916

Here is another splendid home missionary report for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1916, for which we are grateful. Seventeen churches and companies sent in a report. There should have been more because we know there are other churches actively engaged in real missionary work at home, but for some good reason they have failed to report. Many of our church members are doing good work. In fact, almost all are working, but many fail to report their work to the secretary of the church. As a result the reports are much smaller than they would otherwise be. Now this may be the fault of the missionary secretary. If he fails to do his part in giving out the report blanks at the home missionary meeting, does not encourage the members to fill them out and hand them to him, often times they are forgotten. It is not because our people do not do acts of kindness, provide meals, give away clothing, papers, tracts, books, sell literature, give Bible readings, write missionary letters, give money for home missionary work and do other acts of Christian help work that this report is not larger, but because of the slackness in reporting.

Think of a church of ninety members with only

six reporting. Don't you think they are sadly in need of "sackcloth and ashes"? You will ask, "What church is guilty of such a thing?" Look the report over and when you find it, look at some of the others and see if they are not nearly as bad. How can we bring about a change? Let the church officers wake up, go before the people and show the way. It is leadership and training we need. God's people are willing.

Look this report over. These figures are channels for the Holy Spirit to operate through. They are cords of love by which Jesus is drawing men and women to himself. It will be a terrible thing if we sleep on and come up to the time when we will need "oil in our vessels" and discover that our "lamps have gone out," that there is no time to beg or buy, and that the door is closed and we are on the outside. Now that the long evenings have come when people spend much time reading let us try to supply them with our truth filled periodicals, tracts, and books. Give them Bible readings. Try to enlighten them regarding present day conditions in the light of Bible prophecy.

Thank you for this report. Let us have a better one this quarter.

JOSEPH CAPMAN, *Miss. Sec'y.*

Report of Home Missionary Work of Ontario Conference for Third Quarter, 1916

Name of Church	Membership No. Reporting	Letters Written	Letters Recd.	Missionary Visits	Bible Readings or Cottage Meet	Subscriptions for Periodicals	Papers Sold	Papers Mailed, Lent or Given	Books Sold	Books Lent or Given	Tracts Sold	Tracts Lent or Given	Hrs. Christian Help Work	Articles of Clothing Given	Meals Provided	Treatments Given	Sig. to Temp. Pledge	Offerings for Home Missions	Conversions	
Albana								51		4				10						
Attercliff	7	3					4	10	2	1		25				2				
Chatham	30	5	20	10	71	11	1	628	969	347	12	105	57	7	16			11	01	
Exeter	14								16	3										
Galt	5				1	1	23	58	9	2		9				15				
Huntsville		3	6	4			1	48					6	3	4			2	60	
Hamilton	97	13	12	3	136	80	36	156	984	52	13	754	173	63	12	4			2	
Kingston	28					6		350												
Lynden	5	9	5	12				2		2		14	10	5		2				
Oshawa	41	9	32	12	39	11	30	85	34	33	120	827	3	1					4	
Ottawa	35	35	17	91				800	400	34		79	26		6	30		1	36	
Petrolia	7	2	25	11	5			80	115	15		90								
Paris	6	8	4		2	3		56	1	2		265		3	2	2				
St. Catharines	7	5			35	4	850		12	3		10								
St. Thomas	20		10	12	113	60	40	200	18	42		110	10	30	7			5	80	
West Toronto	90	6	61	33	47		29	102	5			103	34	19	57			4	10	
Cent. Toronto	46	15	28	12	38	5		123	38	275	400	475	22	5	14			13	75	
Totals	418	63	242	111	584	181	120	1609	3837	1029	436	520	2866	341	146	118	55	835	62	23

THE new book "From Infidelity to Christianity and Why I am a Seventh-day Adventist" by Pastor L. F. Passebois is now ready. The price is \$1.00 in cloth and 50 cents in paper cover. Send orders to Pastor L. F. Passebois, Gros Pin, Quebec.

Notice

THE address of Elder F. W. Johnston is now 124 West Bridge, Belleville, Ontario.

ONTARIO

Toronto Churches United

After prayerful consideration the Central Toronto Church voted at a recent business meeting to unite with the West Side Church from which they had received a cordial invitation to do so. We believe that this step will mean much for the future progress of the work of God in this large city. In unity there is strength, and in cooperation success.

It is true that the city of Toronto is sufficiently large to accommodate two or more Seventh-day Adventist churches, but the number of Sabbath keepers in the city is as yet too small, and the laborers are too few to properly maintain and develop more than one. It is hoped however, that by the united efforts of all under the able leadership of their pastor, Elder McComas, there will be such a rapid growth that it will soon be found necessary to establish a church on the opposite side of the city.

One of the main reasons for having more than one church in a large city is to provide a place of worship within easy reach of all, but no one was ever greatly benefitted in this respect by maintaining the Central organization, as their meeting hall was located less than fifteen minutes ride from the West Side Church building. The great majority of the Adventists in the city live on the west side. A few live east of the river Don and these have a long way to come to the services. A church located in their section of the city would be a convenience and a blessing, but they prefer coming to the West Side Church until such a time as their number can be materially increased by a strong successful hall or tent effort.

The outlook for our future work in Toronto is most encouraging. Elder McComas and Sister Case are laboring hard and success is crowning their efforts.

A. V. OLSON.

An Encouraging Report

When looking over my summer's work I feel that God has greatly blessed me. At first I feared that the canvassers would experience many difficulties owing to the wet spring, but I realized the Lord would not let his work take second place. As the weeks passed by the people seemed anxious to hear about present day conditions, especially from a Bible standpoint. Many said they would sacrifice little things during the summer to save up for the book. One young lady was so anxious to have "Bible Readings" that she told her mother to cancel making her fall dress and buy the book instead. Oh, how many true hearts there are to be found in the country!

The weather was very wet in the early part of the season which made travelling difficult on clay roads, but I had promised to serve the Lord faithfully and he protected me and rewarded my efforts.

On one occasion I went to deliver a book in a Catholic home. The woman had no money just then and was going to turn the dogs on me. However, her son looked like an honest man so I left the book and a few days later I received a nice letter with an order for three dollars. Pray that that book may bear fruit.

On another occasion the parents were out when I took the book but two little children were trying to milk the cows in the lane. I milked one of them and as the father came up I told him I had brought his book for him. He flatly refused to take it and went down the well to repair the pump. I went and helped him there until the baby started to cry. Then I amused the child for a while until he was through with the pump. He then took the baby but not the book. As I was leaving he asked me what I intended to study for. Before the words were out of my mouth he said he would take the book, and furthermore, he saw that I had a poor horse so he hitched up his horse into my buggy and told me to finish off the day and then come and stay with him. It seemed that the Lord worked so with him that he could not do too much for me. We were up till late that night and I told that family of the truth. They believe the seventh day to be God's day of rest and accepted many points of doctrine as found in the Bible. They are now receiving the Present Truth Series and I sincerely hope that they will some day rejoice in this message.

"Much responsibility rests upon the canvasser. He should go to his work prepared to explain the Scriptures. If he puts his trust in the Lord as he travels from place to place angels of God will be round about him, giving him words to speak that will bring light and hope and courage to many souls." "Papers and books are the Lord's means of keeping the message for this time before the people." "The same ministry of angels attends the books that contain the truth as attends the work of the minister."

HUBERT K. MARTIN.

Toronto

It is with pleasure we write to our brethren throughout the conference telling you of our courage in the Lord, and especially what he is doing for us in this great metropolis of Canada.

Our tent has long since been in the store house, but this does not mean we have quit work, for we have not. All are doing their part in the Harvest Ingathering work and the money is rolling in. Many

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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

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good visits have been made by members while soliciting, and we find the people quite willing to give in spite of the many calls they are having at this time of the season.

At the close of our tenf effort we baptized ten who were ready to go with us, leaving the many interested ones for more Bible work, and now we will soon have another baptism with as many to come in.

We find many people in this great city dissatisfied with what they are getting to out spiritually, whose souls are hungering for the bread of life. The brethren in Toronto are more closely uniting their efforts to push the work and see that every soul who desires this tenth shall have a chance.

We are holding a Bible class every Monday night at the church with an attendance of thirty, and from this class we are planning to send people out during the week to give readings to others. I never found people more willing to work than our members are here, so we are trusting the Lord for a revival in our church and that many more may be added to the believers here.

We trust you will remember us in your prayers that God will give us wisdom and keep us from making mistakes.

J. W. MCCOMAS.

EVELYN CASE

MARITIME

Treasures and Hearts

Are you anxious to have another minister in Maritime? Pay your tithe.

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matt. 6:21.

"And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. "And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the stars for ever and ever." Dan. 12:2-3.

Do you know where your heart is? Just locate your treasure. Is it in a bank account? Is it in a piece of property? Is it in your social or financial position? Can you say that it is in the great cause of God? 1 John 2:15-17.

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth—but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven."

Matt. 6:19,20. If you are laying up treasures in heaven, you will bring all your tithe into the storehouse, for they that be wise shall turn many to righteousness. The laborers that are supported out of your tithe will work to bring many to the truth for you.

Where your treasure is there you will find your heart's interest. Where your treasure goes, there your heart goes with it. "The earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." 2 Pet. 3:10.

"I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you." 1 Cor. 9:22,23. "Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death. . . James 5:20.

If your treasure is in the things of this world, your heart and treasure will be burned up in the fires of the last day, but if your treasure is invested in saving souls then your treasure and heart will be saved to dwell in the new earth. One tenth of your treasure God says to bring into the storehouse.

GEO. H. SKINNER.

Williamsdale Notes

For two weeks the boys have been working on our water system. The water will come in logs nearly half a mile. Brother Wait Steeves, a member of the Academy Board, is boring the logs now.

The business manager has just bought fifteen barrels of flour at \$9.00 a barrel.

We were glad to welcome Elder Skinner and Sisters Buck and Carter as visitors recently.

The matron, Mrs. Taylor, has recently organized an enthusiastic class in domestic science.

Misses Boutilier and Milton spent a week in Amhurst soliciting funds for the Harvest Ingathering.

On Tuesday, October 3, teachers and students joined in a campaign with the Harvest Ingathering *Signs*. The towns of Collingwood, Oxford, Oxford Junction, Truro, Springbill and Westchester were canvassed. The total amount received was \$44.52. Our girls have just finished canning two hundred quarts of peaches and pears.

Harvesting potatoes, carrots, turnips, threshing oats, working on the water system and cutting wood has been the busy routine of the afternoons. No one here complains of monotony and nothing to do.

On Thursday we had the pleasure of welcoming Arthur Kierstead, another of the old students. With him came his brother Percy to attend school also.

We opened the school year with seventeen students. Our enrolment now is thirty-six. "There is always room for one more."