

The North Carolina Messenger

"THERE SHALL BE DELAY NO LONGER"

Vol. III

HICKORY, N. C., FEBRUARY, 1907

No. 12

SONG FOR CANVASSERS

Lives of canvassers remind us
We may make our time sublime,
And departing leave behind us
Books of truth in every clime.
Over hill and dusty roadway,
Footsore, and from men alone,
Truth more precious than earth's millions
Carry they to every home.
Lonely they, but God is keeping;
Angel footsteps go beside;
And while many souls are sleeping,
They, awake, in God abide.
Speed ye then to every household;
Hold aloft the light so clear.
Fruit of heaven crown your labors
Throughout all the coming year.

ALBERT CAREY.

THE SUNDAY CONVENTION

As announced in the last MESSENGER, this convention was held at Greensboro, N. C., Jan. 15 and 16. Inasmuch as plans for aggressive work toward religious legislation were contemplated by those having the convention in charge, we felt it necessary to be in attendance to hear what was said and to do what could be done to enlighten all who were willing to receive instruction. About one thousand religious liberty leaflets were distributed. One hundred copies of *Liberty* were soon sold, and we ordered five hundred more by telegraph. Brethren John Killen, M. G. Creasey, and T. J. Woodall, with the writer, were present during the entire session.

Much that was good and true was said. The place of the Sabbath in God's plan for men was dwelt upon with good effect; and had we not known that in every case where the word Sabbath was used Sunday was meant, we could have endorsed much of the various speeches. As we sat and listened to these talented but misguided men, a great longing filled our hearts to open to them the truths that the Lord has let shine into

our lives. We were made to appreciate, if possible, more keenly than ever before the great principles of religious liberty that God has given us. Before going to the meeting we met for prayer and counsel. It was decided that we should go into the meeting as spectators and should not speak unless unusual opportunity offered. This course seemed the proper one, for it was evident that an attempt to set forth in the public assembly principles contrary to the object of the meeting would be regarded as an unwarranted intrusion. Accordingly we said nothing, but distributed our literature. During the various discussions our people were mentioned a number of times,—not always in the most flattering terms or endearing epithets. It was plainly evident that if these brethren had it in their power, they would be willing to make it unpleasant for those who opposed their plans.

The following propositions were at different times enunciated:

1. The Sabbath is a purely religious institution dependent for its obligation upon Divine appointment. 2. The Sabbath is a civil institution, and civil government should therefore take cognizance of its infringement.

1. People who habitually keep the Sabbath live longer and are more prosperous than are those who do not do so. 2. People who refuse to labor on the Sabbath are deprived of the opportunity of making a living, and should therefore be protected by law.

1. God has made provision for one day of rest in seven, but there is no difference which day is chosen. 2. But some particular day must be selected, for otherwise great confusion would result. Therefore Sunday is the day the Lord desires us to observe.

1. The ten commandments are just as much in force to-day as they ever were. The thunders of Mt. Sinai sound and reverberate to the end of time. 2. Saturday is the old Jewish Sabbath,

which passed into oblivion at the crucifixion. As Christians we now commemorate the resurrection of Christ by observing the first day of the week.

1. Like Elijah of old we should stand faithfully against the rising tide of Sunday desecration. 2. Saturday keepers should yield their stubborn peculiarities, and fall in with their more progressive Christian brethren in protecting the world against the onslaught of infidelity and Sunday breaking.

1. Christians who observe the seventh day are a very small fractional part of one percent of the population, and of absolutely no consequence in determining a course of action. 2. "Sabbatarians have a very obnoxious habit of forestalling every effort to build up the Sunday cause, by distributing their tracts and doing much to hinder the work of reform. They are present in this very meeting, and have actually succeeded in selling hundreds of copies of their pernicious literature. Would that the friends of reform were one-half so energetic".

These are not imaginary propositions, but were all of them (and many more equally contradictory) soberly set forth and maintained. These were given nearly or quite in the language quoted. It was plain to be discerned, though these brethren were very much in earnest, and were united in desiring a common object, that still "neither so did their witness agree together." Mark 14: 59. Some resolutions were passed, a State Sabbath Association was formed, and officers were elected. One hundred and fourteen persons were reported as signing the declaration of principles, thus indicating that they are in sympathy with the work of the convention. There were many expressions of satisfaction at the results of the meeting.

As for ourselves, some solemn thoughts pressed themselves home. Are we ready for the mighty conflict? Have we done all we could in the past? Are we well instructed ourselves? Is the God of

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Israel our refuge? If we have run with footmen and become wearied, how shall we contend with horses? The brethren who were with me through the session expressed themselves as more fully determined to press forward, and to be found among those of whom it can be said, "Here * * * are they that keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."

T. H. J.

THE 1907 RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COLLECTION

There has never been a time in the history of our work when the demands were so great upon us to exert our very best efforts in laboring and sacrificing for the cause of religious liberty as now, for the enemy was never before so active in seeking to deprive men of the exercise of the rights of conscience. Intelligence has just been received that twelve hundred persons have been summoned to court in the city of Boston for a violation of the New England Sunday law. A Sunday-closing crusade is also on in Willimantic, Conn., and in California a desperate effort is being put forth to secure a change in the State constitution which will provide for a Sunday law in that State. So the battle is on in many places throughout the country. A little of the fruitage of what this movement means is seen in the arrest of three of our own people in Spartanburg, South Carolina. It should not be forgotten that there is also a Sunday bill pending in Congress, the outcome of which no one can say.

Shall we not willingly sacrifice of our substance in helping stay the relentless and fearful on-coming tide of intolerance and persecution, which will soon overtake us, by enlightening the honest ones?

K. C. RUSSELL.

KERNERSVILLE

It has been our privilege for the last few days to have Brother H. R. Hahn, formerly of Wilkes County, with us. He is looking for a location. We looked at a number of nice places. Prices were very high, but we hope he will be able to find a place in this community yet.

I have had good success canvassing.

I have just received one hundred copies of *Liberty* from Brother Jeys, which will sell at once in our town and neighborhood. Brother Jeys spent the past week holding meetings at Macy Grove school house. The attendance was good, and the interest as good as I ever saw. A number seem to be just about ready to step out on the side of truth. We have some new visitors most every Sabbath at Sabbath school, and are looking forward to the time when there will be a goodly number at this place. We desire the interest and prayers of all the brethren and sisters.

Yours in the blessed hope,

F. A. SLATE AND FAMILY.

HICKORY SABBATH-SCHOOL CONVENTION

The Sabbath-school Convention held at Hickory, Sunday, January 6, was an occasion of interest and profit. The weather and roads were ideal, permitting quite a representation from the Hildebran Sabbath school to attend. Our State Sabbath-school Secretary had the exercises in charge, and we were also favored by having Elder T. H. Jeys with us. In all about fifty were present. Two sessions were held, and the program outlined in the *Sabbath School Worker* was carried out with some additions. An unexpected invitation to repeat texts of scripture and express thoughts which had been of personal benefit in the lessons of the past quarter, was responded to with readiness and animation. The time allowed for the discussion of the different topics presented was well improved, and much of real practical value was brought out. The one-minute speeches on "How I Study My Sabbath-school Lesson" were especially interesting. During the intermission we repaired to the school house, where seated at improvised tables, all discussed without reserve the well-filled dinner baskets. Thus food was provided for body, mind, and soul; we realized that the day's intercourse had drawn us nearer to each other and to our Heavenly Father. This report would not be complete without reference to the music, which was appropriate and well rendered. The following lines were composed and sung by Dr. Albert Carey :

I'LL STAY WHERE YOU WANT ME TO STAY.

(I Cor. 7:20).

It may not be on the mountain's height,
Or over the stormy sea;
It may not be at the battle's front,
My Lord shall have need of me.
But if by a firm though gentle voice
He bids me remain where I am,
I'll answer, dear Lord, by thy grace divine,
I'll stay where thou dost command.

CHORUS:

If called, I will go at thy voice, dear Lord,
To lands that are far away;
But let me say, too, by thy grace divine,
I'll stay where you want me to stay.

There are loving words in the home to speak,

Which Jesus would have me say;
And friends and neighbors, afar and near,
Are needing my help to-day.
And oft as we gather in Sabbath school,
Or service of song and prayer,
My Saviour would have me to sing or pray,
Or speak, as may be the care.

There's surely one place of need each day,

One place by his grace to fill;
And that is right here in this life of toil
To answer his blessed will.
Though trials so bitter and conflicts sore
Beset me along the way,
Each day I will say, by thy grace, dear Lord,
I'll stay where you want me to stay.

CHARLOTTE

The dear Lord has been blessing my labors here, for which I thank him. While I was sick the enemy worked to lead astray; and though the increase is not large, those who are taking hold seem to be in earnest. Among them are three ministers. One meets with us and testifies of his gratitude for the light. One of the others says that he will be with us as soon as he can cut loose. His wife kept Sabbath, January 26. We hold meetings at his house twice a week. The other one keeps the Sabbath, although still holding on to his church membership, but I think that the tie is weakening somewhat.

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Others are interested in the message. We have about all the creeds and isms of the day here. The so-called "Gift of Tongues" claimed to speak three languages, but could not interpret them. We can see by this sign of the times that we are getting well along in our journey. The counterfeit cannot exist without the genuine. The Lord invites us to ask for rain in the time of the latter rain. I ask all the saints to pray for the work in this place. Elder Shelton came the 21st of January. We desire to labor diligently, and do all we can for the furtherance of the cause; for the day will soon pass and the night will come when no man can work.

W. H. ARMSTRONG.

THE CANVASSERS' INSTITUTE

The three weeks of our institute at Hildebran passed all too rapidly, and some wished for a longer time in which to study the precious truth together. Those who came manifested a decided purpose to get better acquainted with God and better prepared for faithful labor.

We feel very grateful to the members of the Hildebran church who so generously supplied most of our temporal needs. Indeed they gave until we had to say, Enough, bring no more. We feel especially indebted to Brother Beach, who so kindly donated the use of two of the most pleasant rooms in his school building, also two furnished rooms in his home, besides most of our fuel.

A college student from Morganton was with us a few days, and greatly appreciated the studies. He has already begun to canvass for "Coming King," having now ordered thirty copies. Brother W. E. Lanier will canvass in Mecklenburg county; Brother Omar B. Newton, in Guilford county; Mrs. A. E. Brensinger, Hickory; Miss Mattie Reynolds, Gastonia; Brother W. S. Wilson, who has recently come from Michigan, plans to labor in Catawba county as soon as his health permits. Brother H. B. Tilden and wife, recently from the State of Washington, will labor in Lincoln county. Sisters Mary Knohl and M. M. Ward, who were regular in attendance and took much interest in the studies, are planning to

enter the work. Let us pray for all these dear workers.

Cash donations were received as follows: Archdale, \$2.50; High Point, \$3.25; Salisbury, \$1.30; Hickory, \$1.50; Eufola, \$3.40; Brethren A. F. Harrison, W. H. Armstrong, F. A. Slate, N. P. Nelson, and Elliott Teeter, the last of Michigan, \$1 each. Others gave smaller amounts amounting to \$1.90. We also received 12 quarts of tomatoes from Elder Jeys, and food donations from Hickory. Some few pledges have not been paid. Dear brethren, let us not forget these vows.

I will soon go to South Carolina to help Brother Dart in his institute there, and I earnestly request that you remember us in prayer, that God may guide and richly bless, and aid those to come who should.

HORACE G. MILLER,
Gastonia, N. C.

TESTIMONIES FROM CANVASSERS

C. F. DART: "The English language is inadequate to express the blessings of this institute. It was a taste of heaven. I seldom, if ever, have taught a class so willing and anxious to learn."

MRS. MOLLIE MILLER: "I enjoyed my part of the work at the institute, cooking for the family of happy, studious canvassers. I thank the brethren and sisters in our conference, especially those of Hildebran, for their liberality."

MRS. A. E. BRENSINGER: "I praise the Lord for the privilege of attending this institute. We have felt his presence with us every day, and had a feast of good things. I wish that many more of our brethren and sisters could have been here, and hope that we may have another such a gathering, and that some of those not here may come. We miss a great deal by not attending. The Lord has given us this privilege, which places a great responsibility upon us to do faithful work. The Lord is soon coming. May we help to hasten his coming by scattering the precious literature of truth."

W. E. LANIER: "Perhaps many of our dear fellow canvassers do not realize the benefit to be derived from a canvassers' institute, but I think had such attended this one they would be convinced that the Lord was one of our

best Attendants. Our souls have been refreshed from on high, and many times have we realized that it was good to be here. Our knowledge of the truth for this time has been much increased, and we hope to go forward with renewed vigor in the Master's cause, better prepared for the work which he has given us to do."

MATTIE REYNOLDS: "We have had a blessed time together at the institute. The precious covering of the Holy Spirit has been over us from day to day, and we feel that we can go forth into the great harvest field with more courage in the Lord than ever before. I pray that we may have an institute every year until the work is finished."

OMAR B. NEWTON: "I wish to glorify God by testifying to his goodness to me. The institute has been worth much to me. I realize that the hand of God has been upon me, refining me and fitting me for his service. I desire to submit to the purifying process still, that I may be prepared for his service and kingdom."

W. S. WILSON: "Although in poor health, I have learned many good lessons here. My prayer is that the dear Lord will give me physical, mental, and spiritual strength to go out in this good work of telling to others what the Lord has made known to me, and with such a love for souls that I may be able to point them to the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world."

G. L. KERLEY: "I am very thankful that I have been here to enjoy these Bible lessons. Although present only about five days in all, it has been a feast to my soul, lifting me to a higher plane of living. I have learned some lessons that will go with me forever, which are not to be compared to worldly possessions or acquirements. A new ambition has entered my soul, a new power, and a new spirit. In these last days may God use me as a missionary to fallen humanity, to give spiritual food to those who hunger and thirst after righteousness. May God help me to yield myself up entirely and unreservedly to his will. May I, like Wesley, be lost to the world in God. It is my greatest desire to draw men and women to God. The great spiritual lessons that we have learned are only the scaffolding upon which to build the

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NEWS AND NOTES

The collection taken Sabbath, Feb-
ruary 2, should be forwarded to the
North Carolina Conference, Hickory,
N. C., for religious liberty work.

A blue cross opposite this paragraph
denotes that your subscription has ex-
pired, and the figures give the date.
Please consider this as a request to re-
new.

Some matter of interest has neces-
sarily been left out this month, including
an article by Elder R. T. Nash and a
report from Elder Jeys, both of which
were received a little too late.

Brother Burton Church, of Hickory,
wishes to thank those who have sent
him papers for reading rack, and to
ask for more. He can use about seventy-
five copies of clean back numbers each
week.

Sister S. J. Wentworth, of Battle
Creek, Mich., encloses \$1.00 to apply
on her MESSENGER subscription, and
says: "Your little paper helps me to
keep in touch with the part of the great
harvest field which it represents, and
I take the words of my friends as per-
sonal letters to myself. May all
heavenly blessings be with you and up-
on your part of the field, and the per-
secution prove a great help in interest-
ing people to see if these things are
true."

Under date of January 28, Brother J.
S. Killen writes from High Point. "I
am planning to spend a week at Raleigh
with *Liberty*. I am anxious that the
people of that city shall fully understand
the outcome of this Sunday movement.
I wish this work might be carried on
till all in the State are warned. We
expect to sell at least five hundred
copies of *Liberty* in Raleigh, if Brother
Woodall goes with me."

January 9, at the home of Mr. G.
Gerould, of Battle Creek, Mich., Elder
D. T. Shireman was united in marriage
to Mrs. Nellie Maples, of Harbor
Springs, Mich., Elder A. T. Jones offi-
ciating. A host of friends, will unite
in congratulations, wishing for this
worthy couple true happiness, as they
unite their efforts for the unbuilding of
the cause of God. They are now at
home at Toluca.

A meeting was held at Hickory the
Wednesday evening following the in-
stitute, with Brethren Miller and Dart
in charge. Brother Dart left the fol-
lowing day for S. C., and Brother and
Sister Miller for Gastonia. Brother
Miller will spend a short time in the
field with the canvassers before going
to assist in the institute at Chester,
S. C.

We have made an addition to our
office furniture of a good solid oak writ-
ing table, made at the Eufola Academy
Shops.

Mrs. Emma B. Rogers, accompanied
by her husband, recently spent a few
days visiting the school and friends at
Eufola.

The new Year Book is just out. All
our workers especially should have a
copy. Price 25 cents. Order of this
office.

Continued from third page.

finished man. May I be a worker in
the cause of God."

M. M. WARD: "I thank God for put-
ting it into the heart of the brethren
to hold the institute here. It has been
the greatest privilege of my life, as it
has helped me to get clear on some
doctrinal points, and made me realize
more fully the value of the books,
'Great Controversy,' 'Thoughts on Dan-
iel and the Revelation,' and 'Coming
King,' and the necessity of studying
them more diligently and making a
stronger effort to get them before the
people. I want to attend every insti-
tute that I can, as they are more in-
structive than a camp-meeting, and in
a social way they bring us closer to-
gether. I cannot find words to express
my appreciation."

M. A. KNOHL: "The canvassers' in-
stitute has truly been a source of re-
freshing to me. I am sorry it cannot
continue longer. The Bible studies have
been especially helpful to me, also the
exposition of the 'Testimonies' as given
in our books. I trust that another in-
stitute may be arranged, to continue
twice as long, with more time for Bible
studies, and in a new territory where
opportunity for practice in canvassing
can be had. May God's blessing at-
tend our State agents."

MR. AND MRS. H. B. TILDEN: "Though
it was our privilege to be at the insti-
tute only a very short time, we can
say it was good to be there. Our
prayer is that God may bless the efforts
put forth to prepare workers, and that
each one may 'Be strong and of good
courage.' 'And the Lord, he it is that
doth go before thee; he will not fail
thee, neither forsake thee: fear not,
neither be dismayed.'"

CANVASSERS' REPORT

DECEMBER, 1906.

Names	Book	Hours	Val. Ord	Val Del
Oscar Steed	ck	47	\$13.25	\$32.25
H. G. Miller	ck	22	16.00	11.75
W. E. Lanier	d&r	104	48.00	55.25
J. E. Leighton	misc	20		30.50
N. D. Ingram	gc	16		12.00
Bertha Ingram	ck	3		2.75
Emily Ingram	ck	2		2.25
Mattie Reynolds	ck	64	17.50	41.25
George Jeys	ntp	100	26.50	26.50
A. E. Brensinger	ck	31	12.50	21.25
John Killen	misc	190	105.25	105.25
Harry Smallwood	ck	10	10.25	10.25
Mollie Miller	ck	3	3.00	3.00
Minnie Killen	misc	3	5.00	5.00
T. H. Jeys	misc	12	4.75	4.75

Total 587 \$262.00 \$364.00

H. G. MILLER, State Agent.