

# GENERAL CONFERENCE

# DAILY BULLETIN

VOL. 2.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., OCT. 19, 1888.

NO. 1.

## First Day's Proceedings.

The Twenty-seventh Annual Session of the General Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists began at the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in Minneapolis, Minn., at 9:30 a. m., Oct. 17, 1888, being called to order by Elder U. Smith, secretary of the conference, the President being detained at home by sickness.

Prayer was offered by Elder U. Smith.

On motion Elder S. N. Haskell was appointed temporary chairman.

Credentials of delegates being called for, showed the following list of delegates, with the state or mission-field represented:

CALIFORNIA—W. C. White, S. N. Haskell, A. T. Jones, C. H. Jones, E. J. Waggoner.

COLORADO—E. H. Gates, C. P. Haskell.

DAKOTA—W. B. White, N. P. Nelson, Valentine Leer.

DENMARK—J. G. Matteson.

ILLINOIS—G. B. Starr, A. O. Taft.

INDIANA—Wm. Covert, Victor Thompson, B. F. Purdham, R. B. Craig.

IOWA—J. H. Morrison, C. A. Washburn, H. R. Johnson, W. H. Wakeham, W. R. Smith, H. Nicola.

KANSAS—C. A. Hall, L. J. Rousseau, C. McReynolds, J. W. Baghy, S. S. Shrock.

KENTUCKY—C. W. Flaiz.

MAINE—J. B. Goodrich.

MICHIGAN—J. D. Van Horn, J. Fargo, H. W. Miller, G. G. Rupert, Harmon Lindsey, M. B. Miller, C. Eldridge, J. N. Brant, H. S. Lay, Wm. Ostrander, F. D. Starr.

MINNESOTA—A. D. Olsen, L. Johnson, H. Grant, C. C. Lewis, Allen Moon, F. L. Mead.

MISSOURI—D. T. Jones, J. W. Watt, J. B. Beckner.

NEBRASKA—J. P. Gardner, W. C. Boynton, W. N. Hyatt.

NEW ENGLAND—A. T. Robinson, E. E. Miles.

NEW YORK—M. H. Brown, M. C. Wilcox.

NORWAY—J. G. Matteson.

OHIO—R. A. Underwood, H. M. Mitchell, J. E. Swift.

PENNSYLVANIA—J. W. Raymond, L. C. Chadwick.

SWEDEN—J. G. Matteson.

CENTRAL EUROPE—L. R. Conradi.

TENNESSE—J. M. Rees.

TEXAS—T. T. Stevenson.

UPPER COLUMBIA—H. W. Decker.

VERMONT—T. H. Pardon.

VIRGINIA—R. D. Hattell.

WEST VIRGINIA—W. J. Stone.

WISCONSIN—A. J. Breed, W. W. Sharp, W. S. Hyatt, B. M. Shull, P. H. Cady.

CENTRAL AMERICA—T. H. Gibbs.

GENERAL SOUTHERN FIELD—T. H. Gibbs.

The following were counted among the delegates by virtue of their having been in the employ of the General Conference during the whole or part of the year:

S. H. Lane, O. C. Godsmark, D. T. Bourdeau, A. T. Jones, E. W. Farnsworth, D. E. Lindsey, F. E. Belden, A. R. Henry, R. M. Kilgore, J. F. Hanson, C. W. Olds, Uriah Smith.

By vote of the conference, W. H. Starbuck, was chosen to represent the Northern Pacific Conference. The British field being without representation, it was voted that Elder S. N. Haskell represent that field. Also voted that Elder G. G. Rupert represent the South American field.

It was moved that the secretary of the Foreign Mission represent the missionary fields not otherwise represented.

On this motion Elder W. C. White expressed doubts as to the legality of the action of the conference in appointing delegates to represent those fields that have neglected to appoint their delegates. He moved that a committee of three be appointed by the chair to carefully consider the matter of the propriety of the conference appointing delegates when the states have neglected their duty in this matter.

The motion was carried, and the following committee appointed: W. C. White, A. T. Robinson, D. T. Jones.

The Conference of Arkansas presented a petition to be admitted into the General Conference. After some questions had been asked by different delegates concerning the condition of the conference, and answered by Elders Henderson and Jones, the Arkansas Conference was, by unanimous vote, received into the General Conference, with Elder J. P. Henderson as delegate. A request was read from the Australian Conference for admission into the General Conference. The secretary of the conference read an interesting report of the organization of that conference, and after some interesting remarks by Elder S. N. Haskell on the establishment of the work in that distant land, a motion to admit this conference was carried.

A motion was made and carried to leave the appointment of the standing committee to the chair.

The meeting then adjourned to the call of the chair.

At 10:30 a. m., Elder Uriah Smith discussed the question of the ten horns of the fourth beast of Daniel vii., the speaker taking the position of that the Huns were one of the ten

kingdoms into which Rome was divided. Some held that Allemanni should be counted as one of the ten kingdoms instead of the Huns. A spirited discussion was held at the conclusion of the remarks, in which a number of the delegates participated. At the close of the discussion it was voted that, taking all the light we have received, and all the reference given, we will faithfully and carefully study this question, praying that the spirit may guide us into the truth.

It was also voted that the chair appoint a committee of seven to devise a plan by which those who think they have received light on any point, may present it to the denomination.

At 2:30 p. m. Elder E. J. Waggoner discussed the question of the law of God and its relation to the Gospel of Christ. The discussion was based principally on the Epistle to the Romans.

At the conclusion of this meeting the chairman of the conference appointed the following committees:

On Nominations—J. B. Goodrich, J. Fargo, Dan T. Jones.

On Resolutions—R. A. Underwood, A. T. Robidson, R. Conradi, E. J. Waggoner, E. H. Gates.

On Licenses and Credentials—R. M. Kilgore, I. D. Van Horn, H. Nicola.

On Distribution of Labor—E. W. Farnsworth, A. J. Breed, Lewis Johnson, G. G. Rupert, C. H. Jones, to act in connection with the General Conference committee.

Auditing Committee—The General Conference committee, A. R. Henry, C. Eldredge, J. W. Raymond, J. Fargo, H. W. Miller, A. T. Robinson.

Financial Committee—Presidents of the State Conferences, C. H. Jones, Harman Lindsey, A. R. Henry, C. Eldredge, A. T. Jones.

Committee on Religious Exercises—R. M. Kilgore, R. A. Underwood, J. B. Goodrich.

### Second Day's Proceedings.

At 9 a. m. Elder E. J. Waggoner gave another lesson on the law and gospel. In this lesson the first and second chapters of Galatians, in connection with Acts 15, were partially presented by him to show that the same harmony existed there as elsewhere; that the key to the book was "justification by faith in Christ," with the emphasis on the latter word; that liberty in Christ was always freedom from sin, and that separation from Christ to some other means of justification always brought bondage. He stated incidentally that "the law of Moses" and "the law of God" were not distinctive terms as applied to the ceremonial and moral laws, and cited Num. xv., 22-24, and Luke ii., 23-24, as proof. He closed at 10:15 by asking those present to compare Acts xv., 7-11, with Rom. iii., 20-25. Appeals were made by Brother Waggoner and Sister White to the brethren, old and young, to seek God, put away all spirit of prejudice and opposition, and strive to come into the unity of faith in the bonds of brotherly love.

### GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The second meeting was called at 10:30 by the chairman. Prayer by Elder S. H. Lane. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The chairman called for the report of the committee appointed to consider the matter of delegates and delegates' credentials.

That committee reported that on examination of the General Conference Constitution they found "that the Conference shall be composed of delegates from the State Conferences, of the officers of the Conference, and of such ministers as shall have been in the employ of the General Conference during any part of the year, and that such delegates may be elected by the State Conference or appointed by its executive committee, and we find no provision in the constitution for the reception of delegates not holding credentials. We would therefore report that it is the opinion of your committee that the conference cannot legally receive delegates not appointed as provided for by the constitution.

AND, WHEREAS, persons properly chosen to represent conferences and mission fields sometimes come to the conference without credentials in regular form, we would therefore recommend that a committee be appointed at the beginning of each conference to which all such cases be referred. It shall be the duty of this committee to examine the claims of all such applicants and recommend for seats in the conference all such as in its judgment are entitled to the same.

"And we further recommend that this committee shall select from the delegates at large persons to specially represent those fields that are not represented by delegates of their own election."

W. C. WHITE,  
DAN T. JONES,  
A. T. ROBINSON,

Committee.

On motion, after a second reading, it was adopted.

W. C. White moved, which was seconded, that a committee be appointed as provided for in the report. Carried.

The action taken at the last session of the conference was referred to and the report concerning it was read, but as the committee was not able to get together during the year the matter was deferred.

Reports of mission fields were called for, and Elder S. H. Lane reported for Georgia and Florida. He had no discouraging word to bring. The South was a hard field, but not the hardest. The people were poor, but generous and hospitable. The work had been broken up in Florida on account of yellow fever. A church had been organized in Atlanta during the last year, and endeavors were being made to support the mission there by canvassing. There were sabbath keepers enough in Georgia and Florida for a conference, and if the people were in Georgia it would be advisable to organize one, but Florida is a state of a very uncertain population, so that it would not tend to stability to organize. The tithe paid by both states was about \$700 last year. A T. and M. Society and S. S. Association have been organized. Brother Lane stated that he had had no trouble with the color line. The South was an excellent canvassing field. A wise and faithful canvasser would do much more in the South than in the North.

Elder J. M. Rees spoke for North Carolina. Three years ago the state was made a mission field. At that time there was a company which had been brought out through missionary work and correspondence by a sister in New York. His first season there he held two tent meetings and brought out two churches. There were now 80 sabbath keepers, mostly in the western part of the state. A tent meeting was held the present season by a North Carolina minister, supported by the friends of the cause in the state. A State T. and M. Society and S. S. Association was organized the present year. A good encouraging camp meeting was also held. Tithes were paid and a state treasurer was appointed who received them.

Adjourned to call of chair.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Oct. 16, 1888.—2:30 P. M.

The first meeting of the Eleventh Annual Session of the International Sabbath School Association of Seventh-Day Adventists was called to order by the President, C. H. Jones, of Oakland, Cal. After singing No. 1248 and prayer by M. B. Miller, the president made some interesting and encouraging remarks. In the absence of the recording secretary Sister Waggoner, the corresponding secretary, was called to fill the vacancy.

Brother Lane, from Georgia, then gave some interesting experiences on the Southern field. Brother Reese, from Tennessee; Brother Waggoner, from California; Brother Henderson, from Arkansas, and Brother Haskell, from England, gave some interesting facts concerning the new associations in Georgia and Florida, Tennessee, Australia and Arkansas. These associations, with aggregate of 590 members, were admitted to the International Association.

The secretary was called to read the resolutions passed at the last annual meeting. The importance of these resolu-

tions was considered, with the statement that each state will be asked to say how far they have carried out the resolutions. The president reported the general outlook as very encouraging—never better—an advance in every feature of the work.

NO. OF SCHOOLS.—In June, 1877, we had 977 schools; in June, 1888, we had 1,067 schools,

SCHOLARS.—In June, 1877, we had 25,294; in June, 1888, we had 25,560. If all had reported it would show 30,000. One-half of the scholars are members of the church. Here we find a home mission. There are over 1,000 officers in our schools.

DONATIONS.—In 1887 the donations were \$13,440.61; in 1888 the donations were \$16,833.10. Donated to Africa during the year, \$11,000. Donated to London mission first half of the year, \$5,000.

EXTENT OF THE WORK.—We find schools scattered in North and South America, Europe, Africa, Australia and the islands of the sea. Very interesting remarks were made upon the establishing of the schools in the islands. The work still reaches out.

On motion, the president appointed the following standing committees:

On Nominations—R. M. Kilgore, A. T. Robinson, A. J. Breed.

On Resolutions—E. J. Waggoner, C. C. Lewis, M. C. Wilcox, M. B. Miller, W. W. Sharp.

On Auditing, F. E. Beldon, M. H. Brown, A. D. Olsen.

Several subjects to be considered: The Kindergarten, The S. School and the Home, Our present need.

We must look ahead and prepare lessons for 1890. We have lessons prepared to submit to the committee for the year 1889.

On motion the Sabbath School Worker, and Manual was referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

On motion the Association adjourned to the call of the chair

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MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., OCT. 21, 1888.

NO. 2.

## Third Day's Proceedings.

FRIDAY, Oct. 19, 1888.

At 9 a. m. Elder Waggoner continued his lessons on the law and gospel. The Scriptures considered were the fifteenth chapter of Acts and the second and third of Galatians, compared with Romans iv. and other passages in Romans. His purpose was to show that the real point of controversy was justification by faith in Christ, which faith is reckoned to us as to Abraham, for righteousness. The covenant and promises to Abraham are the covenant and promises to us.

## GENERAL CONFERENCE.

THIRD MEETING, 10:30 A. M.

Prayer by Elder Underwood.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The chairman appointed as committee on delegates and delegates' credentials I. D. Van Horn, H. Grant, P. H. Cady.

The committee appointed last year to consider the purchase of a missionary ship reported as follows:

Your committee, after thorough investigation on the Atlantic coast, find that a vessel of 100 tons, government measurement, built of white oak, with a cabin to accommodate sixteen passengers, thoroughly equipped and ready for sea, will cost between \$8,000 and \$9,000. Second-hand vessels of from 40 to 100 tons, from three to five years old, could be purchased at from \$2,000 to \$6,000.

We find that on the Pacific coast a vessel of 75 tons, government measurement, built of Oregon pine, fully equipped and ready for sea, will cost about \$8,000. With steam auxiliary the vessel will cost about \$15,000 more. The cabin of this ship will accommodate about fifteen persons.

Further than this, your committee learns that Elder A. J. Cudney, who was instructed by the General Conference committee to proceed with Brother J. I. Tay to Pitcairn Island as soon as possible, after seeking in vain to secure passage direct from San Francisco, sailed to Honolulu, from whence, after laboring a short time with the church at that place, he expected to sail to Tahiti, then to meet Brother Tay, who

was to sail direct from San Francisco at the first opportunity, from whence (Tahiti) they hoped to find passage to Pitcairn Island. On reaching Honolulu and finding no means of transport, Elder Cudney accepted the offer of Brother N. F. Burgess, who proposed to purchase a schooner then offered at forced sale, if Brother Cudney would fit it up, man it, and use it in the missionary work among the islands of the Pacific. This schooner is 45 tons burden, and will accommodate ten persons besides the crew, and cost only \$1,100. Brother Burgess makes no charge for the use of the vessel on this trip, and if desired will sell it to the conference for what it cost him. The cost of fitting up this schooner was about \$900, which is to be returned to the conference, if the vessel is sold to other parties.

Elder Cudney secured a crew consisting of a captain, mate, two sailors and a steward, and July 31, started for Pitcairn, calling at Tahiti to take on board Brother Tay, who sailed from San Francisco July 5. About the middle of September we learned incidentally that they had reached Tahiti, and we hope soon to hear of their safe arrival at Pitcairn Island.

In view of these facts, your committee recommend that, if this vessel, after thorough examination, is found to be sound and well adapted to our use, it be purchased, according to the liberal offer of Brother Burgess, and used till the work demands a larger one.

CLEMENT ELDRIDGE,  
C. H. JONES,  
A. T. ROBINSON,  
Committee.

Moved by W. C. White that the report be adopted, seconded by A. T. Jones.

W. C. White presented the difficulty of reaching Pitcairn Island; that it was almost impossible. The island was out of the regular route and captains of ships would not go out of their course on account of the responsibility resting upon them if loss should be incurred. The brethren seemed to be shut up to the purchase of this ship. Captain Eldridge, an old sea captain, stated that the repairs were in the way of rigging, the hull of the ship evidently being good. But before the ship is purchased, it should be tested. If the ship is sound it is a very cheap ship. The crew are a worthy crew, many of them being Sabbath-keepers. Brother C. H. Jones said that the report did not say that the conference should pay for the

ship if they purchased it. The Sabbath School Association would like a part in the payment of the ship. The report was adopted.

Reports from mission fields were called for.

C. W. Olds spoke for Alabama. The canvassing work in Alabama was not as represented in Georgia and Florida. In the vicinity of Birmingham, in a district of manufactories and mines, where men were paid every month, there was a very good field for canvassers, as good as the North. There was no difficulty in taking orders, the difficulty was in delivering. But the people did not, many of them, have the stability that they did in the North. About one-half of the orders taken were delivered. But many books had been sold, as high an average as elsewhere, and were doing much good. The people are ready to listen to the truth. This was in Northern Alabama, in the mining district.

Brother Rupert said that he had four years of labor in the South. Not being present last year, he could not give an account of his trip to South America, which began January, 1887. He stopped at different islands of the West Indies. About one-fourth of the people were white, the rest black. The prevailing religions were Roman Catholic, Episcopal (Church of England), and Protestant Methodist. The colored people were easily led. The people were eager for reading matter. Georgetown, British Guiana, is a beautiful town of 50,000 population, made up of a mixed class, black, white, and mongrel. The white people were a very fine class. The truth reached them in this way. Brother Braithwaite was a servant on a ship, and stopped at a port where he heard Elder Haskell preach. He began to obey God. Others were raised up. Brother Rupert organized a church of about thirty. But for lack of a leader they have gone backward, and some have given up. Some \$700 worth of books were sold by Brother King in three months. There, and in the West Indies, was an excellent place for selling books. A canvasser should go there; at Barbadoes or St. Thomas Island would be an excellent place for headquarters. There are no duties on books, and rates of transportation were not high.

Canvassing, Brother S. H. Lane said, was better in the South than in the North. Now is the time to occupy the field. Nearly \$100 worth of books were sold in two tent meetings.

Brother Rees indorsed all this as regards Tennessee. One canvasser delivered 85 books on 83 orders.

Brother Henderson said that canvassing is an excellent thing in Arkansas. One canvasser took 70 orders and delivered 77 books, seven extra copies being sold. Indian Territory is now opening up favorably for the truth.

Brother T. H. Gibbs indorsed what had been said as regards the canvassing work in Louisiana. A large proportion of the books are delivered. The work is going forward. It needs a longer term of labor to establish people

in the South than in the North. There are now seventy Sabbath-keepers in Louisiana; five were keeping the Sabbath from reading the Bible alone.

Many interesting incidents were given as the result of missionary labor, and the power of the truth and spirit of God on hearts.

Adjourned to call of chair.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., Oct. 19th 1888.—2:30 P. M.

The first meeting of the annual session of the International Tract and Missionary Society of Seventh-day Adventists was called to order at 2:30 p. m. by the President, Elder S. N. Haskell. After singing No. 1242 and prayer by W. C. White, the President inquired if there were present any delegates who had not handed in their names. Two responded. The question was asked "Are there any who wish to unite with the society?" The President then proceeded to instruct the society as to the object of the society, saying, "The local societies were first formed then the International. The purpose was to supply the distant points and poor fields through the International Society. The providence of God has been favoring us in sending our literature abroad, in securing free transportation by rail and boat. The President called attention to the importance of providing literature for the traveling public, emigrants, and those passing through our large western cities. How to secure the accomplishment of this object was a question of much concern. N. Y. City was referred to as a vast city and one important to occupy in our missionary work.

New York has fifty-three regular vessel lines to as many different countries in the world, one hundred and sixteen to cities in the different states, and one hundred and ninety-nine local in their work.

The President thought the headquarters should be located in New York City.

He then called attention to the foreign work, remarking that large fields in the Old World had never been entered, that would be as fruitful as any we have entered, or even those in our own country. In Australia, the work was found to be going forward, also the work in South Africa.

The President read some interesting facts concerning the rapid progress missions were making in the heathen countries, there being thousands of schools now found in connection with these missions.

China, India, Fiji Islands and other fields were referred to as fields desirable to occupy. Those who had failed, as workers at home, were advised to stay at home and not think of going to these foreign fields.

"Some of the 144,000 must come from all these fields,"

said the speaker, "For God's word cannot fail, and the angels of the Lord are interested in all these fields." Many personal reminiscences were presented to us to show how the providences of God was opening before us. It was clearly shown us that tracts were needed in many different languages. Some interesting relics were shown from Africa.

The Secretary was called to make the annual report of labor. The report was of a very interesting and encouraging character.

On motion the society adjourned to the call of the chair,

# GENERAL CONFERENCE



# DAILY BULLETIN

VOL. 2.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., OCT. 22, 1888.

NO. 3.

## Fourth Day's Proceedings.

### GENERAL CONFERENCE.

SUNDAY Oct. 21, 1888.

The fourth meeting of the General Conference was called at the usual time, 10:30 a. m.

Prayer by Elder R. A. Underwood.

Minutes of last meeting read, and, with slight verbal changes, approved.

The General Conference Association presented a financial report through A. R. Henry, the treasurer.

The General Conference Association of the Seventh-Day Adventists is an incorporated organization under the laws of Michigan, and is an auxiliary of the General Conference for the purpose of holding and transferring property. The report on finance showed that the Association had received from all sources for eight months up to Nov. 1, 1888, \$26,634.58, including \$1,250.61 on hand. It had paid out to ministers and others, \$17,514.06 and for sundries \$1,602.73, leaving a balance of cash on hand of \$7,517.79.

A printed statement of the mission finances in detail was circulated among the delegates and will appear in the Year Book. This statement showed that the indebtedness of the various foreign missions to the General Conference association, June 30, 1888, was as follows:

Australian mission.....	\$ 947 83
(Due to the Pacific Press, \$1,700)	
British mission.....	5,808 05
European mission.....	5,276 89
Scandinavian mission.....	4,283 13
South Africa mission.....	807 46

But this latter mission had at this date several thousand dollars to its credit in the International Sabbath-School Association.

The present worth of the following missions were given:

Central European mission.....	\$31,727 92
Australian mission.....	13,178 91
Scandinavian mission.....	10,774 52

The details of the printed statement were too many to be reproduced here.

Motion to adopt the report resulted in the amending of the motion so as to refer it back to the treasurer. This was in order that the report might be made more complete.

Motion and amendment carried.

Report of the Foreign Mission Secretary was called for, and Elder W. C. White, the secretary, reported as follows:

### REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSION SECRETARY.

By reference to the minutes of the last conference we find that six of the thirty resolutions and committee reports relate to foreign mission work. The particular subjects referred to in these were:

1. The Missionary Ship.
2. The Christmas Offerings to Missions.
3. The Prosperity of our Missions.
4. Our Approval of Mission Schools for Canvassers.
5. Approval of the Establishment of the British Publishing House in London.
6. Suggesting the First Day Offerings for Missions.

As the third, fourth, and fifth referred to steps already taken, we need not speak of them particularly; but cannot refrain from remarking that the prosperity of our missions for which we were so thankful one year ago, has increased and continued to the present time, as is shown by the reports given by Elders Haskel and Conradi, and by the statistical reports which will hereafter appear.

The time of our most efficient missionaries during the last year has been largely given to the educating and training of younger laborers, and to the preparation of books, which are essential to the future prosperity of the work.

Especially is this the case with the Central European and the British Missions, and the experience of the year confirms us in the belief that it is necessary to give our first and best efforts to the training of laborers for all branches of the work and for all classes of society.

The three resolutions relating to future work have been carried out something as follows:

While the committee were considering the matter of building a ship, Elder Cudney borrowed one and has gone on his way to the Pacific Islands.

The Christmas donations amounted to the generous sum of \$27,162.89. Without this we do not know how our faithful missionaries could have been kept in the field without actual suffering.

The recommendation of the financial committee, that our

people everywhere literally carry out the advice of the Apostle Paul in I Cor. xvi., 2, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him," as a weekly free-will offering in behalf of the foreign work, has been quite generally undertaken by our people. Over 23,000 boxes, prepared for the reception of these offerings, have been sent out to the several conferences and distributed. At the annual sessions of the State Conferences this plan of benevolence has been unanimously approved; and we trust that as soon as the plan is fully in operation, we shall see a more liberal support furnished to all our missionary enterprises.

The amount received from these boxes the first quarter was \$1,281.46; for the second quarter, \$2,960.00; the reports for the third quarter have not all come in. If we may suppose that there were in use 1500 boxes in the second quarter, the average amount of the quarter donations is less than \$2 apiece. We must believe that this average will be largely increased during the coming year.

Of the 47 recommendations made at a committee on the distribution of labor, there were ten relating to foreign fields, and in accordance with these recommendations.

Elder G. C. Tenny spent about four months at the Pacific Press Publishing House, gathering information and experience in editorial and publishing work, and then proceeded to Australia where he received a cordial welcome and has been made president of their conference just organized.

Elder J. N. Ericson has labored successfully in Stockholm, Sweden, where we have a large and growing church.

Elder H. P. Hoiser, sent to Bassel to act as treasurer of the Central European Mission and take the oversight of the book sales department in the publishing house, has also been chosen president of the Central European Conference.

Elder D. A. Robinson, called away from the African field to assist Elder Haskell in London, is now acting as one of the editors of *Present Truth*, and is principal teacher in the London City Mission Training School. From a recent letter which he writes, we take the following items of interest:

"The success that Bro. Arnold has had in the canvassing work demonstrates that it can be made a success. A new and cheap edition of "thoughts" was needed which could be sold by the thousands, at about a crown (\$1.20) per copy.

"They are now printing the *Ministration of Angels* as revised by Elder J. H. Waggoner.

"A different location was desirable for the office on Paternoster Row. One on the ground floor would be better. The T. and M. Society in London send out weekly about 350 *Present Truths*. About fifty are sent each Sunday evening to the preaching service. The work there is thoroughly organized, and souls are accepting the truth. Books and tracts bearing the London imprint would be much better. A suggestion was made that a special edition of the *Present Truth* be issued for New Years, and about 20,000 copies circulated throughout the United Kingdom. He would like a change in the name of the paper.

Bro. William Arnold has spent about two months in London selling "thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation," and has discovered that there is a demand for such works in England, and that a wise and energetic canvasser can succeed in that field. Our Brethren in London petition that Bro. Arnold may return as early as March to continue this work and to teach others.

Bro. G. B. Langdon, who was recommended to go to the assistance of Bro. Daniels in New Zealand, was detained by business matters, and Bro. Robert Hare, of New Zealand, who has spent two years studying and laboring in California, was ordained, and has returned to his native land, and is now laboring with Bro. Daniels in Napier.

Bro. R. A. Hart has labored faithfully as business manager in the Christiania Publishing House, and our Scandinavian Brethren wish him to return.

Elder I. J. Hankins, who took the place of Elder Robinson in the South African field, is laboring in Cape Town and vicinity, and has the care of the book depository, from which many publications are sold to persons becoming interested in the Message, and through three faithful book agents in the field. We believe that another minister, or business man to take charge of the book business, ought to be sent to this field.

Brother A. La Rue, who was recommended to labor as a ship missionary in the islands of the Pacific, after spending about two months in Honolulu, proceeded to Hong Kong, China, where he is selling books and selling tracts and periodicals with the assistance of Brother Olson, who was converted on the passage through Brother La Rue's labors. I will here read a portion of his letter:

QUEENS ROAD, HONG KONG, July 26, 1888.

DEAR BROTHER WHITE—I left Oakland for Honolulu Dec. 7, 1887. Was there until March 21, 1888, during which time I closed out the stock of books left at that place. I sold what I could; brought about \$10 worth with me, and the balance I sent to the Signs office. All the tracts and pamphlets I brought with me, and I supposed I had a large supply, but find that they are nearly all used up already. I have sent quite a large number by mail to different parts of the country. The postage is high.

I never saw people read our publications better than they do here. I put up a distributor, labeled, "Read and Return," in which I put eighty pamphlets, and I am beginning to think I will never see one of them again; but I am glad to have them read, and would rather pay for them myself than not have them circulated, for they are stirring up things magnificently.

You may rest assured that I will use our publications with great discretion and to the best advantage, and will try to see that there is nothing lost or wasted.

I have no bill against the conference aside from my time which commenced Dec. 7, 1887, when I left you last fall. I keep up all expenses of the mission work by subscription and book sales. I have more than done this thus far, and believe I can do it right along. [This has reference to profits alone.]

Now, I wish to speak of the ship work on the Asiatic coast, which is a very important work indeed. With the exception of the ocean mail steamers, I find very few ships that have ever heard of our books and publications. Here the ships are not allowed to come to the wharf at all, but are obliged to load and unload by lighters. In this respect it is different than on the United States coast. The harbor is about ten miles square and the vessels are anchored all over it. The sampan, or boat hire, comes to about \$160 a year. This is an unavoidable expense, and cannot be helped. If the conference will pay this or a part of it, it will help me in the work.



Brother Olson has been with me right from the first; and, although he gives his time to the work, he is some expense to me. I do not complain, however, for it takes two to manage the work here, and I do not know how I would get along without him. It is just the work he wants to give him the experience he needs. What wonderful work the Lord has done for him in so short a time! He has quit the sea forever, and is so careful, saving and contented—so different from what he used to be. He talks some of trying to get back to his home in Sweden.

It does seem to me that there should be some ship missions similar to this started immediately in Shanghai, Yokohama, and Singapore. It seems to me that this should have been taken hold of at least five years ago. And if it had been, how different it would be here now. We would have a home among our own people here.

Your Brother in the work,

A. LA RUE.

Brother La Rue is now about 60 years of age, but his zeal, like Moses' strength, is unabated with age, and his example ought to stimulate many young men.

Adjourned to call of chair.

### THE INTERNATIONAL TRACT AND MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

2:30 p. m.

Instead of the regular business session at this hour, the society listened with interest and profit to a missionary sermon. After singing "Life's Harvest," prayer and Hymn No. 1317, S. N. Haskell remarked that it would be profitable to present some principles that would make us successful in our ministry.

As long as there are souls to be saved the gospel must be preached. The text may be found I Cor. 8, 8-19. These words reveal the motive of the Apostle in all his labors. No man wrote more than he, and his writings have influenced men wherever the gospel has gone, and he occupied about the same place in the christian church that Moses did under the old dispensation. God makes no mistakes in his choice of men. "Though I be free from all men." He stood free, yet made Himself a servant to all, and in Romans i., 14, he says he is debtor to all men; free, yet a debtor to all. Principles governed him; verse 16. "Though I preach, yet it is of necessity."

Paul gave himself to the work, and there was a mutual agreement between Paul and God. Other phases of the work than the ministry may be filled by men and be accepted by God as workers in His cause. God lays responsibilities upon men, they choose to accept it, and yet may fail and find woe upon them.

We can do willingly or we can limit our work and receive no reward. The reward is proportionate to our sacrifice and willingness to labor; verse 18. It was the

Apostle's privilege to have support from his labor, but he was willing to labor without that he might the more certainly gain the reward.

Evidences of a call are seen in the fruit of men's labor. Souls won to the truth are the fruit of labor,—evidences of a call to labor in the cause of God.

Did the gospel require that he should make this sacrifice? Are not they that sow spiritual things worthy to share carnal things? Paul did not use this power. God hath ordained otherwise, but Paul would not be chargeable to any. Paul feared that his glory might be made void: We should not demand our rights, but willingly submit to the will of others, and God will honor us in giving the fruit. Why such a scarcity of fruit? The governing principle of Paul's life is lacking. With him the principle was paramount.

Paul's mind was so absorbed that the beauties of nature, the perils and affliction was unworthy to speak of. Paul might claim more than other men, yet he considered it foolish to speak of them. Paul's suffering made him so pre-eminent—II Cor. xi, 17; xii, 7-11. Paul considered his infirmity as a hindrance to his work in the gospel, but the promise of God was given for his encouragement. The glory of God rests upon us when we are helpless and will take hold of the strong arm of Christ for help. When we adapt ourselves to the work God's glory rests upon us. When our strength fails then the strength of God is given. We must conform ourselves to those we would save to be successful I Cor., verse 6 to 13. Customs are different among different nations.

Great reverence is shown for God His house and ministry in foreign countries. Here we see but little respect shown for God or His house. We should carefully guard against destroying the reverence of the people that are holy. God meets men where they are, and we should do the same, brethren. Even in the islands of the ocean many show more respect and reverence for the things of God than the masses here in this boasted land.

I was invited to preach on the boat as I was coming over, but I did not know how to run their machine. Something odd was demanded: We chose our usual service; and many congratulated us after the service, but it would not have done in an old or settled church. We must avoid extremes. Sometimes it becomes necessary to get out of our old shells.

Visiting an old lady in Dublin, at her door I asked to have a season of prayer with her. She excused herself, but finally consented, and as I went in I found a ground floor with hens and chickens around us, and there the Lord met us and blessed us richly.

The gospel is worth more than all the forms of our select society. Meet the people where they are; sympathize with them, pray for them and thus they may be saved. We must have the spirit of adaptability to succeed.

The love of Christ should dwell in our hearts—I Cor. i, 4. We must have an experience to reach others if we want to help others we must realize the help of God to us—verse 5. Our afflictions are to be turned to account in helping others who are afflicted. Paul and Silas in prison, with feet in stocks, and backs lacerated, they say, and here we learn that Paul could sing. They were there in God's providence to save the jailer.

In our journeys we meet many whom we may not meet again until the judgment. Be careful how you meet them, but you need not tell all you know. We need the wisdom of a serpent and the harmlessness of a dove. Leave right impressions upon the mind of those with whom you come in contact. Be sure and do no harm, even if you can do no good.

This is the Lord's work, not ours. God does not send us out to cram the truth down men's throats, but to lead them to the truth. God wants men that he can trust to send to the ends of the earth. It must go now as it did in the apostolic age.

Any new revelations of light must go to all the nations of the earth. The isles must hear and rejoice. Do you suppose that God will pass them by? Not by any means. The providences of God are going before us to all parts of the habitable globe; they will be warned before the Lord comes. We are coming to the last days we will soon appear before the great white throne.

Hundreds of canvassers could be used in foreign lands, and we could find many precious souls in the fruitful field. God will search the honest souls out and save them at the coming of the Lord.

May the Lord grant his blessing, enlarge our hearts and save us with an everlasting salvation when the Lord shall appear in His glory. Amen.