

PACIFIC UNION RECORDER



"Then They that Feared the Lord Spake Often One to Another."

Vol. 8

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No. 27

The Field

Report from the Manager to the
Members of the Pacific Press
Publishing Association,
Jan. 25, 1909

Dear Brethren and Sisters,
Friends and Fellow Workers:

The past fiscal year has been one of peculiar trials and difficulties, and yet a fair degree of prosperity has attended the work both at home and in our branch offices.

The financial crisis which came upon this country a little over a year ago has had a depressing effect upon almost every line of business, and at first it looked as though it would seriously cripple our subscription book work; but the boys faced the situation nobly and courageously, and the result is that in nearly every conference the subscription book sales have been larger than ever before.

1907 was the banner year for our book business, the total sales at the home office amounting to \$161,067.69; but last year the sales amounted to \$179,870.34 — an increase of nearly \$20,000. And yet the net gain was a little less.

This can be accounted for in part by the increase in the price of raw material, and the fact that many of our books have been sold to our branch offices and sister institutions at practically cost.

In view of the great increase in the cost of all classes of material which enter into the making of a book, we urgently recommend that particular attention be given to this question, and

that prices be raised to meet these changed conditions. Other publishers are doing this. Why should not the Pacific Press? We believe that when the facts are laid before our brethren, they will see the necessity of doing this, and will heartily cooperate in bringing about the desired result.

We attribute the increase in sales largely to the fact that we have a more thorough organization and a better corps of trained workers. The conventions that have been held during the last few years in the interests of the book business have helped to bring about this splendid showing.

New Publications

During the past year we have published the following new books:

Patriarchs and Prophets, English.
Patriarchs and Prophets, Spanish.
Great Controversy, German.
Great Controversy, Danish.
Daniel and Revelation, English.
Daniel and Revelation, German.
Daniel and Revelation, Dutch.
Bible Readings, English.
Bible Readings, German.
Coming King, German.
Coming King, Spanish.
Steps to Christ, English.
Steps to Christ, Spanish.
Christ Our Saviour, Spanish.
Those Bible Readings.
Elo the Eagle and Other Stories.
The Missionary Idea.
Essentials of English.
Church-School Manual.
Bible Nature Series, No. 1.
True Education Reader, Book 7.

New Books Soon to Be Issued

The following are titles of books now in hand and which we expect to issue during the coming year:

Great Controversy, Spanish.
Bible Readings, Spanish.
Practical Guide to Health.
Daniel and Revelation, Danish.

Heralds of the Morning, revised edition.

Ministry of Healing, subscription edition.

Education.

Steps to Christ, illustrated edition, Spanish.

Coming King, revised edition, Spanish.
New Testament Primer, revised edition, Spanish.

Selections for Our Little Folks.

Bible Lessons, Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4.
True Education Reader Series, Books 4 and 6.

Bible Nature Studies, No. 2.

The total number of books printed during the last year amounted to 129,546.

The total number of tracts and pamphlets printed during 1908 are as follows:

Bible Students' Library485,562
Apples of Gold Library409,269

Total894,831

Juvenile and Forty-Per-Cent Books

We have a splendid line of juvenile and forty-per-cent books, embracing the following:

Uncle Ben's Cobblestones.
House We Live In.
Making Home Happy.
Making Home Peaceful.
Those Bible Readings.
Story of Joseph.
Gospel Primer.
New Testament Primer.
Steps to Christ.
Elo the Eagle and Other Stories.
Young People's Library, 9 books in print.
Story of Piteairn.
Christ Our Saviour.
His Glorious Appearing.
Power for Witnessing.
Gospel in Creation.
Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing.
Vegetarian Cook Book.

Late in the season a plan was devised to make a special house-to-house canvass for these books. They were put up in neat "kits," and the little effort put

forth demonstrated that a big business can be done with them, especially during the holiday season. We hope to have everything in readiness for an aggressive campaign next fall. But there are persons who can work successfully with these books all the year round.

School Text-Books

This is coming to be quite an important feature of our work. At the present time we publish the following:

- Bible Nature Series, No. 1.
- Bible Nature Studies.
- Nature Studies, Note Books and maps, Nos. 1, 2, and 3.
- Nature Studies, Note Books and maps, complete in one volume.
- Church-School Manual.
- Essentials of English.
- Studies in Gospel History.
- True Education Readers, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, and 7.

We have about \$20,000 invested in school text-books alone, and several more books are to be issued soon in order to make the series complete.

Spanish Literature

The Pacific Press has been requested to give special attention to the bringing out of books, pamphlets, and tracts in the Spanish language, and this line of work is developing rapidly. We now issue the following books in the Spanish language:

- Patriarchs and Prophets.
- Steps to Christ.
- Coming King.
- Christ Our Saviour.
- Gospel Primer.
- New Testament Primer.

In addition to these, we have in prospect the following:

- Great Controversy.
- Bible Readings.
- Home and Health.
- Steps to Christ, illustrated edition.
- New Testament Primer, revised edition.
- Coming King, revised edition.

Also a series of twenty illustrated tracts running from 8 to 64 pages each.

There is still an urgent call for more books in the Spanish language, especially on doctrinal subjects. The Spanish fields are being rapidly opened up and we look for a large increase in this line of work.

Our total investment in Spanish literature, including electrotype plates, engravings, etc., amounts to about \$3,000.

The sales during the past year amounted to nearly \$11,000.

Publications in Foreign Languages

Two years ago we purchased from the

Review and Herald and the International Publishing Association their entire stock of books in the various foreign languages, including the electrotype plates. We now have an investment of about \$20,000 in these foreign books. The bulk of the stock is carried at our branch office in Kansas City, and the sales during the past year have been quite satisfactory.

"Signs of the Times"

For several years there has been a strong demand from the field for a monthly magazine covering all phases of the message which could be sold by agents from house to house at a profit. The demand finally became so urgent that the directors decided to start such a journal, provided it met with the approval of our leading brethren.

The question was presented to the General Conference Council in session in Washington, D. C., last spring, and met with the unanimous approval of all.

The recommendation adopted by the Council reads as follows:

"Whereas, There is a strong demand from the field for a monthly magazine covering all phases of the message, to be used by agents in pioneer missionary work; and,—

"Whereas, For over a quarter of a century the *Signs of the Times* has been recognized as the pioneer missionary paper of this denomination; therefore,—

"Resolved, That we approve of the action of the Board of Directors of the Pacific Press Publishing Company in deciding to issue a monthly edition of the *Signs of the Times* in magazine form, with cover, to retail at ten cents per copy. This edition to be used especially by agents to sell on the streets, in the stores, and from house to house.

"And we further recommend that the Pacific Press Publishing Company continue to publish the regular weekly edition of the *Signs* for general missionary work, the same as heretofore."

Acting on this counsel, the *Signs of the Times* Monthly Magazine was started last August, and seven numbers have already been issued. It meets with universal approval, and is having a good sale.

During the year 1908 the magazine was issued in connection with the weekly journal as one of the regular weekly numbers, the weekly having been cut down to an eight-page paper, but this plan was not at all satisfactory either to ourselves or to our subscribers. Therefore at the beginning of 1909 the weekly journal was restored to its original form,

16 pages, and is now being published weekly, entirely independent of the monthly magazine.

These changes and these experiments have not only been unsatisfactory, but very expensive, so it is not to be wondered at that the *Signs* shows a heavy loss this year.

It is only just to say that some of these changes were made in deference to the wishes of some of our leading brethren and contrary to the better judgment of several members of the Board of Directors.

Special effort should now be put forth to increase the subscription lists of both journals in order that they may be placed on a paying basis. It is our earnest desire to see every church in the land taking a club of the weekly journal, and an agent in every city and town selling the monthly magazine.

"Our Little Friend"

has a subscription list of about 20,000 weekly, but we believe that by a systematic, persistent effort it is possible to largely increase this during the coming year.

Branch Offices

We now have three branch offices in successful operation; one located at Kansas City, Mo.; one at Portland, Ore.; and one at Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.

The Kansas City Branch was established in 1893, and has been in successful operation ever since.

Our Portland Branch was established in 1904, and until quite recently has been in charge of Brother W. V. Sample. A short time ago Brother Sample resigned to take up another line of work, and Brother J. F. Beatty has taken his place.

Our Canadian Branch was started in 1907 with Brother C. M. Cottrell as manager.

Purchase of Plant

In harmony with the action taken at our last annual meeting, the Pacific Press Publishing Association has purchased the plant formerly owned and operated by the Pacific Press Publishing Company. The following notice has been published in the *Signs of the Times* and sent to all our clients:

"To Whom It May Concern:

"By the common consent of over two thirds of the stockholders, and with the

approval of the Superior Court of Santa Clara County, California, the Pacific Press Publishing Company has been merged into the Pacific Press Publishing Association, a membership corporation; and beginning Jan. 1, 1909, the business will be conducted by the new organization which has purchased the plant and assumed all the liabilities and obligations of the old company. This change has been made for the purpose of enlarging the constituency and placing the institution on a broader foundation.

"The management will remain practically the same as that of the old company, and the same policy will be pursued, only on a larger scale.

"Hereafter all bills should be made out and correspondence addressed to the Pacific Press Publishing Association instead of the Pacific Press Publishing Company.

"This change affects the branch offices at Kansas City, Mo.; Portland, Ore.; Regina, Saskatchewan, Can., as well as the main office at Mountain View, California."

Finances

The fire which destroyed our factory and all of its contents on the night of July 20, 1906, left us with a deficit of \$13,000. This has all been wiped out, and the present worth of the Association, as shown by the treasurer's report, amounts to nearly \$90,000.

The total assets Dec. 31, 1908, were \$248,384.59.

Eight years ago our interest-bearing debt amounted to \$174,660.58. This has been reduced so that at the present time it is only \$113,781.88—a reduction of over \$60,000.

During the past year the interest-bearing debt has been reduced nearly \$10,000, and open accounts some \$2,000, making a total reduction in our indebtedness during the past year of over \$12,000.

In harmony with an action taken at a previous meeting, the Association has paid a tithe of the net gain this year to the union conferences in which the office and its branches are located.

We have also made donations to various enterprises amounting to nearly \$2,000.

We wish to call your particular attention to the fact that since the fire not one job of commercial work has been done in this office. All our energies and facilities have been devoted exclusively to our own denominational work. The result demonstrates the wisdom of the action of the Board of Di-

rectors in eliminating commercial work from this institution.

Spiritual Interests

We are pleased to say that nearly all our employees are earnest, devoted Christians, true and loyal to this message, and can be depended upon in every emergency.

The last week of prayer was an occasion of special interest. Besides the meetings held at the church, services were held in the office chapel each day from 6:30 to 7:00 in the morning, and from 12:40 to 1:00 at noon. A good interest was manifested, and nearly all testified that it was one of the most precious occasions they had ever enjoyed.

We find our employees ready to respond to every call for aggressive missionary work. The office was closed one day during the special Thanksgiving Ingathering campaign for foreign missions, and nearly all went out and solicited funds, meeting with a fair degree of success and gaining a rich experience.

Death of E. A. Chapman

Death has once more entered our ranks and claimed one of our most faithful and efficient workers. Brother E. A. Chapman, after a brief illness, died in Oakland, Cal., Tuesday, Sept. 8, 1908, and was buried in the family burying-ground in Petaluma. Brother Chapman had been connected with this Company for over twenty years, filling many responsible positions, and at the time of his death was a member of the Board of Directors, but had accepted a call from the California Conference to act as its Secretary.

Recommendations

We recommend for your special consideration the following:

1. That special efforts be put forth during the coming year to increase the circulation of the *Signs of the Times* weekly journal and monthly magazine;

(a) By urging every church to take a club of the weekly journal for general missionary work;

(b) By endeavoring to secure an agent in every city and town to sell the monthly magazine.

2. That more attention be given to *Our Little Friend*, and an earnest effort be put forth to increase the sub-

scription list of this interesting child's paper.

3. That every conference be urged to appoint a missionary secretary in harmony with the recommendation of the General Conference; and that we promise our hearty cooperation in the work of organizing our churches and isolated members for aggressive missionary work.

4. That special attention be given to developing plans for the sale of our forty-per-cent books, trade books, tracts, pamphlets, etc.

5. That careful consideration be given to the question of increasing the price of our subscription books, so that there may be a fair margin for our publishing houses.

6. That continued and persistent effort be put forth to decrease the interest-bearing debt.

In closing this report we desire again to express our gratitude to God for His protecting care and the degree of prosperity that has attended the work during the past year; also for the union and harmony that have prevailed throughout the various departments, and the hearty cooperation of all in carrying out the plans and purposes of the institution. Especially do we feel grateful to conference officers and our brethren and sisters throughout the field for the interest they have taken in the circulation of our literature; and to our splendid corps of faithful canvassers who have labored so earnestly and successfully in the face of so many difficulties. May the coming year be still more prosperous is the earnest prayer of your humble servant.

C. H. Jones.
General Manager.

Resolutions Adopted by the Pacific Press Publishing Association

1. *Resolved*, That we hereby express our gratitude to God for His great goodness in preserving life and health, in keeping us from calamity, in giving us the privilege of working for Him, in guiding us notwithstanding our mistakes, and for His prospering hand which has been over us during the last year—all of which demand deeper consecration to His work.

Whereas, Since the last annual meeting of this association, our much esteemed brother E. A. Chapman, for many years

a devoted official of the Association, has been taken from us by death,—

2. We hereby express deep sorrow on our own behalf, and extend to the bereaved widow and daughters our deepest sympathy, praying for them the comforting assurance and fullest consolation of the Christian's hope, of meeting the deceased husband and father in the home of the blessed where their sorrow will be lost in the joy of everlasting bliss.

Whereas, In view of the urgent calls from the field for a monthly magazine covering all phases of the message, which can be sold by agents at a profit; therefore,—

3. *Resolved*, That we approve of the action of the Board of Directors in starting the *Signs of the Times Monthly* magazine; and, further, in view of the definite instruction and urgent calls that have come to us from the servant of the Lord from time to time urging us to give this message to the large cities without delay, and in view of the fact that it has been abundantly demonstrated that the *Signs of the Times* is one of the most effective evangelizing agencies that we have; therefore,—

We, The members of the Pacific Press Publishing Association, in annual meeting assembled, hereby appeal to conference officers, tract society secretaries, missionary secretaries, and to all our people, to put forth every consistent effort to give the *Signs of the Times* a wide circulation,—

(a) By urging every church and isolated member to take a club of the weekly journal for general missionary work; and,—

(b) By securing agents to sell the monthly magazine in every city and town.

We Recommend, That efforts be put forth to place the *Signs of the Times* in every reading-room of importance in the United States; and that we ask our brethren local to these reading-rooms to assist us in this.

4. *We Recommend*, That greater efforts be put forth to increase the circulation of *Our Little Friend*; to ask our people to subscribe for their children, and to induce their children to become agents for the paper among their associates.

Whereas, There is a growing demand for good, elevating books, free from

follies and fables, especially for young people; and,—

Whereas, We have a very interesting, attractive, and instructive line of juvenile books which can be handled to advantage by house-to-house workers; therefore,—

5. *We Recommend*, That special efforts be put forth to secure one or more persons in every church to make thorough canvass of their church and neighborhood for these books on which the forty-per-cent commission is allowed.

6. *Resolved*, That beginning with the present fiscal year, we adopt the plan of paying a tithe of the net gain of this institution, both at the home office and at its branches.

7. In view of the heavy burdens to be borne in various branches of work in this field, in view of the many places where these branches touch and affect each other, we ask that the presidents or chairmen of the various committees and boards of the conference, health work, educational work, and publishing work, in conjunction with the president of the Pacific Union Conference, arrange for a one or two days' meeting of these responsible committees at as early a date as consistent, for the purpose of consulting together, and for the unifying and strengthening of the work.

8. *Resolved*, That we hereby empower the Board of Directors to appoint the necessary committee on plans for the annual meeting of the association.

9. *We Recommend*, That Article 2, Section 1, fourth line of the By-laws be made to read, 10:00 A. M., instead of 11:00 A. M.

10. *We Recommend*, That the Articles of Incorporation, the Charter, and By-laws, be amended so as to constitute a Board of Directors of thirteen members, six of whom shall be elected from the following conferences: one from the Pacific Union, one from the North Pacific, one from the Central, and one from the Northern Union Conferences, and one from each of the local California Conferences.

That of this board, five members, including the president, or vice-president, shall constitute a quorum.

As you draw near to Him with confession and repentance, He will draw near to you with mercy and forgiveness. —“*Steps to Christ.*”

CALIFORNIA

President's Report

[Delivered before the conference in Oakland, Feb. 3, 1909.]

We are glad to meet the delegates and visiting brethren in this, the thirty-eighth annual session of the California Conference.

This is the third time we have been officially connected with this Conference, and our relationship with the brethren has always been pleasant. The past year the leading brethren and the conference committee have done all that could be expected to make my work pleasant.

It is very proper at this time that a brief report be given of the work done the past year.

We have great reason to praise God for the many blessings we have enjoyed the past year. While the Lord has seen fit to lay some of our faithful workers in the grave, yet the work has gone forward, and we rejoice to see marked evidences of His prospering hand in the different lines of work.

Two special sessions of the California Conference were held during the year. The first one convened June 9 at Melrose in connection with the Melrose camp-meeting; thirty-seven churches were represented by one hundred and thirty delegates. The principal subject for consideration at this time was the question of removing the Pacific Union College from Healdsburg to a more favorable location. The conference voted to close the Healdsburg College, and a committee of seven was appointed to select a location for a new school.

The second special session of the California Conference was held at Fresno, September 28, in connection with the camp-meeting at that place. Twenty-seven churches were represented by seventy-one delegates. One object of calling this conference was to elect a secretary and treasurer to fill the place made vacant by the death of our beloved brother, E. A. Chapman. Brother Claude Conard was chosen to fill the vacancy.

Another object of this special conference was to consider the reports of the committee chosen to select a location for the new college. After the committee had reported on the advantages and disadvantages of the various sites visited, the large committee was discharged, and a committee of three members was cho-

sen to decide upon a location, and purchase a school site, in harmony with the counsel of the spirit of prophecy.

Four camp-meetings have been held during the past season at the following places: Lodi, Melrose, Eureka, and Fresno. There was a fair attendance at Lodi and Eureka. The Melrose camp-meeting was one of the largest camp-meetings held since the conference was divided. The Fresno meeting was also well attended. The blessing of the Lord attended all of these meetings.

One special characteristic of all the camp-meetings was the deep interest in the missionary work. At the Lodi and Eureka camp-meetings, organized companies of the campers spent some time during the meeting selling and distributing literature in the cities near by. At Melrose and Fresno, workers could be seen almost any day leaving the camp with their arms full of literature to distribute in the cities. Also large quantities of literature were taken home by the brethren to distribute in their home fields.

There have been thirty-four series of meetings held in tents, churches, and halls; and as a result of these meetings 317 have united with the church, 205 having been baptized.

As a result of the distribution of the literature and missionary efforts put forth by the lay members, 123 additional members have been taken into the church by local elders, making a total increase of 440 in our membership during the year. This 440 does not include those who have been taken into the different churches by letter.

Seven new churches have been organized during the year at the following places: Corning, Island, Laguna, Melrose, Paradise, Fortuna, and Richmond. During the year the Eureka and Hughson church buildings have been dedicated; and church buildings have been erected at Turlock and in Humboldt County, near Fortuna; while several other buildings were in process of erection at the close of the year.

During the year twenty-six ordained ministers, and nine licensed ministers have been employed by the conference. These have been assisted by nineteen Bible workers and ten others who have acted as tent-masters and helped to distribute literature. Brother J. A. Stevens was ordained to the gospel ministry during the year.

It has been the aim of the conference committee to develop workers, and all who had a burden to work have been encouraged to enter the work in some way. Two young brethren asked for a tent and went out as self-supporting workers; they held two series of meetings with good results, supporting themselves by canvassing. A strong force of laborers have been doing a valuable line of missionary work selling our periodicals, and have been wholly self-supporting.

Sale of Literature

The Lord has greatly blessed in the distribution of literature during the year. In the early part of the year institutes were held in Oakland, San Francisco, and Chico, in which your president and his wife, assisted by others, did what they could to encourage a spirit of work among the lay members. A good, old-fashioned missionary meeting was held EACH day during all of the camp-meetings. These meetings were practical workers' meetings. The people were encouraged in missionary efforts by seeing our union conference president and others in leading positions come to the front and take an active part in the missionary meetings. During the latter part of the year our missionary secretary, A. J. S. Bourdeau, assisted by others, has held a series of institutes in different places, encouraging our brethren to sell our books and papers. These have given an impetus to the missionary work.

The brethren at the Pacific Press have done much to aid in this good work by allowing us special reduced rates on tracts, and as a result many have received light from the tracts distributed, and our tract sales have been greatly increased. Special effort has been put forth by the conference to encourage the sale of our message-filled periodicals in the large cities, and as a result our sale of periodicals for 1908 amounts to \$20,107.56, and exceeds the periodical sales for 1907 by \$9,662.48. We thank the Lord for this, for it represents, largely, work done in the crowded cities, which the spirit of prophecy has styled "our neglected fields."

Our canvassing agent reports forty-eight canvassers in the field during 1908. These workers have delivered \$8,469.69 worth of books. We are sorry that the value of books sold by the agents falls

short of the two previous years; but are glad that, although the report of our regular organized canvassers is not what we could wish, yet the lay members throughout the conference have sold over \$6,000 worth of subscription books; making our complete sale of subscription books for 1908 \$15,335.40.

Our tract society has been very busy all the year, and our secretary, Brother Bourdeau, has done considerable field work, which has helped the missionary work in our churches.

The tract society reports a gain of \$774.15 for the year. The entire amount of literature sold in the conference, as far as reported, amounts to \$43,324.64. We are thankful for the success in the sale of literature, but it is only a little of what ought to be done in this line.

Financial

This has been a very hard year, financially, for many of our brethren, owing to the difficulty in selling their fruit. This has affected our tithe somewhat. The amount of tithe received for 1908 was \$65,645.71. Our conference has responded liberally to all the general calls made, and \$17,929.42 has been raised for foreign missions; \$4,610.77 has been expended in supporting the work in needy home fields outside of our state. Very substantial help was given the Huntsville Training School for colored workers, and a good tent for field work was given the Kentucky Conference. The treasurer will give full report of all moneys received.

Health and Temperance Work

A Temperance Department was organized early in the year, and some aggressive work done. During all of the camp-meetings one hour each day (except on Sabbath), was devoted to practical instruction in health and temperance principles. The St. Helena Sanitarium has had a prosperous year, and the several private sanitariums in the conference have had a fairly good patronage.

Sabbath-School Work

The Sabbath-school work has made marked progress. Fifteen new schools have been organized during the year, two of them being mission Sunday-schools. The total amount of contributions during the year amounts to \$6,501.62. Of this amount, \$5,884.59 was given to foreign missions. We are glad to know that most of the Sabbath-

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J. J. Ireland H. W. Cottrell Claude Conard

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schools are sending their entire amount of contributions to the foreign missions.

Young People's Work

There are twenty-two Young People's Societies in the conference, and most of these are doing aggressive missionary work in various lines. The young people have raised \$2,253.62 for home and foreign missionary work during the year, besides distributing a large amount of literature.

Educational Work

Our educational secretary gives an encouraging report of steady growth in the church-school work. There are twenty-five schools, four more than last year. The most encouraging part of this work is the growth in spiritual lines. In 1907, 58 conversions were reported; in 1908, 106 conversions were reported. In 1907, 123 prayer-meetings were held in the schools; during 1908, 236 are reported. This is as it should be. Our church schools were ordained of the Lord as a means of saving our children, and we are glad to see that the schools in this conference are working for this object. Over seventy pupils not of our faith are attending our schools. When the church schools are in a good spiritual condition they will always draw pupils from the outside. In three of our schools there are Japanese, Chinese, and Korean boys attending.

Our intermediate schools at Armona and Chico are both having a prosperous year. Five teachers are employed in these schools; their total enrolment is one hundred and forty-five. In both of these intermediate schools active mis-

sionary work is being carried forward in the surrounding neighborhoods.

A new school property has been purchased for a new college two miles from the town of Sonoma, and we hope by the blessing of the Lord to have a new college ready to open by next autumn. This entire property costs about \$53,000. Our brethren and sisters have responded liberally to the calls for means to purchase this new property, and also to cancel the old debt on the Healdsburg school. Your committee are striving to secure sufficient funds to wipe out the old debt, and to purchase the new property without contracting any debt. We believe this would be pleasing to the Lord.

Religious Liberty Work

During the year a large amount of Religious Liberty literature has been distributed, besides a large quantity of tracts. 22,294 *Liberty* magazines and 37,676 of the Religious Liberty issue of the *Signs of the Times* have been distributed. Our brethren and sisters throughout the conference worked faithfully with the petitions against the Sunday law. The results shown in the Legislature were largely due to the large number of petitions presented. The Lord gives the victory, but He is pleased to work with our efforts when we work in faith.

Foreign Work

Few conferences have the opportunity for foreign missionary work presented in this conference. A good work has been done among the Koreans in Sacramento. Last May an effort was made to start the work among the 22,000 Japanese in the Bay cities. A cottage was rented at 3818 Telegraph Avenue, and a school opened. There has been a steady growth in this school, and a good reputation has been established. The expenses of rent, furnishing, etc., for the year amounted to \$352.80. \$139.50 of this amount has been met by tuition received from the Japanese students, and most of the rest has been paid from private donations, so that the school, thus far, has not cost the conference much. The following report is given by Sister Swift, who has been connected with the school from the first:

"Since the opening of the school, May 15, 1908, the number of students enrolled is thirty. One of the first ones is with us yet.

"We have held Bible studies every Friday evening since the first week, the average attendance being from three to five, but increasing to eight or nine. We have many interesting talks with the students on the Bible.

"It is much harder to present the truth to them than it is to English-speaking people, as they do not grasp the Bible words; yet many seeds of truth have been sown, and some have taken root. One young man, who three months ago was a heathen, now loves to read his Bible, and learns our songs so that he can sing them at home. We found that he had given his heart to the Lord, and he is now studying to learn more of the truth. Another also has bought a Bible, and loves to talk the truth.

"Among our students are young men of talent and ability, graduates of the Waseida and Imperial Colleges of Japan, and are here to learn the English language.

"We opened our Sunday-school November 15, with one scholar; we now have the promise of six more.

"We are greatly encouraged as they show an earnest desire to learn the Bible."

There is a call for a similar school among the Chinese, and there could be a dozen such schools opened for these two nationalities. This is an important work. The message has been coming to us that "the work in the home fields is in no wise to be neglected. Let not the fields lying in the shadow of our doors, such as the great cities in our land, be lightly passed over and neglected. *These fields are fully as important as any foreign field.*" Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 8, page 31. An effort has been made to reach the foreign element that visit San Francisco Bay, by means of the ship missionary work. A good work has been done in this line, 496 ships having been visited, and a large supply of literature distributed.

We return to you, as a conference, the responsibilities you have placed in our care the past year, with thankfulness for the blessings that have attended the work, and a prayer that, whoever takes up the responsibilities for the coming year, may see a still greater increase in every line of work, and thus hasten the coming of our Lord and Master.

S. N. Haskell.