

PACIFIC UNION RECORDER

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

VOL. 15

LOMA LINDA, CALIFORNIA, JANUARY 27, 1916

No. 25

Central California Annual Conference

The Central California annual conference was convened in the Seventh-day Adventist church at Fresno Tuesday evening, January 11, and continued until Sunday evening, January 16. Elder Neilsen opened the conference with an earnest discourse on the theme, "A New Vision." The evenings were devoted to earnest discourses upon the present truth, preceded by half-hour stereopticon lectures. From 9:00 o'clock to 9:45 each morning a devotional service was held and the conference was opened at 10 o'clock. Forenoon and afternoon sessions were held each day, excepting Sabbath.

The Lord greatly blessed in all the meetings of this conference. A sweet spirit of unity prevailed throughout the meeting, and an earnest determination was manifested on the part of all the delegates to so carry on the work throughout the field that it may be finished quickly. The Sabbath services were especially blessed of the Lord, quite a number coming forward, thus devoting their lives wholly to God. Some confessed of having been in a backslidden state, and decided to return to the Father's house without further delay. With scarcely an exception the entire audience re-consecrated their lives to the service of the Master.

We feel confident that this conference will prove to be a great blessing to the work in Central California. Elder Neilsen was unanimously re-elected to the presidency of the conference. The executive committee stands as follows: Elder N. P. Neilsen, Elder G. A. Grauer, Elder E. H. Adams, Elder F. E. Brown, Elder B. L. Howe, Brother Nis Hansen, and Brother P. J. Wolfson. Brother Wheeler was re-elected

secretary and treasurer of the conference.

All the workers returned to their fields with splendid courage, assured of the fact that God will be with them in their efforts to extend the knowledge of this truth throughout the conference, and thoroughly determined to devote themselves more earnestly than ever before to the giving of the message. We shall be greatly disappointed if the Central California Conference does not make more rapid strides during the year to come than ever before. However, the past year shows splendid growth, especially in the number of baptisms. Two hundred nineteen were baptized, and twenty-seven united with the church on former baptism during 1915. The membership of the conference now stands at 1452. Two new churches have been organized and were received into the conference.

We request the prayers of the brethren and sisters throughout the union conference in behalf of the work in Central California. The time certainly has come when there should be a mighty revival in all our churches throughout the entire field. Every consecrated heart must now be pressed into service that the work may be quickly finished. E. E. ANDROSS.

Central California Conference

The fifth annual session of the Central California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was held in Fresno, Cal., Jan. 11 to 16, 1916, with seventy-three delegates in attendance. Besides the regular delegates present, were Elders E. E. Andross and E. W. Farnsworth, and Brethren F. A. Coffin, Claude Conard, G. C. Hoskin.

The first meeting was held at 10:00 A.M. January 12.

Two newly organized churches were

received into the conference, namely, Portersville, with a membership of 40, and Coalinga with 21 members.

The usual committees were appointed as follows:

Plans: N. P. Neilsen, E. H. Adams, G. A. Hare, Miss Lida Ackley, G. C. Hoskin, Nis Hansen, Prof. M. E. Cady, Dr. E. C. Bond, G. A. Wheeler, Mrs. Mina Mann, C. L. Davis.

Nominations: E. E. Andross, J. E. Hackney, H. G. Thompson, Dr. R. H. Schwartz, C. W. Fuller.

Credentials and Licenses: E. W. Farnsworth, J. W. Bagby, G. A. Grauer, F. E. Brown, A. N. Loper.

Seating of Delegates: J. R. Patterson, C. A. Clark, Geo. T. Vore.

Conference officers were elected for the ensuing term as follows:

President, N. P. Neilsen; secretary and treasurer, G. A. Wheeler.

Conference committee, N. P. Neilsen, G. A. Grauer, F. E. Brown, E. H. Adams, B. L. Howe, Nis Hansen, P. J. Wolfson.

Auditor, Claude Conard.

Credentials and Licenses

Ministerial Credentials: N. P. Neilsen, E. H. Adams, F. E. Brown, J. R. Patterson, B. L. Howe, G. A. Grauer.

Ordination and Credentials: C. W. Fuller.

Honorary Ministerial Credentials: J. W. Bagby, A. S. Kellogg, H. C. Basney, Chas. N. Miller.

Ministerial Licenses: R. R. Breitigam, Geo. A. Truesdell, Geo. T. Vore.

Missionary Licenses: G. A. Wheeler, C. L. Davis, Roy J. Brown, Mrs. Mina Mann, Miss Lida Ackley, Miss Lou Ellen Watts, Miss Ada L. Bond, Miss Gertrude Patterson.

Resolutions Gratitude

For the manifold blessings of our Heavenly Father during the past year manifested in the preservation of the life and health of our workers, in the addition of so large a number to our

churches, for the efficient manner in which our president has guided the ship of state through the turbulent waters of strife, so that we live in a land of peace, while so much of the world is involved in war, and that our government has not yielded to the demands of despots who would infringe upon the religious freedom of its citizens; we hereby reverently express our gratitude to God and consecrate ourselves anew for service for the speedy finishing of the work He has given us to do.

Condolence

Whereas, One of our faithful, aged laborers in the ministry is left to finish his sojourn on earth without his dear companion who has fallen asleep in Jesus;

Resolved, That we extend to Elder J. W. Bagby and the family our heartfelt sorrow and sincere sympathy in their bereavement and also rejoice with them in the blessed hope of soon being privileged to meet our loved ones clad in immortality.

Conference Session

Resolved, That we hold our next regular session two years hence, and that during the winter of 1916-17, general meetings be held throughout the conference.

Sabbath School

Whereas, The spirit of prophecy has told us that our "Sabbath schools should be one of the greatest instrumentalities and the most effective in bringing souls to Christ," and,

Whereas, Many of our Sabbath school members have not given themselves wholly to God;

We Recommend, That each teacher pray and work until he sees his charges bound to the truth and in possession of the love of God that passeth knowledge. That from a heart filled with gratitude for the love of God, he labor tenderly and earnestly for the salvation of the individual members of his class, and that by personal visits and heart-to-heart talks he bind them to him and to the Sabbath school with cords that cannot be broken.

Whereas, There is a great lack of good Sabbath school teachers in all our schools; therefore,

Resolved, That a special effort be made in every school to train and develop efficient teachers, and that our young people be encouraged to prepare for this line of work.

Missionary

Whereas, God has said of our publishing interests: "They are among the

agencies represented by the angel flying in the midst of heaven, 'having the everlasting gospel to preach to them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come.' From them is to go forth the terrible denunciation, 'Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.' They are represented by the third angel that followed, 'saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God.' And in a large degree through our publishing houses is to be accomplished the work of that other angel who comes down from heaven with great power, and who lightens the earth with his glory," (Vol. 7, page 140); therefore,

Resolved, That our people give every encouragement to the colporteur work, and that qualified men and women be urged to make it their life work; and further

Resolved, That those of our people who can do so, be encouraged to obtain subscriptions to our message-filled magazines; and further

Resolved, That every church member in the Central California Conference subscribe for one or more copies of the *Signs of the Times* weekly and use them in reaching others with this great message.

Mission Offerings

Whereas, We believe that the proclamation of the last gospel message to all the world is committed to this people; and,

Whereas, We believe that the systematic giving of a weekly sum by every member is in the providence of God a practical method of supporting our missions; and,

Whereas, Experience has demonstrated that the twenty-cent-a-week plan greatly aids in securing necessary funds for the operation of all lines of gospel work, and further, to avoid the practise of almost constant solicitation to raise money in our churches; therefore,

We Recommend, The adoption of the plan of encouraging our entire membership, as individuals, to pledge definite, regular, weekly sums for foreign missions, such sums to be graduated according to the ability of each indi-

vidual as the Lord may impress each heart, and that this plan be set in operation at once.

We Recommend, That each of our churches make a special effort to reach its goal on the twenty-cent-a-week each quarter, and thus lighten the strenuous burden of reaching our goal at the end of the year.

Relief Books

Whereas, The Lord has spoken definitely concerning the work to be done with the relief books, and the blessings that will come as a result of doing the work; therefore,

Resolved, That this conference now take up this work anew, and that we as delegates pledge ourselves to carry out the Lord's plan to place these precious books in the homes of the people.

Church School Equipment

Whereas, Our church schools, in many places, are poorly equipped for doing the work the Lord designs them to do, lacking maps, globes, dictionaries, reference books, desk copies of school books, supplementary readers, primary material and material for manual training; and,

Whereas, Many of our schools are unable to raise the money to get these much-needed supplies;

We Recommend, That a conference fund be created for the purpose of helping to purchase these things for the needy schools, and further,

We Recommend, That this fund be raised in the following way: a collection be taken in each church in the conference on the fifth Sabbath of each month containing five Sabbaths, or in harmony with the budget plan recommended by the conference to the local churches. That in churches where there are church schools, this collection be used for local school equipment, if needed. In churches where there are no church schools, the collection be sent to the conference treasurer, where it will be used to help the most needy schools, as recommended by the superintendent and conference president in council with such members of the conference committee as may be easily reached.

Church Expense

Whereas, There is a continual necessity, under the present system, of calling for money on the Sabbath to meet church expenses;

We Recommend, That our churches consider the wisdom of providing for all local expenses on the budget system. And to this end the officers of each church prepare a careful estimate of

the amount needed for the year, and plan for raising this fund.

Temperance

Whereas, The temperance question is again before the people of California for consideration at the next election; and,

Whereas, Seventh-day Adventists have always been strict advocates of temperance, therefore, we hereby endorse the stand taken by the several papers in our territory for a clean press on the liquor question, and pledge ourselves anew as being in hearty sympathy with every legitimate means for the abolishing of the liquor traffic in the state, and will lend our sympathies and support to that end, and by the careful distribution of literature and other proper means, aid in this great movement; and further

Resolved, That it is the sense of this body that we favor a clean-cut temperance issue and discountenance any effort to unite it with any issue that would infringe upon the principles of religious liberty.

Religious Liberty

Whereas, The God-given principle of freedom of religious thought, expression and worship upon which this government was founded, is vital to its prosperity; and,

Whereas, Influences threatening its liberties are multiplying both in our state and nation; therefore,

We Recommend, That a religious liberty secretary be appointed in the Central California Conference.

We Recommend, That the magazine, *Liberty*, be sent to all the editors, county clerks, sheriffs, treasurers, recorders and auditors, district attorneys, superintendents of schools, judges, supervisors and justices of the peace, in our conference. Also,

We Recommend, That an offering be taken up in all our churches on the last Sabbath in February for the religious liberty work, such funds to be sent to the conference office.

Spirit of Prophecy

Whereas, The study of the spirit of prophecy leads to a deeper personal spiritual experience, developing into active labor in soul-saving;

We Recommend, That an effort be made to place the testimonies in every church library and in every home of believers, especially volumes five to nine, and that our brethren and sisters be encouraged to study these volumes carefully for personal instruction.

Reform

Whereas, There has been an evident relaxing among our churches in living up to the Bible and the testimonies in the matter of dress, and the wearing of jewelry and gold, feathers and artificial flowers;

We Recommend, That our people give more earnest thought to these things, returning to the old paths that have so long made us a distinct people from the world, and thus remove what may be a stumbling block to those just accepting the third angel's message.

Resolved, That we recognize the hand of God in giving the light upon health reform to Seventh-day Adventists, that we will, by example and precept, rightly represent this branch, which means so much to our people, in harmony with the light given us in the Bible and the testimonies.

Christian Education

Whereas, In the providence of God our educational institutions have been established for the education and training of our children and youth, thus qualifying them to act their part in giving the last message of truth to the world; therefore,

We urge that all parents recognize and appreciate more fully God's plan of education, making the sacrifices necessary to provide their children with a Christian education.

Tract Society

Whereas, It has proved difficult to operate our tract society in our field without realizing a loss on the present volume of business done; and

Whereas, Our territory could be served nearly as quickly and more economically from the Oakland house; therefore,

Resolved, That we ask the Pacific Union, Central California, California, and Northwestern California Conference officers to make suitable arrangements to have our book work handled by the California Bible House, and that we share with them in the profits and deficits according to the volume of business done in our territory. Further

We Recommend, That in case this arrangement is made, our Bible house still carry a small supply of Bibles, tracts and trade books, to be sold over the counter.

Missionary Volunteers

Whereas, The Young People's Missionary Volunteer organization is proving a very effective agency in safeguarding our youth from worldly influences by

(a) Strengthening and deepening the spiritual life;

(b) Enlisting their efforts in active missionary work;

(c) Stimulating a greater interest in reading the Bible and other good books;

(d) Encouraging our youth to have definite aims and purposes in life;

(e) Counseling and aiding in plans for their education and training for service in the cause of God;

We Recommend, That each church in the Central California Conference arrange to carry forward a strong work in behalf of our young people in harmony with the plans formulated by the Missionary Volunteer Council, held June 4 to 14, 1915, at St. Helena, Cal., and approved by the North American Division Conference Fall Council recently held at Loma Linda, Cal.

Gospel Ministry

Whereas, The work of the gospel ministry is a sacred and holy work, and only those should be encouraged to enter it who renounce the world, sin, the love of display, and worldly pleasures, and who are willing to lead humble, self-sacrificing Christian lives; that by precept and example they may preach the pure gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; and,

Whereas, The third angel's message and our world-wide work demand a growing, progressive, educated ministry, who can preach the message to all classes, and who give evidence of a divine call to the ministry, not only in their own experience, but in the judgment of the brethren;

We Recommend, That all candidates for ordination to the general gospel ministry shall be carefully examined in Bible doctrine, their ability to correctly expound the same, and their confidence in and loyalty to the denominational organization.

We recognize that God often calls to the gospel ministry, men of limited education, but whose mature judgment and practical experience in life, with rich spiritual endowment, give them a special fitness for the work of the ministry. The fruit of their labors has demonstrated the genuineness of their call, and we esteem them highly for their works' sake.

We Recommend, That these workers, in the exercise of the ability which God has given them, seek by every reasonable means to increase their efficiency. By the opportunities

offered in the Fireside Correspondence School, in the ministerial reading course, and in general reading and study, this increased efficiency may be obtained.

We Recommend, That young men who are planning to enter the ministry, avail themselves of the opportunities offered in our denominational training schools to secure an education, and that they be encouraged as far as possible to complete not less than fourteen grades of school work before they are ordained to the gospel ministry.

We Further Recommend, That all under twenty-five years of age, now laboring in the ministry, either as ordained or licensed preachers, who do not possess an education equal to fourteen grades of work, be encouraged to attend either our denominational training schools, or take work in the Fireside Correspondence School until the educational standard of fourteen grades has been reached.

That all our ministers shall pursue the ministerial reading courses and

[Continued on page 8.]

President's Address

Another year with its privileges and opportunities, its perplexities and sorrows, is in the past. Another milestone has been passed in our journey. With profound gratitude to God would we acknowledge His many blessings so generously bestowed upon us. It is always a source of encouragement to recount the blessings of the Lord, and I esteem it a privilege to be given the opportunity of presenting a brief report of the progress of the work in our conference.

We welcome the delegates to this our fifth annual session, and I am glad that we can place the burden of the conference work into your hands. With the Apostle Paul I should like to say: "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; being confident for this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

In times of perplexity our people have stood by us and have upheld our hands, and we thank the Lord for their loyal support. It gives us added courage to know that our people are

praying for our conference workers and are presenting their names before the throne of the omnipotent One. There is a spirit of union and of pressing together among our people. We thank the Lord for this.

Looking out upon the world, we can see strife and unrest upon every hand. The past year has been one of the most eventful years that we have ever experienced. The greatest war in the history of the world has been in progress. Millions of our fellowmen have been mowed down in the awful death-struggle of the nations. It is as if scores of tornadoes were tearing their way across the peaceful lands, leaving nothing but destruction and death in their wake until human imagination is stunned by the tremendous catastrophe, and we are led to exclaim, "O Lord, how long shall this awful, bloody carnage continue? When will it cease?"

But dear brethren and sisters, we are nearing home. Just before is the land where wars will never rage. We can already see the gleams of the golden morning; and the One who has been the dwelling place of people in all ages, is going before us, beckoning us on to greater zeal and faithfulness in the last closing work which must be finished before He takes us off this old globe, and permits it to go down in that awful destruction which will shake it from pole to pole.

The Lord has given us devoted, earnest workers, and we thank God for their faithful and untiring efforts. Permit me to express my appreciation for the pleasant associations which we have had with these workers the past year. We have also seen fruits for the labors put forth. During 1915 there were 219 baptized, and twenty-eight others united with us on profession of faith and former baptism, making 247 in all for the year. Twelve persons have been baptized since the beginning of this present year. This is an encouraging increase when compared with former years. The number baptized during 1912 was ninety-six; during 1913, eighty; during 1914, 155. While we thank God for this number and know that all the praise belongs to Him, we realize that more might have been accomplished had we but leaned harder upon Him who is mighty to save. And while our conference workers have labored untiringly, we must also recognize that our lay members have had a large share in winning these souls, as they have worked so

faithfully in connection with the different efforts, and in scattering the truth-laden literature.

Two new churches have been organized during the year, and these will ask to be admitted into the sisterhood of churches—one at Coalinga with a present membership of twenty-one; and one at Portersville with thirty-nine members. And at the close of this conference we hope to organize a church at Fairmead.

We now have thirty churches, besides our conference church, with a membership of 1,452 as reported by the church clerks. Our membership at the close of 1912 was 1,064; for 1913 it was 1,218; for 1914 it was 1,341, and at the close of 1915, 1,452. This shows a steady growth for which we thank the Lord.

The churches in the boundry lines of our conference, which were affected at the joint session of the conference in February, 1915, did not materially affect our conference as far as membership and tithes are concerned. We lost three counties and gained two. Our number of churches remain the same. Our membership was decreased by nineteen, while our tithe was increased by \$353.34, if we take the tithe for 1914 as a basis for reckoning. We believe, however, that this readjustment of territorial lines was a blessing to our conference, as our field is more compact, hence more easily worked.

The tithe for 1914 was \$19,999.32, and for 1915 it was \$20,821.64. This latter is an increase of \$822.32 over that of 1914. Our mission offerings for 1914 were \$9,487.50, which is a gain of \$2,134.86 over 1913. Our mission offerings for 1915 were \$10,941.21, which is a gain of \$1,453.71 over the previous year.

Our Sabbath-schools show an encouraging growth. At the close of 1914 we had thirty-two Sabbath schools, with a membership of 1,264, while at the close of 1915 we had thirty-nine Sabbath schools with a membership of 1,569, an increase of seven schools and 305 members for the year. The Sabbath school donations for 1914 were \$4464.83; and for 1915, \$6448.61, an increase of \$1983.78. We have four family schools with a membership of twenty-three, and fifty-five members in the home department. One hundred fourteen were reported converted. We are certainly pleased to be able to see such a growth in this important department. We are glad to be connected

with a growing cause. Our Sabbath school membership is now in excess of the church membership. This is as it should be. But let us plan to do even greater things for the Lord in the Sabbath school work this coming year.

Our children and youth must be trained for the message. From them must come our recruits for missionaries to go to the dark corners of the earth. Not alone should our children be taught the message on the Sabbath, but during the week they should be learning the things that will prepare them for a place in the Lord's work. Hence we have our church schools. At the close of 1914 we had 235 pupils enrolled in our church schools, and at the close of 1915 we had 252 enrolled. We have twelve schools with fifteen teachers. Besides these we have a family school of five at Laton, and one private school with six pupils at Lindsay. The Island church has just built a new room to their church to accommodate its school of thirty-six members. This room is so built that it can be opened up into the church, and thus give added room for church services. There are other churches which should have church schools, such as Rolinda, Portersville and Burrough, and we hope that the way may soon open so these children may receive the training which they should have. Better equipment is needed in our schools, such as maps, globes, reference books and material for the primary work. Our church school work should receive careful consideration.

We have fourteen young people's societies with a membership of 325. Our young people are a great asset to this denomination. When converted to the Lord, they are a great strength to our churches. The following amount of offerings was received through the young people's societies the past year: foreign missions, \$779.12; home missions, \$431.75 and for local work, \$97.48, a total of \$1308.35.

The scattering of our literature is also a very important part of our work. Many souls are won to the Lord through this means. Our literature sales for 1915 amounted to \$4473.10. Of this amount \$3159.70 was subscription book sales. During the year twenty-three different persons have had a part in the canvassing work, selling our subscription books, some for a longer and others for a shorter period. We wish that they might all have continued in the work. We believe we should seek to

find men who will devote all their time to this branch of the work, as Brother F. O. Jensen is doing. Could we have a corps of men devoting all their time to this branch, it would bring much greater success.

There have been many calls for meetings to be held in different parts of our field, and we have tried to respond to as many as possible; but we have found it impossible to fill nearly all the calls. Time will not permit me to mention all the places where public meetings have been held; but I will mention some of them. Elder A. S. Booth, assisted by several of our workers, held a series of meetings in Fresno, with excellent results. Many accepted the truth and united with the church. Elder F. E. Brown held an effort at Selma, and several took their stand for the message. Later on he with Brother and Sister R. R. Breitigam and Brother Geo. T. Vore held a tent effort at Portersville which resulted in a church being organized there. Brother Breitigam, assisted by Brother Robert Smith, held a series of meetings at Coalinga during the summer. A number accepted the truth, and a church was organized. Elder J. R. Patterson and Brother George Truesdell held a tent effort at Tulare this summer. Quite a number have accepted the truth there, and thus the church that was almost ready to be disbanded, has been revived, and now we find a growing church there. The church building has been moved onto a much better location, and is being repaired. Our people there are encouraged.

Elder B. L. Howe and Brother C. W. Fuller held an effort at Merced, and then Brother Howe was called to take charge of the work at Bakersfield, in the place of Elder E. H. Adams, who took up work at Fresno. Brother Fuller, assisted by Brother Roy Brown, held a short effort at Atwater, and is now located at Winton, where there is a call for meetings. Sister Gertrude Patterson has been doing faithful Bible work at Fresno, and Sister Ada Bond, after assisting in the work at Bakersfield and Merced, was asked to go to Coalinga where she has been doing faithful work with the newly organized church. Elder G. A. Grauer held a German tent effort at Fresno, assisted by Elder Shultz, besides his other work in connection with the German churches. The Lord has blessed the efforts of these faithful workers, and souls have been won to the Lord.

As we have thus cast a brief glance over the work and its results for the past year, we can but acknowledge that the Lord has been merciful to us and blessed us in spite of mistakes that have been made. "He knoweth our frame, He remembereth that we are dust." We would reconsecrate ourselves to Him for service, and shall endeavor to be more faithful to our sacred calling. We crave the prayers of God's people for this coming year, that whatever duties may fall to our lot, we may perform them to the glory of God and for the furtherance of His cause. We are weak, but He is strong, and in His strength would we stand.

We pray that, both as churches and individuals, you will stand by those whom you may ask to carry the burdens of the administrative work for the coming term, the same as you have stood by us the past year; and we trust that the year to come may bring greater success and richer blessings to the cause in our conference than has any preceding year. Let us lean hard upon the arm of the infinite One. He will not fail us. He knows our needs. "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armour of God," and we shall come off victorious, and stand on the sea of glass with all the ransomed ones. N. P. NEILSEN.

Missionary Department

We have seen increased interest in missionary effort in many of our societies during the year just closed.

The circulation of the *Signs* weekly has received more than usual attention and many subscriptions have been received. We hope to see this good work continue during 1916 with even better results. We believe that the *Review* extras meet the demand for field work, and we urge that these be used freely by our laborers and societies.

Items From Our Secretary's Report

Letters written	- - -	673
Letters received	- - -	265
Missionary visits	- - -	1781
Readings held	- - -	772
Subscriptions to periodicals	-	268
Papers given away	- - -	27527
Tracts given away	- - -	12259
Hours Christian help work	-	1660
Articles clothing given away	-	854

We anticipate great things for 1916 in this conference, because we are living in a time of great things, and we have reached the time for the message to go with great power.

G. A. WHEELER.

Central California Conference S. D. A.

Revenue Account for Year Ending Dec. 31, 1915

Expense			
Laborers' salary and expense		\$14453.22	
General expense	- -	375.25	
Insurance	- - -	20.63	
Special donations	- - -	50.00	
Bookmen's convention	- -	36.40	
Loma Linda council	- -	92.42	
Teachers' con. and summer schl.	- -	251.61	
Loma Linda support	- -	250.00	
Remittance from tithe:			
Mission Board support 10%		2082.09	
Sustentation 6%	- -	1249.25	
Tithe to Pac. Un. Conf. 10%		2082.09	
Part tithe to Pac. Un. Conf. 5%		1041.03	
Depreciation:			
Building	- - -	70.00	
Tent property	- - -	250.00	
Office and misc. property	- - -	120.00	\$22423.99
Income			
Tithe	- - -	\$20821.64	
Donations	- - -	1030.95	
Fresno camp-meeting	- -	11.36	
		\$21863.95	
Excess of expense over income '15		560.04	\$22423.99

Financial Statement Dec. 31, 1915

Assets			
Cash on hand	- - -	\$ 42.31	
First National Bank	- - -	2272.72	
Armona Academy	- - -	62.27	
Bagby property	- - -	12.05	
Provision for unexpired ins.	- - -	35.42	
Inventories:			
Building	- - - \$ 2650.49		
Less reserve for deprec.	- - - 250.00	2400.49	
Tent property	- - -	1780.55	
Office property	- - -	612.89	
Expense	- - -	40.64	\$ 7259.34
Liabilities			
Central Cal. Conf. Assn.		\$1750.06	
Central Cal. Bible House		169.69	
Church school equipment		22.71	
Children's tent fund	- -	38.09	
Poor fund	- -	58.48	
Religious liberty	- -	40.04	
Miscellaneous trust fund	- -	17.44	
Personal deposits	- -	91.40	
Higgins' property contract	- -	274.44	
Clovis reserve fund	- -	178.91	
Total liabilities		\$2641.26	
Present worth Jan. 1, 1915	\$ 5178.12		
Less operating loss for 1915	560.04		
Present worth Dec. 31, 1915.		4618.08	\$ 7259.34

Sabbath School

In submitting this report of the Sabbath school work I wish to express appreciation of the cooperation of superintendents and secretaries in the work and its advancement.

In 1911 when Central California was organized into a separate Conference, we had twenty-one schools with a membership of 1028. Each year our number has increased. At present we have thirty-nine organized schools with a membership of 1491, four home schools having twenty-three members. To this may be added our fifty-five home department members, making a total of 1569.

During the past year new schools have been organized as follows:

A school of ten members at Madera

in the month of June. The same month twelve Sabbath-keepers were organized into a school at Ingomar. As the result largely of faithful home work, a school of nineteen members was organized at Portersville. Since the tent effort at this place, the school has grown to fifty-one members. During the first quarter of the year, schools were organized at West Park and Coalinga. The latter has increased from a membership of seventeen to twenty-eight. Through the efforts of Elder B. L. Howe a school was organized at Waite of twenty-eight members composed almost wholly of members not of our church, but from the outside. The last school to come into our Sabbath school family was one of seventeen members at Fairmead, De-

ember 4. We now have a total of seven new schools with a membership of 174.

We are thankful to see new centers organized, and feel the Lord has blessed these schools greatly as is shown by the increase in membership from the date of organizing to the present report.

Owing to the migratory disposition of California people, one of our schools has been dropped, another converted into a family school and two branch schools discontinued. The members however are not dropped from our number, the families having moved to localities where they have found Sabbath school homes.

Our Sabbath school work has had a steady growth as is shown by the following report:

Central California Bible House

Revenue Account for Year Ending Dec. 31, 1915

Expense			
Agents' expense	- -	\$ 10.00	
General expense	- - -	371.44	
Salaries	- - -	457.53	
Doubtful accounts	- - -	118.17	
Sustentation	- - -	58.56	
Property depreciation	- - -	20.00	\$1035.70
Income			
Merchandise gain	- -	680.25	
Net loss for year 1915	- -	355.45	\$1035.70

Financial Statement Dec. 31, 1915

Liabilities			
Purchase accounts	- - -	\$3013.48	
Personal accounts	- - -	87.33	
Society accounts, regular	- - -	3.43	
Society accounts, relief books	- - -	5.25	
Free literature fund	- - -	1.64	
Provisions:			
Merchandise	- - -	132.47	
Relief books	- - -	561.71	
Sustentation fund	- - -	58.56	\$3863.87
Assets			
Cash on hand	- - -	\$ 128.08	
Personal accounts, regular	\$ 474.44		
Society accounts, regular	229.82		
Society accts., relief books	207.21		
Personal accts., relief books	21.75		
	\$ 933.22		
Less res. for d'btful accts.	168.17	765.05	
Central California Conf.		169.69	
Canvassers' fund	- -	2.44	
Inventories:			
Merchandise	- - - \$1951.14		
Relief books	- - - 307.30		
Property	- - - 100.00		
Expense	- - - 59.75	2418.19	
		\$3483.45	
Insolvency			
Insolvency Jan. 1, 1915	\$ 24.97		
Net operating loss during 1915	355.45		
Insolvency Dec. 31, 1915		\$380.42	\$3863.97

G. A. WHEELER, *Treas.*

To the Delegates and Members of the Central California Conference S. D. A.:

The accounts of the Central California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, together with its missionary department, the Central California Bible House, have been checked with the original receipts and vouchers, for the year ended Dec. 31, 1915, and I believe the revenue and balance sheets presented herewith show the financial condition of said conference and Bible house as disclosed by its books of account on the date above named. CLAUDE CONARD, *Auditor.* Fresno, Cal., Jan. 13, 1916.

Schools	Member-ship	Home Schools	Donations
1911	25	0	\$2014.26
1912	27	1	3514.06
1913	31	1	4060.34
1914	32	3	4464.83
1915	39	4	6384.69

The report for the year 1915 is as follows:

Schools	Mem-ber-ship	Home dept	Donations
1st qr.	35	15	\$1161.31
2nd qr.	38	21	1149.12
3rd qr.	39	39	1463.41
4th qr.	39	55	H.S. 4 2310.58

We feel very thankful for the work of consecrated teachers and superintendents during the past year, and for the best part of this report—114 who have been converted in our schools; for the way in which our schools are taking up the home department work in the local schools and the number of schools in which every teacher and officer is a subscriber to one of the best helps in our work—the Sabbath School Worker.

With hearts filled with thankfulness to God for past blessings, trusting His guiding hand in the future, let us press forward, ever keeping before us this goal—every teacher a subscriber to the Worker, every child brought to the Saviour, and 15 cents a week per church member for missions through the medium of our Sabbath schools.

LIDA ACKLEY.

Young People's Work

Mrs. Alice Mina Mann, secretary of the young people's and educational work, gave a report of these two lines. We now have fifteen young people's societies with a senior membership of 322. Sixty-four conversions of young people were reported, being eight more than the goal set. The report showed that a large amount of missionary work has been done by our young people, and \$789.87 was given to missions.

Report of Twenty-cent-a-week Fund Central California Conference for 1915

Church	Mem.	Tithe	Total rec'd	Per wk. per mem.	Lacking	Over
Armona	119	\$1609.13	\$ 964.97	.155	\$272.63	
Bakersfield	89	1941.15	608.90	.131	316.70	
Barstow	28	493.51	285.55	.196	5.65	
Burrough	15	216.97	151.56	.194	4.44	
Chowchilla	29	458.00	160.97	.079	244.63	
Clovis	17	314.66	90.13	.102	86.49	
Dinuba	48	1370.67	718.56	.287		\$219.36
Dinuba, German	26	535.61	271.53	.208		1.18
Dos Palos	6	243.88	70.29	.300		23.49
Exeter	43	459.45	177.50	.124	169.70	
Fowler	16	110.87	99.39	.123	66.51	
Fresno	328	5359.21	3420.20	.205		9.00
Hanford	76	1057.69	476.21	.120	314.19	
Island	65	884.85	382.55	.113	293.45	
Laguna	15	126.55	128.86	.160	31.14	
Laton	20	188.03	134.39	.102	73.61	
Lemoore	74	952.07	297.49	.077	472.01	
Le Grand	13	129.91	134.92	.266		33.52
Lindsay	34	851.50	314.79	.178	38.86	
Merced	23	683.71	141.30	.157	38.10	
Reedley	12	99.05	117.30	.187	7.50	
Rolinda	23	174.39	126.78	.106	112.45	
Selma	52	727.72	467.95	.172	72.85	
Shafter	14	224.50	104.56	.147	41.04	
Tulare	6	43.80	85.98	.274		23.58
Visalia	23	260.33	163.05	.140	71.15	
Wallace	16	92.31	21.53	.025	144.87	
Winton	26	335.03	89.76	.088	113.04	
Personal	67	877.10	635.21			
		\$20821.64	\$10926.88			

Dos Palos, Le Grand, Merced and Winton for thirty-nine weeks.

Total tithe and offerings -	\$31748.52
Other funds -	1438.19
Total funds -	\$33186.61

G. A. WHEELER, Treas.

Educational Work

One school was added to the list, making a total of twelve schools, having an enrollment of 252 students, with fifteen teachers giving Christian instruction. The importance of the educational work was presented by reading resolutions from the spirit of prophecy.

Colporteur Work

C. L. Davis reported briefly for the colporteur work, showing that twenty-three persons have done more or less work during the year, with total sales of \$3159.70. Brother Davis spoke of the influence of the work done, even where no sale was made. This is certainly an important part of our work, and needs our encouragement and support.

Central California Conference Association

Fourth Annual Session

In harmony with the published call, the association was called to order by the president at 10:00 A. M. Jan. 13, 1916.

The committee on nominations presented the following names for the board of trustees for the ensuing term: N. P. Neilsen, G. A. Grauer, Nis Hansen, Dr. R. H. Schwartz, J. E. Hackney, P. J. Wolfson, Dr. A. N. Loper. For auditor, Claude Conard. All were duly elected.

The secretary reported the following list of properties as being held in trust by the association: Laguna, Monterey, Bakersfield, Selma, Wallace, Lemoore, Fowler, Tulare, Burrough, Armona, Hanford, Arroyo Grande, conference office property, Del Monte Heights, Hollister property (personal), Clovis, Chowchilla, Rolinda.

Central California Conference Association S. D. A.

Revenue Account for Year Ending Dec. 31, 1915

Expense		
Interest paid and accrued		\$714.58
Income		
School debt donations	\$271.00	
Excess of expense over income 1915	443.58	714.58

Financial Statement Dec. 31, 1915

Liabilities		
Notes payable, general	\$9650.00	
Notes payable, Cal. Conf. Assn.	7881.27	
Cal. Conf. Assn. interest and sundries	1523.71	
Provision for interest unpaid	218.03	\$19273.01

Assets

Central California Conference	\$ 1750.06
Church note amount	250.00
	<u>\$ 2000.06</u>
Surplus and original school debt:	
Original indebtedness	\$19273.67
Less payment by \$150,-	
000 Educational Fund	700.00
	<u>\$18573.67</u>
Surplus Jan. 1, '15	\$1744.30
Less loss for 1915	443.58
Surplus Dec. 31, 1915	1300.72
Present Indbt'dnss Jan. 1, '16	17272.95
	<u>19273.01</u>

G. A. WHEELER, Treas.

To Whom It May Concern:

The books of accounts of the Central California Conference Association of the Seventh-day Adventists, a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the state of California, have been examined for the year ending Dec. 31, 1915, and in my judgment the statements here submitted give the financial standing of the association on the date mentioned, as shown by said books.

CLAUDE CONARD, Auditor.

Fresno, Cal., Jan. 13, 1916.

Pacific Union Recorder

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE
PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE OF
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

All matter for publication and correspondence relating to subscriptions should be addressed to Box 146, Glendale, Cal. Make money orders payable to the Pacific Union Conference S. D. A., Glendale, Cal.

Subscription Price	- -	Fifty Cents a Year
CLAUDE CONARD	- - - -	EDITOR
E. E. ANDROSS	{	ASSOCIATE EDITORS
J. O. CORLISS	{	

Entered as second-class matter July 23, 1914, at the Post-office at Loma Linda, California, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 1916

The annual meeting of the Southern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is in session this week at the Carr Street church, Los Angeles.

Elder E. E. Andross spent Sunday of this week at Loma Linda, and attended the annual meeting of the Pacific Press Publishing Association at Mountain View on Monday.

Southeastern California Conference Annual Session

Owing to the floods, it was impossible to hold the annual session of the Southeastern California Conference as was first announced, from January 19 to 23. The time of this conference session is therefore postponed, and is now set to commence on January 30, continuing until February 2. All delegates who were selected to attend are urged to be present at this meeting. The conference will be held in the place originally planned, corner Eighteenth and G streets, San Diego, Cal.

California Conference Association of the Seventh-day Adventists

Legal Meeting

The twentieth annual meeting of the California Conference Association of the Seventh-day Adventists will be held in connection with the regular forty-fifth annual session of the California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at Mountain View, Cal., March 6 to 9, 1916, for the election of a board of seven trustees for the ensuing term, and for the transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting. The first meeting will be called at 3 P. M. Monday, March 6, 1916.

J. L. MCELHANY, *President*,
E. E. PARLIN, *Secretary*.

California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

The forty-fifth annual session of the California Conference of the Seventh-day Adventists will be held March 6 to 9, 1916, at Mountain View, Cal., at which time officers will be elected for the ensuing term, and for the transaction of such other business as shall come before the meeting. The first meeting will be called at 10 A. M. Monday, March 6, 1916.

J. L. MCELHANY, *President*,
H. B. THOMAS, *Secretary*.

Resolutions

[Continued from page 4.]

such other regular courses of study as they can take consistently with their gospel work.

That the ordination of men to the gospel ministry shall be governed as follows:

(a) The committee on ordination shall consist of the union conference committee, with such members of the General and Division Conference committees as may be present, and such other ordained ministers of experience as may be invited in; and if the candidate be for work in a foreign department, the secretary of that department be consulted.

(b) The local conference executive committee, believing that one of their workers should be ordained to the gospel ministry, shall by vote recommend said person to the union conference committee for examination for ordination.

(c) The chairman of the union conference committee shall take up the question of the ordination of a candidate at a meeting of the committee, and if the vote is favorable, shall call the candidate to appear before the committee on ordination, or a subcommittee appointed by the same, for examination in harmony with these recommendations.

(d) Those passing satisfactory examinations and giving full proof of their call to the ministry, shall be recommended to their respective local conferences for ordination at the earliest suitable occasion.

We Further Recommend, That the arrangements for the ceremony or ordination be in the hands of the representatives of the General or Divisional Conference who may be present, together with the union and local conference presidents; and that the service in general be conducted as follows:

Let there be a sermon on the ministry, if possible; then a short history of the one chosen for ordination; then the prayer, followed by the charge, and lastly the welcome.

Whereas, Our rapidly advancing work oftentimes affords opportunity for men to do efficient service for the Lord, who are worthy to be engaged in the work because of their deep spiritual experience and ability to organize and lead in missionary work, who are not sufficiently qualified to enter the regular ministry; therefore,

We Recommend, That we recognize the call of these persons to a service which may or may not be a call to a life work, by giving them missionary credentials.

Whereas, The union conference is called upon to adjust matters when the local conferences become burdened with too heavy a force of laborers; therefore,

We Recommend, That whenever additional regular laborers are to be added to the pay-roll of the local conference, the union conference officers be consulted.

That credentials shall be revocable

at such time, and for such cause, as the conferences granting them deem it unwise for the persons to continue in the work of the gospel ministry.

We Recommend, That ministerial credentials be renewed only to such as give their undivided time to the sacred work of the ministry to which they were set apart by ordination, except in cases where ordained ministers are employed by the conference in other lines of conference or institutional work. It is understood that this does not apply to aged or infirm workers who may receive their support from the sustentation fund or from private income.

That where ministerial credentials are not renewed, the authority to administer the ordinances of the church, to perform marriage ceremonies, etc., be not recognized.

That where for any cause ministerial credentials are revoked, or are not renewed, and application is made to another conference for their renewal, the request be not granted without consultation with the local and union conferences previously granting the credentials. This does not preclude the right of appeal.

Freedom of the Press

Whereas, One or more bills have been introduced into the present session of the United States Congress, abridging the freedom of the press and the right to frank statements upon religious subjects, by excluding from the mails any publication which prints an article which would subject any creed or religion to reproach, and constituting the Postmaster General a board of censorship over all newspapers, periodicals and magazines; and

Whereas, The first amendment to the United States Constitution very properly provides that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press;" and

Whereas, The present federal laws against libel now give full redress in case the rights of individuals or sects are infringed; therefore

Resolved, That we, the delegates of the Central California Conference of the Seventh-day Adventists, in conference assembled, hereby respectfully but most earnestly protest against the passage of these bills, or any other of a like nature which may be presented to Congress.

The secretary was instructed to pass the resolution on to our representatives in Congress.

Appreciation

Resolved, That we do hereby express to the brethren and sisters of the Fresno church, our deep appreciation for the splendid entertainment afforded this delegation, which has contributed to the success of this conference.

Resolved, That we hereby instruct our conference secretary to convey to the city editors of the *Fresno Republican* and *Herald* our thanks for space given to reports of our proceedings.