

PACIFIC UNION RECORDER

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

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Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Synopsis of Proceedings

Conference Reports

(Continued)

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

During the last quadrennial period, there are evidences of the tender mercies and blessings of God to His commandment-keeping people in the Northern California Conference; and we bring greetings of 2,400 loyal Seventh-day Adventists to the delegates of this Union Conference session.

The territory of our conference comprises the twenty-one counties in the northeastern part of the State, except the small portion of these counties lying east of the summit of the Sierras. We have no large cities, yet some very important ones; for instance, Sacramento, a city of about 100,000, the capital of California; Stockton, with about 65,000 and Modesto, Turlock, Marysville, Lodi, Yuba City and Chico, ranging from 5,000 to 15,000.

ORGANIZATION AND OFFICERS

The Northern California Conference was organized in 1911, with Elder C. L. Taggart, president, and Verah MacPherson, secretary-treasurer. The next president and secretary-treasurer were Elder Clarence Santee and William Voth.

CHURCHES AND MEMBERSHIP CHURCH BUILDINGS

At the present time there are thirty-one church organizations, (one of these is a large German church,) with a membership of 2,423. There were 563 baptized during the four-year period, and 133 apostasies. The new churches organized were Tracy and Grass Valley. We have twenty-two church buildings with a total estimated value of \$79,250.00. The Woodland church is the oldest building in use in California, being nearly fifty-five years old.

CONFERENCE LABORERS, EFFORTS

The Northern California Conference working force consists of nine ordained ministers, five licentiates, two Bible workers, and five office workers, twenty in all. Evangelistic tent and hall efforts, cottage meetings, etc., have resulted in 563 baptisms the last four years. A sweet and co-operative spirit is marked in our workers.

WORKERS FALLEN IN DEATH

It is written, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yet, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." Revelation 14:13. This Scripture very appropriately applies to five of our respected and true ministers

who have fallen asleep; viz. Elders Henry Shultz, Valentine Leer, D. T. Fero, Thos. H. Watson and N. W. Kauble. We miss their counsel, and yet their labors "do follow them."

LAYMEN'S SOUL-WINNING

At this point I wish to call attention to the soul-winning activities of our laymen. During the past two years the burden of soul-winning was stressed in our church officers' conventions, and as a visible result, seventy-five souls have been won to Christ by lay-church-members. We expect this good work to increase.

DEPARTMENTS

Due to the faithful work of our departmental secretaries, we are able to render the following report:

SABBATH SCHOOL

Our Sabbath school secretary, Mrs. Ella H. Osborne, has done faithful work. The Sabbath schools, which number thirty-seven with a membership of 2,561, are doing a splendid work. During the quadrennial period 381 were baptized, with a total offering of \$116,631.47. Fifteen of our Sabbath schools during 1927 reached the 40c-per-member goal, and 901 perfect record cards were issued.

HOME MISSIONARY

Some of the activities of the Home Missionary Department as reported by Brother O. B. Stevens, the secretary, are shown in the distribution of 149,202 copies of the *Signs*, 146,437 *Present Truth*; 2,628 *Watchman Magazines*; 88,848 evangelical tracts; 166,000 Religious Liberty tracts, and 20,917 Big Week books were sold.

The Harvest Ingathering offerings total \$29,200.10. Over 7,000 copies of *Life and Health* are going into the homes of the people, and some 600 *Signs* yearly subscriptions are being sent to the foreign fields. Thus the precious seed is being sown and it will surely bring a rich harvest.

BOOK AND BIBLE HOUSE

The secretary of this department, Brother W. L. Mecum, renders a fine report. An audited statement of the business shows substantial financial gains. The total of the retail sales for the quadrennial period was \$100,254.77. The sale of Bibles is increasing, also subscription books; and periodicals and magazines are on the up-grade. Trade books and educational books lost a little the last year; but the outlook for this present year is very encouraging.

FIELD MISSIONARY

The faithful colporteur will share largely in the future reward. Brother E. C. Peifer, our field missionary secretary, has untiringly led 137 of these evangelistic missionaries in our field; and during the past four years, they sold \$38,073.40 worth of books. Included in this are the Home Workers' books, the sale of which run as follows: 1924, \$233.85; 1925, \$474.05; 1926, \$834.49; 1927, \$2,331.15. The foreigners also shared in the total—Filipino, \$667.90; Japanese, \$4,110.85; Chinese, \$1,476.00; and Spanish, \$894.55. One of our ordained ministers said, "It has been a great privilege as well as encouraging to me, to work in a district that has just been covered by one of our colporteurs."

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER

A growth is seen in the missionary activities of our young people. Brother E. G. Truitt, the secretary of this department, reports thirty-five societies—thirteen senior, and twenty-two junior. The total membership is 727. There

were 142 Bible Year Certificates issued to the youth, and 600 Reading Course Certificates.

We have a fine lot of young people, who quickly respond to leadership, and many of them are definitely planning to enter the work.

EDUCATIONAL

The Lodi Academy and Normal Training School is located in the Northern California Conference. The school is doing well this year, with a fair enrollment. Professor D. A. Ochs, the principal, and his faithful, devoted faculty are encouraged with the outlook. A new and commodious auditorium was built at a cost of some \$12,000 this last summer. While this is practically all paid, it is worthy of notice that the academy indebtedness was also reduced to about \$800, and we hope to soon pay this off, and sing the jubilee song.

We now have eighteen church schools with twenty-nine normal-trained teachers. They receive a total salary of \$19,000. There are fourteen school buildings; with an estimated valuation of \$32,756. Professor E. G. Truitt, the Educational secretary, is working hard to make these schools the most efficient.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Elder N. W. Kauble was to the day of his death, the faithful Religious Liberty secretary. While there have been some efforts to secure a Sunday law in California, yet each Sunday bill has been defeated. This is due to a large extent to the effect of the *Liberty Magazine*. We are now sending over 1,000 yearly subscriptions of this timely magazine to prominent citizens in our field. Some 50,000 Religious Liberty Present Truth have been scattered; and our people have rallied strongly in securing signatures against the Lankford Sunday bill.

Our conference quota was 33,000, and we have already sent in some 35,000 signatures.

FINANCES

The finances of the Northern California Conference are in fairly good shape, though not flushed. Brother Wm. Voth is our faithful and efficient secretary-treasurer. The tithe received is as follows:

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1924 | \$75,536.99 |
| 1925 | 73,010.95 |
| 1926 | 73,959.80 |
| 1927 | 80,952.62 |
| A total of | \$303,460.36 |

The mission offerings for the four years are:

| | |
|------|-------------|
| 1924 | \$55,244.29 |
| 1925 | 54,666.29 |
| 1926 | 52,850.20 |
| 1927 | 56,265.09 |

A total of \$219,025.87

In other words our people gave (besides money for home missions) a total of \$598,023.27. Of this amount \$334,331.82 has gone outside our conference.

IN CLOSING

In closing we wish to express our appreciation to the Union Conference officials and departmental secretaries for their valuable counsel and untiring labor. Anew we unite with you in deep consecration to God, and in pushing the battle to the finishing of the work.

W. M. ADAMS.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

The constituency of Central California bring greetings to the delegates and friends gathered in this Union Session. We are truly glad for this great message that calls us together and makes us one in Christ Jesus.

In bringing to you the report of this conference for the past quadrennial period, we do so with the feeling that it is not what we wish it were for it records losses in several lines of work; but we are glad to report some items that show gain. The Central California

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B. M. EMERSON Editor
J. E. FULTON Associate Editor

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Conference, as its name would indicate, lies in the central part of this great state. It comprises a large part of the San Joaquin Valley. It is largely an agricultural and fruit section, and due to the almost continual lowering of prices of the products of the valley, it has brought financial reverses and made conditions very hard financially for the people in this section of the State. But in spite of these conditions, we bring you a report of cheer from our workers and our constituency.

First of all, we desire to thank our kind Heavenly Father for His protecting care over His work and workers. No deaths have occurred among the laborers during the past four years, and only in a few instances has there been serious illness. We are also thankful for the degree of success that has attended the work in this field. Our conference was organized in 1911, with a membership of 1,065. Our membership to-day is 2,332. Due to the conditions here, we have lost many of our members by removals. In two instances practically the entire church moved away during the past few years. This makes it difficult to build up the membership in this field.

EVANGELISM

During the past few years we have carried on strong evangelistic work. Meetings have been held by Elder Richards and his company in Visalia, Bakersfield and at present are being held in Fresno. The Lord blessed in all these meetings and a large number have been baptized as a result of this work. During the last summer Elder Ellis and Brother DeFluiter, with several other workers, held a meeting in Merced. As a result of this work a number were baptized. These, with the fruits of the other laborers in the conference and our lay brethren and sisters, have resulted in 595 being baptized during the past quadrennial period. 103 of these were baptized in 1924. In 1925 there were 130, in 1926, 126; and 1927, 236. At the present time we are in the midst of the effort in Fresno, and Elder Lindsay is holding meetings in Taft.

FINANCES

The tithe for the past four years has amounted to \$283,601 as compared with \$315,882 during the four-year period preceding this. The mission offerings during the past quadrennial period have amounted to \$178,929, as compared with

\$212,545 the preceding one. These two items show a loss. We believe this is due, not to a lack of faithfulness on the part of our people, but, as stated in the beginning of this report, to the financial condition. Brother C. C. Mattison is rendering faithful service in keeping in touch with the finances and churches of the conference.

We have passed on the usual percentages of this tithe to the Union and General Conferences and have given in addition to this, subsidies to the college, Lodi, and to Fresno, to assist in paying the salary of the Bible teachers in the college and the Lodi Academy, and the principal of Fresno Academy.

BOOK AND BIBLE HOUSE

The sales in the Book and Bible House have amounted to \$59,800, and show a gain in business each year over the preceding one, except in 1926 when there was a slight loss. We are glad to report that the past year the Bible House paid all expenses, the salary of the office secretary, Mrs. Walder, included, and still showed a substantial gain of \$445.57.

COLPORTEUR WORK

The colporteur work in Central California does not show the amount of sales that we would like to see, but we are glad to tell you that 1927 showed the largest amount of sales of any year during the past quadrennial period. The total sales for the past four years have amounted to \$15,836, an average of \$3,959 for each year during the four-year period. The sales in 1927 were \$7,632, a gain of over \$6,000 over each of the two previous years.

We trust that the good beginning made this year will induce many others to enter this line of work.

HOME MISSIONARY

Elder Huenergardt, our Home and Field Missionary secretary, has been kept busy with his two departments. The Home Missionary Department shows an increase in missionary activities in practically every line of work. The reports show that 84 have been added to our churches as a result of the missionary work of our faithful lay members. Thousands, yes, even hundreds of thousands of pages of literature, have been distributed and the results of the work that has been done in this line will not be fully revealed until we meet in that glad reunion around the throne of God.

In our Harvest Ingathering work we

have shown a gain each year during the past four years, until last year the conference raised \$8,068 in this effort.

The sale of Big Week books has been very encouraging. The amount for the past four years has been \$4,211. Aside from this, our people have responded splendidly to the call for the sale of Relief books, and a large number of these books have been sold by our churches, the money being turned over to pay off our share of the indebtedness on Lodi Academy, until at the present time Central California has paid its part of the debt on the academy, except the recent addition to the Administration Building.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT

For several years the Missionary Volunteer work was carried by the superintendent of the Educational Department. This made the work very heavy and the Missionary Volunteer Department did not show gains that it doubtless otherwise would have shown. Last spring Brother Hayes Davis was asked to take up this line of work. He has taken hold of the work in a strong way and we have been greatly encouraged by the result of his efforts.

The report shows that every line of missionary activity made a substantial gain. The membership today is 840, in 26 societies. 119 were baptized during 1927. In 1926 there were only 17 societies, and a membership of a little more than 700 and 52 baptisms. We believe that with the continued activity along the line of organizing our Missionary Volunteers we shall see still greater advancement. Surely the energies of our young people ought to be turned in the avenues that will advance this message.

SABBATH SCHOOL

The membership in the Sabbath school at the present is 2,437, an increase of about 100 over last year. We have three more schools this year than last year, but the offerings show a decrease, the average amount given in 1926 was 22 cents which is the highest point reached in the last quadrennial period. In 1927 the average amount given was about 21 cents per capita. Miss Guernsey, our Sabbath school secretary, started with the first of the year to increase the membership of the Sabbath school and to endeavor to bring up the offerings. She has been quite successful thus far. At the end of January the membership was 2,573, the increase resulting from the careful check-up that was made.

The Sabbath school is always a strong factor in our missionary work, and it gave \$107,059 of the \$178,929 given to missions during the past four years.

EDUCATIONAL

The church school work has been carried by Brother Green, and some interesting changes have been made in our school program in this conference. We do not have as many schools now as we had four years ago, due to the fact that we have union schools in several places. Five churches joined together in maintaining the Armona Union School. The Biola and Rolinda churches send their children into Fresno and have discontinued the schools at the local churches during the past two years. These union schools have purchased buses and the pupils from the different churches are brought to the schools in this way. So, while there has been a decrease in the number of schools yet there has been an increase in attendance, and we believe the class of work done has been better because of these larger schools.

We would also note in this connection the building or enlarging of several of our schools. Winton purchased land near the church and put up a small building. The El Nido church moved its school to a more suitable location and also enlarged it and purchased a cottage for the teacher. The Fresno Academy improved its plant by installing a steam heating system which added greatly to the comfort and convenience in that school. The academy has made further improvement by the addition of a library and principal's office. Armona improved its school plant and a union school is being held there. The school building was moved from Orosi to Dinuba. The grounds were enlarged and the buildings painted, which added much to the appearance of this union school. At Visalia the building in which the school had been held for a number of years was also the church building. Last year this building was remodeled which makes it more convenient and better adapted to school work. The Wasco church purchased land near Wasco and moved their building from the old site to the new one. Bakersfield added to their school plant by the building of a neat cottage for the teachers. The largest single improvement has been the new building at Shafter. This is a nice stucco building with four large classrooms and an assembly room, the latter seating about

250 people. This building ordinarily would have cost about \$8,000 or \$9,000, but because of the splendid cooperation on the part of the members of the church there, the building has been erected at the cost of a little less than \$3,000. The churches at Shafter are to be complimented on the splendid building they have for their school. Plans are now being laid to add another school room to take care of the increased number of children who are attending because of the better school facilities. Some of these had been in the public school before. They are also planning definitely to remodel and improve the woodwork and sewing rooms.

The number of schools in the beginning of the quadrennial period was 19 with 38 teachers and a total enrollment of 674. Today we have 11 schools with 31 teachers and an enrollment of 710. The cost of maintenance this year is \$20,883.00, the value of our church school buildings at the present time, \$32,300.00. We are truly thankful for the large number of young people and children who are receiving a Christian education, but there are many others who should be in our schools and we trust that another year will show a still larger attendance.

CHURCH BUILDINGS

In connection with the building program of Central California, we would also mention the erection of several churches. The Shafter English church has erected a nice building in the little town of Shafter. Previous to this they were meeting in the school house. The Italian church in Fresno have a nice building almost paid for. This is the first Italian church that our people have ever built west of the Rocky Mountains. The Visalia church is erecting a neat building and they will soon have it completed to the point where they can use it for worship.

Aside from this, we would also mention the purchase of a commodious building in Merced. At the close of the effort there last summer, it was found that we could trade the old Merced property and the LeGrande property for a church building owned by the Methodist people. The conference committee in counsel with the brethren at Merced advised that the trade be made. This was done with only a cash outlay of a few hundred dollars for street improvements. Merced now has the second largest building in the conference,

and a splendid place where the churches in that section of the conference can meet for special gatherings.

All the churches in the conference are free from debt, except as stated above, a small indebtedness on the Italian church and the Orosi church. We now have 33 church buildings in this conference, valued at about \$137,000.

It has been a pleasure to work in this conference for six years. There has been the fullest cooperation from both workers and constituency. It is with a feeling of sadness that we leave the work in this field where the associations have been so pleasant, but having accepted a call to another conference, we leave these burdens that we have tried to carry the last six years to our successor, Elder H. H. Hicks. We bespeak for him the same hearty cooperation and good fellowship that has been given to us. We believe there is a good future for the work in Central California. I am sure all the workers and constituency consecrate their lives anew to the Lord and join with you as fellow-workers to finish the task assigned by our Master, that of making ready a people prepared to meet their Lord. With you, we hope to be faithful to the end and stand triumphant before the throne of God and see our Redeemer face to face, and be permitted to associate with the saved throughout all eternity.

E. L. NEFF.

NEVADA

The Nevada field was organized into a conference in the summer of 1920. Thus, for two quadrennial periods, it has enjoyed the good fellowship and helpful counsel of its six stronger sister-conferences in the Pacific Union.

While Nevada, in point of population and strength of constituency, is counted least among the organized fields in the North American Division, yet out of her have come some of the most loyal sons of the message, and patriots for the Advent movement. There are men today carrying heavy responsibilities in the General Conference who received their initiatory training in Nevada. Also in the foreign fields, Nevada has sent her staunch missionary products into the very forefront of the far-flung battle line to the ends of the earth. The very ruggedness of the country, and the hardships which confronted the young men and women who have labored in Nevada brought out the best that was in them,

and prepared them to stand true in every difficulty as good soldiers of Jesus Christ.

TERRITORY AND LABORERS

The territory of the Nevada Conference comprises twenty-four large countries, stretching from Lakeview, Oregon, on the north, to Death Valley, California, on the south, and from the summit of the High Sierras on the west, to Utah on the east. For the evangelization of this vast area, there are employed one ordained minister besides the president, two licentiates, a field secretary, one half-time Bible worker, and a secretary-treasurer who also carries the Sabbath school work.

GROWTH IN MEMBERSHIP

When the Nevada Conference was organized eight years ago, there was a membership of two hundred seventy-two. Notwithstanding the continuous exodus of the believers to the California conferences, where better facilities are provided for the Christian education of their children, Nevada, by the untiring efforts of her few faithful workers, has kept a steady stream of new converts coming into the truth, which has more than offset the outflow to other fields. Each year has closed with the membership as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| <i>First Quadrennial Period</i> | |
| 1920 | 274 |
| 1921 | 301 |
| 1922 | 284 |
| 1923 | 279 |
| <i>Second Quadrennial Period</i> | |
| 1924 | 283 |
| 1925 | 278 |
| 1926 | 272 |
| 1927 | 326 |

Taking the average for the eight years, we find that the last quadrennial period closed with a gain of five members over the preceding quadrennial period. But, thank God, a better day has dawned for Nevada. The year of 1927 saw the pendulum swing decidedly to the gain column. We began the year with two hundred seventy-two, and closed with three hundred twenty-six, which represents a gain of fifty-four members added last year.

BAPTISMS

The highest number of baptisms reported in any one single year during the first seven years of Nevada's history as a conference, was twenty souls, while last year, God so blessed the efforts of our faithful ministers and lay-members

that forty-three were baptized and united with the church. This is a gain of 215% in baptisms over the highest previous year, and an increase of 716% over the baptisms in 1926. Two new and growing churches have been organized and will be presented to the conference by our two young licentiate ministers, O. B. Gerhart, and H. Maxwell Peak, at our coming camp meeting, to be held in July, amid the enrapturing scenes of nature on the beautiful shores of the historical Donner Lake, where people sacrificed their lives, in the early days, in an effort to emigrate to California.

TITHE AND MISSION OFFERINGS

Our financial resources have fluctuated from year to year, according to the rise and fall of membership, those moving to other conferences, naturally taking their tithe and offerings with them. For the eight years, our tithes and offerings have been as follows:

TITHE

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| <i>First Quadrennial Period</i> | |
| 1920 | \$10,427.27 |
| 1921 | 9,238.61 |
| 1922 | 9,799.29 |
| 1923 | 10,309.36 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total | \$39,774.53 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| <i>Second Quadrennial Period</i> | |
| 1924 | \$ 9,201.79 |
| 1925 | 9,780.19 |
| 1926 | 9,334.86 |
| 1927 | 11,161.22 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total | \$39,478.06 |

OFFERINGS

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| <i>First Quadrennial Period</i> | |
| 1920 | \$ 6,774.81 |
| 1921 | 9,443.78 |
| 1922 | 8,652.33 |
| 1923 | 10,216.67 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total | \$36,022.85 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| <i>Second Quadrennial Period</i> | |
| 1924 | \$ 6,992.18 |
| 1925 | 9,014.96 |
| 1926 | 9,794.01 |
| 1927 | 9,209.49 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total | \$34,587.90 |

It will be observed that there has been a falling off in the tithe of \$296.00, and a decline in mission offerings of \$1,434.95, when we compare the two quadrennial periods. However, it is most gratifying to note that since we have

recently intensified our efforts to win more souls, the tithe has also increased remarkably. The past two years as compared with the first half of this quadrennial period, shows a spring in the tithe of \$1,524.60, and an increase in mission offerings of \$3,996.36. In the sixty-cents-a-week to missions, Nevada has exceeded the goal for three successive years, and at the close of 1927, stood fifth among the conferences in the North American Division, (which number 128), and at the head of the list in the Pacific Union.

SABBATH SCHOOL

As our churches are widely scattered, and with no pastoral care, the Sabbath school lesson and the weekly visits of the good old *Review* constitute the sources of spiritual food with most of our people. During the past year, eight new Sabbath schools were organized.

The offerings to missions through our Sabbath school for the two quadrennial periods is as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <i>First Quadrennial Period</i> | |
| \$11,857.52 | |
| <i>Second Quadrennial Period</i> | |
| \$15,043.10 | |

CHURCH SCHOOLS AND MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER WORK

Nevada manifests a commendable zeal for Christian education. We have doubled the number of church schools this year, and have an enrollment of 85 students in the first nine grades. Many others, desiring more advanced education, are attending school at Lodi, Humboldt Academy, and Pacific Union College. Others are at St. Helena, White Memorial, and the Loma Linda College of Medical Evangelists, pursuing a medical training. Our young people remaining in the conference are nearly all of the Junior age, and this phase of our Missionary Volunteer work is ably carried forward by our devoted church school teachers.

HOME MISSIONARY AND CAMPAIGN WORK

The Nevada believers are above the average in soul-winning activities. In every campaign, such as Harvest Ingathering, Missions Extension, Big Week, and Religious Liberty, we never fail to reach the goal, and are usually first "over the top."

BIBLE HOUSE AND COLPORTEUR
For a number of years, Elder A. B.

Huenergardt very ably carried the leadership of the book work in this conference. But about the middle of the last quadrennial period, he was called to Central California. We were about a year without a field secretary, until J. L. Sauder came to Nevada.

The total Bible House sales for the two quadrennial periods are as follows:

| 1st Quadrennial Period | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| 1920 | \$ 2,131.26 |
| 1921 | 2,652.98 |
| 1922 | 2,706.47 |
| 1923 | 2,457.49 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total | \$ 9,948.30 |
| 2nd Quadrennial Period | |
| 1924 | \$ 2,136.76 |
| 1925 | 3,112.30 |
| 1926 | 2,339.77 |
| 1927 | 4,187.55 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total | \$11,736.68 |

This represents an increase of \$1,828.38. The major part of the gain was made in 1927, as our colporteurs nearly trebled the sales over what they were the previous year.

The total retail value of literature handled by the Nevada Book and Bible House for 1927 was \$6,316.21.

CONCLUSION

Our courage is good in Nevada. For all that has been accomplished we give God the praise. We greatly appreciate the liberality of the Pacific Union Conference to this needy field. Also the splendid help of the Southern California Conference and the California Conference in sending hundreds of annual subscriptions to the *Signs of the Times* into Nevada.

That God has a loyal, spiritual people in Nevada is evidenced by the fact that the little group of believers has contributed in tithes and mission offerings the sum of \$74,362.43 during the past four years, besides what they have given to local church activities.

As a constituency and as a band of workers we give ourselves anew to God for a still greater work, that precious souls may be saved and the coming of Jesus hastened.

J. H. McEACHERN.

The religion of evolution puts ideals in the place of God as the object of worship.

CALIFORNIA

The records of the past four years show increase in practically every line of endeavor in the California Conference, for which we are thankful, profoundly thankful, to Jesus our Saviour, who has directed and blessed the efforts put forth by our faithful workers and laymen and women and youth.

Desiring to economize our operating funds for the world field, we have operated with a conservative force of laborers. These laborers have endeavored to lead our membership of some 4,300 into active field service and spiritual advancement. Our people have loyally and energetically responded to this leadership and as a result the past four years have been signally marked with harmonious, productive endeavor. Though many changes have occurred, strong leadership has been maintained in each of the conference departments, and each of these departments reflects that leadership.

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Baptisms | 1,033 |
| Membership Increase | 575 |
| New Church Organizations | 575 |
| New Church Buildings | 7 |

FINANCIAL

Our treasury department has received in tithes and mission funds during the four-year period, \$1,124,268.45. Of this amount \$269,147.73 has gone on as the regular per cent of tithe to the Union and General Conferences for missions, sustentation and administration. \$434,003.13 is the amount of the 60-cent-a-week fund passed on and in addition to this we have appropriated to missions directly from our operating funds \$26,500. The total of these items is \$729,650.86. Brother R. E. Kalfus has faithfully and efficiently administered this department.

The Home Missionary Department shows excellent gains in all lines. We have found that the five-minute home missionary period (now ten) at the close of the Sabbath school has proved a great blessing to the home missionary work of the conference and has contributed also to the interests of the Sabbath school. The five principal items of home missionary endeavor show an average increase of 48%. The secretary of this department is Elder T. L. Copeland.

The Miscellaneous Language Depart-

ment of the California Conference conducts work in seven languages. Elder T. L. Copeland is secretary of this department. Recently the first Seventh-day Adventist Japanese church in this country was organized at Mountain View, with a membership of eighteen. We trust that this church will be the forerunner of other Japanese churches in other places.

Our three academies, with academic enrolment of 227 and our 23 church schools with an enrolment of 1,060, with their 19 academic and 43 elementary teachers, function strongly as soul-winning agencies, each having regular baptismal class instruction and inspiration. A high standard of education has been maintained and in addition scores of children have been won to Christ and to this blessed truth directly as a result of the earnest endeavor constantly put forth to this end in these schools. In one of four academies all but one of the students have been baptized.

| | 1920-'23 | 1924-'27 | Increase |
|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|
| All Teachers | 45 | 62 | 17 |
| Grade Enrolment | 828 | 1,060 | 232 |

Elder F. M. Owen is the secretary of this department.

The Medical Missionary Department has made recent rapid strides under the medical missionary secretaryship of Dr. H. W. Vollmer, with the help of O. W. Dolph, associate secretary, and Violet Gilstrap, assistant secretary. At present we have 211 graduates of the medical missionary home nursing classes in our conference, a number of whom are actively engaged in medical missionary work, and 512 of our members enrolled as students in medical missionary home nursing classes of the various churches in and around the immediate Bay section. 14 churches are conducting these classes. 10 doctors and 28 graduate nurses who have volunteered their services without expense to the conference, are giving the instruction. There are four medical missionary treatment room units in as many churches, now functioning definitely in the free treatment of the poor. There are two others being built and equipped, and other churches are planning to this end. These classes and this medical missionary work are proving of untold benefit to our people. In a number of places, classes are conducted Wednes-

day evening, and the attendance at prayer meeting in some instances has increased 300% to 500% in consequence.

Our Sabbath school department has made good advancement, the last three secretaries being full time ordained ministers. Elder S. A. Wellman left us to join the General Conference Sabbath School Department and Elder J. T. Thompson, to join the work in South America. Elder Andrew Nelson is our present secretary.

Membership, 1920-1923 3,581
 Membership, 1924-1927 4,025

Membership Increase 444
 Offerings, 1920-1923 \$179,644.00
 Offerings, 1924-1927 212,555.06

Offering Increase \$ 32,911.06
 Both Seals Awarded, 1920-1923... 2,772
 Both Seals Awarded, 1924-1927... 5,935,

Both Seals Awarded, Increase 3,163

The Religious Liberty Department has been manned by Elder Maxwell, who has recently accepted a call to the presidency of the Austral Union in South America, and we feel that our department has thereby sustained a real loss.

The advancement of the Missionary Volunteer Department is somewhat discernible from the following figures:

Bible Year, 1920-1923 319
 Bible Year, 1924-1927 808

Bible Year Increase 489
 Percentage of Increase 153

Standard of Attainment, 1920-'23... 323
 Standard of Attainment, 1924-'27... 422

Standard of Attainment Increase... 99
 Percentage of Increase 31

Reading Course, 1920-1923 1,811
 Reading Course, 1924-1927 2,846

Reading Course Increase 1,035
 Percentage of Increase 57

We believe that much of the success in this department is attributable to carefully following the instruction of the Spirit of Prophecy as originally given to this people with respect to the organization and functioning of the young people's work. It calls for organization for spiritual advancement, prayer, and definite soul-winning ser-

vice. Miss Minnie E. Dauphinee is the secretary of this department.

The California Bible House, under the able leadership of Brother Henry Norton, has made a gain in operations each year, and the records show the following:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| | Sales |
| 1920-1923 | \$131,253.00 |
| 1924-1927 | 196,968.00 |
| Increase | \$ 65,705.00 |

Subscription books 1927, \$10,000 greater than 1922; \$9,000 greater than 1923.

The colporteur work in the California Conference has recently made great advancement. The following figures indicate this.

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------|------------------|
| | Total Sales | Per Hour |
| 1920-1923 | \$63,756.56 | \$2.56 |
| 1924-1927 | 65,942.76 | 4.81 |
| Gain | \$ 2,186.20 | \$2.24 or 87% |
| 1926 | \$11,301.99 | |
| 1927 | 29,651.32 | |

\$18,349.33 or 163%

We attribute the marked success along this line to the fact that the leader of this department. Brother Walter Lind, really leads. Brother Lind spends no less than one week each month in actual field canvassing. Men love to rally to leadership that leads. Our colporteurs are our pioneers. They require and possess great courage and faith. They work alone and almost entirely with those not of our faith. Our prayers go with these faithful men and women as they do the work of that other angel who lightens the earth with his glory. A. E. Barnes has recently joined our colporteur forces as assistant to our secretary, giving his entire time to our force in San Francisco.

Evangelistic work has received considerable attention during the last four years. A number of efforts have been held and at the present time the great mission field of San Francisco, which God says is "an important portion of the Lord's vineyard" and of which He says, "although at first the work will move slowly, yet it will make steady advancement and San Francisco will become a great center," is now the object of most intensive, constructive, medical

missionary, evangelistic endeavor. A field training school for our workers is now in progress there. In the California Conference, outside of San Francisco, there is one Seventh-day Adventist to each 270 population. In San Francisco there is one Seventh-day Adventist to 1,600 population. The population of our conference is estimated at about 1,800,000. The population of San Francisco is about 800,000. Approximately two-fifths of the population of our conference is in San Francisco. Most intensive efforts are planned for this hitherto almost neglected field.

The workers in the conference office are sufficient and faithful to the work and they endeavor to be faithful to the standards of Christian living, in dress and deportment, maintaining in their lives the same standards that are held by the Pacific Union College along these lines. The efficiency and faithfulness of our stenographers and secretaries, and their adherence to high Christian principles, have contributed in no small degree to the successes that have attended the work during these four years.

The three institutions located in our conference; namely, the Pacific Union College, the St. Helena Sanitarium, and the Pacific Press Publishing Association, by their earnest missionary endeavor and hearty co-operation, have been a great blessing to the work in all lines.

The hearty support and constructive assistance rendered by our Pacific Union Conference officials and departmental secretaries has been of inestimable value to the work of the conference.

G. A. ROBERTS.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

The territory of the Southern California Conference comprises only a small portion of the large state of California, namely, the counties of San Luis Obispo, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, and the portion of Kern County lying south of the Tehachapi Mountains. The population is 1,807,169.

CHURCHES AND MEMBERSHIP

At the time of the last Union Session, held in the spring of 1924, the Southern California Conference had 36 churches. Today we have 51. That is an increase of 15 during the quadrennial period, or an average of nearly four new churches added each year. During the previous

quadrennial period an average of one church a year was added. During this last quadrennial period our membership has increased from 4,365 to 6,175, a gain of 1,810. During the four years 1,704 were added by baptism and 402 admitted on profession of faith, a total of 2,106, won directly through the efforts of our workers and lay brethren. Much is said about the great influx of Seventh-day Adventists into Southern California. From the above figures it will be seen that our actual gain in membership is 296 less than the number baptized and admitted on profession of faith.

The year 1926 shows the largest number of baptisms and admissions on profession of faith, namely, 577 baptisms and 158 admissions on profession of faith, a total of 735. The year 1927, we are sorry to say, shows the least returns, namely, 318 baptisms and 81 admissions on profession of faith, making a total of 399. We sincerely hope and pray that the year 1928 may be a banner year in soul-winning. At this early date it bids fair to be so. Elder Philip Knox has just baptized 51 as the first fruits of his Figueroa Street Tabernacle effort. Others of our evangelists and pastors have also reported baptisms. There seems to be a special hungering in our conference after the unadulterated truths of God's Word. We have reached the day when the name "Seventh-day Adventist" has become the synonym for fundamental Christianity and implicit faith in God's Holy Book.

LABORERS

83 laborers are actively engaged in the various lines of soul-winning work in this conference. Of these 26 are ordained, 13 hold ministerial licenses, 12 are missionary licentiates, and 22 are book and periodical colporteurs.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Brother S. Donaldson is the secretary-treasurer of this conference. From his records are gleaned the following figures:

The total amount of tithe received during the four year period is \$1,074,011.50. In yearly amounts it is as follows:

| | |
|------|--------------|
| 1924 | \$248,491.01 |
| 1925 | 266,123.28 |
| 1926 | 270,024.20 |
| 1927 | 289,373.01 |

This is an increase of \$364,046.41 over the amount of tithe received during the preceding quadrennial period.

The mission offerings, or what is now

generally known as the 60-cents-a-week fund, appears in the following amounts:

| | |
|------|--------------|
| 1924 | \$132,523.29 |
| 1925 | 142,914.43 |
| 1926 | 160,490.00 |
| 1927 | 168,490.29 |

Total \$604,418.01

The total amount of tithe and offerings for the period is \$1,678,429.51. It makes us happy that we were able to appropriate \$35,000 surplus tithe to mission fields during the year 1927. Elder G. W. Reaser renders much appreciated and beneficial help as financial secretary of the conference.

SABBATH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

The Sabbath School Department has come to the place where it raises more than one-half of our 60-cents-a-week fund. In fact it has set out to reach 40 cents per week per member. It is quite interesting to note how our plan for raising mission funds might work out. The amount to be raised annually per capita, according to our goal of 60 cents a week, is \$31.20. If 40 cents a week be paid in through the Sabbath school this would amount to \$20.80. Then each member is supposed to raise \$10.00 in the Harvest Ingathering campaign and \$2.00 through the sale of books in the Big Week campaign. These three items would total \$32.80, which already exceeds the 60 cents a week per member, and still there remains the Midsummer Offering, the Week of Sacrifice and the Annual Offering. Surely every member should be able to give, on this basis, at least 60 cents a week. Thus, with the large gifts that some are able to give, we see no reason why Southern California and its sister conferences cannot go over the 60 cents a week goal. Really, we should be able to raise a dollar per week per member.

Our Sabbath schools, during the four years, gave \$336,060.43. In yearly amounts it is as follows:

| | |
|------|-------------|
| 1924 | \$71,355.54 |
| 1925 | 78,436.01 |
| 1926 | 90,116.07 |
| 1927 | 96,152.81 |

Mrs. Cleora Webster is the Sabbath school secretary of the conference.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY DEPARTMENT

Our Religious Liberty Department has been doing very aggressive work in the present campaign against the passage of the Lankford Sunday Bill. Brother G. A. Snyder, our Religious Liberty Sec-

retary, reports that 18,000 of the book "The Church in Politics," nearly 14,000 *Present Truth* Religious Liberty Extra, about 175,000 Religious Liberty leaflets, 7,000 foreign Religious Liberty tracts and periodicals, and 10,000 "Blue Law Attack" tracts, have been used in the present campaign. Furthermore, over 50,000 signatures against the Lankford Sunday Bill have been sent in through the Book and Bible House, besides a great many signatures which have been sent direct to Congressmen without coming through the Book and Bible House. Our people have sent in many, besides thousands which have been sent in by theaters and other organizations where signatures have been secured against the bill as a result of the campaign sponsored by our denomination. Elder George Enoch has ably assisted in this campaign. Several mass meetings have been held and Elder Snyder has delivered several addresses on the subject over the radio.

During the quadrennial period the following amounts have been expended in Religious Liberty work.

| | |
|------|-----------|
| 1924 | \$ 452.12 |
| 1925 | 307.25 |
| 1926 | 1074.10 |
| 1927 | 1411.96 |

Total \$3245.43

This is exclusive of regular salaries paid.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

We have three academies and eighteen church schools. The enrollment of the academies is approximately 325 and the enrollment of the church schools 595. The church schools employ 35 teachers.

Professor W. L. Avery has just recently been elected as educational secretary of the conference. Professor Lucas, who served the conference so ably for a number of years resigned, due to the fact that he was called to the same position in the Union.

The Southern California Conference holds joint ownership in the Southern California Junior College, located in La Sierra Heights. Between 40 and 50 of our young people are in attendance there, and 57 are attending Pacific Union College.

We are glad to report that while the liabilities of the Southern California Junior College amounted to \$135,272.41 on December 31, 1926, on December 31, 1927, the liabilities of the school stood at \$95,575.62. An additional \$21,000

has been promised and should be in hand before the close of this year, which will reduce the indebtedness of the Junior College to less than \$75,000, or nearly one-half of the December 31, 1926, indebtedness will have been wiped out during 1927 and 1928. We surely thank the Lord for this.

HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

When we speak of the Home Missionary Department we naturally think of our Harvest Ingathering Campaign. The amount raised in this particular campaign in our field during the four years is as follows:

| | | |
|------|-------|-------------|
| 1924 | | \$24,565.09 |
| 1925 | | 31,447.16 |
| 1926 | | 35,052.07 |
| 1927 | | 36,055.29 |

Total \$127,119.61

Dr. V. H. Lucas is our Home Missionary Secretary, and is kept busy constantly fostering the various campaigns sponsored by this department. One of the most recent campaigns put across by this department was our annual *Signs of the Times* campaign. This was finished in the whole conference on two Sabbaths and the week which intervened. The endeavor met with a hearty response in all of our churches.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT

Elder C. L. Bond has recently connected with the General Conference Missionary Volunteer Department, and in his place we have been very fortunate in securing the services of Prof. J. F. Simon. Miss Julia Leland is associated with Professor Simon in this department. Surely there is a great work to be accomplished for our young people, that they, when rightly trained, may fill the place God has intended for them in connection with the closing work of the message.

LITERATURE WORK

Our Book and Bible House turns over an immense volume of business each year. The net amount of yearly sales were:

| | | |
|------|-------|-------------|
| 1924 | | \$41,425.65 |
| 1925 | | 44,880.19 |
| 1926 | | 49,477.94 |
| 1927 | | 53,408.75 |

Total \$189,192.53

Mr. Dean Lower, with his office helpers, is kept extremely busy in this department. During the especially rushed seasons of the year they work into the late hours of the evening.

Closely associated with the Book and Bible House is the self-sacrificing and sturdy corps of laborers selling our publications in the field. Mr. L. L. Grand Pre is in charge of the department in the conference, and Miss Hester Walsh assists him, particularly working with the magazines.

The outstanding feature of our colporteur work lies in the number of souls won. During 1927 fourteen were reported as having embraced the truth through the reading of books that they had purchased. Forty-two others are reported as interested in the message and are studying with our Bible workers.

We are glad to report that during the first two months of 1927 our subscription book work has made a very decided and satisfactory gain over the previous year. January, 1928, shows a gain of 145% over January of 1927. The actual amount of subscription book orders for January, 1927, was \$705.80, while in January, 1928, the orders amounted to \$1,727.85, which shows a monetary gain in subscription orders of \$1022.05. When the February reports for 1928 are summarized they will indicate a gain of 169% over those of February, 1927.

NEW OFFICE BUILDING

Our work in its present dimensions had outgrown the old office building. Careful study and estimates led to the advisability of erecting a new building to replace the old one. Hence a new office building was erected on the same site where the old one stood, at a cost of about \$22,000. The new building is modern in every respect and cost more than it otherwise would have because of the necessity of adhering to the City of Los Angeles building restrictions.

We are glad to report that our conference operating gain for the month of January is well above \$1,000. This is after we have religiously set aside in bank deposits 13% of our tithe, which we hope to be able later to give to the General Conference for their ever-expanding, world-wide work.

We believe the outlook for Southern California is bright. Never before in our experience have we been tendered mere loyal and Christian support than our workers and constituency are giving in this conference. Our church members are true blue, devoted to this cause and message and respond heartily to any endeavor which looks towards a deeper spirituality and a speedy termination of God's work on this earth.

P. E. BRODERSEN.

Departmental Reports

HOME MISSIONARY

The four years covered by this report have been years of progress in all lines of home missionary endeavor and this has been made possible to a large extent by the leadership and co-operation of the workers assembled here in this Union Conference session.

Like generals in an army you have directed the movements and activities of nearly 20,000 soldiers of the cross in a great advance of soulwinning and God has blessed His people in their efforts under your supervision.

More and more we realize the great asset we have in our lay members for the finishing of the work, and that we must enlist and train every one of them for service, for the strength of an army is measured largely by the efficiency of the men in the ranks. A wise general instructs his officers to train every soldier for active service. He seeks to develop the highest efficiency on the part of all. If he were to depend upon his officers alone, he could never expect to conduct a successful campaign. He counts on loyal and untiring service from every man in his army. The responsibility rests largely upon the men in the ranks. And so it is in the army of Prince Emmanuel.

"Our General, who has never lost a battle, expects willing, faithful service from every one who has enlisted under His banner. In the closing controversy now waging between the forces for good and the hosts of evil, He expects all, laymen as well as ministers, to take part."—*Vol. 9, p. 116.*

We thank our Commander for the great army of men and women who have enlisted under His banner and who willingly and gladly have offered themselves for any place on the great battle field. Why should they not be brave and courageous since they need not go empty-handed against the foe? They have been provided with powerful weapons with which to break down the strongholds of the enemy and rescue souls from his power.

The most effective of these weapons is the Bible, the sword of the Spirit, and it matters not whether the minister, the regular Bible worker or a lay member uses this sword it "is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged

sword" and it always conquers for Christ.

We are glad that many of our church members are learning to use this weapon of the Holy Spirit. In many of our churches, classes are being conducted in the art of giving Bible readings and the results have been very encouraging. During the four years just passed, 102,295 Bible readings were given by our members to their neighbors and friends. That we may appreciate more fully what this means, let us make a comparison. Suppose we had 150 regular Bible workers, if every one of them would give sixty Bible readings a month for twelve months it would take their combined report for a whole year to equal the number of Bible readings given by the lay members in the Pacific Union Conference during the four years. If we should value in money the work done by these faithful and unselfish members, it would mean an outlay of about \$150,000.

We can not estimate this kind of work too highly, for in writing of the effect of the work done by our lay members, the servant of God says, "He will use humble, devoted Christians, even if they have not received so thorough an education as some others. Let such ones engage in service for Him by doing house-to-house work. Sitting by the fireside, they can—if humble, discreet and godly—do more to meet the real needs of families than could an ordained minister."—*Vol. 7, p. 21.*

Not only have our brethren and sisters made use of their opportunities in giving Bible readings or opening the word of God to thousands of souls, but they have also manifested their zeal in the distribution of millions of periodicals, such as the *Signs of the Times*, *Present Truth*, *The Watchman Magazine*, and tracts, and in giving food and clothing to the needy and poor, and in ministering to the sick and afflicted.

So we may see what has been accomplished in these and in other lines of home missionary activities during the past four years, we call your attention to the summary on this chart. The words and figures you see here represent toil, service and many prayers. The chart has the appearance of a wheel. You will remember that in the book of Ezekiel we read of wheels that had the spirit of the living creatures in them.

We believe that this wheel on this canvass represents a living movement, that is directed and guided by the Spirit of God,—a movement that does not stand still but continually moves onward and forward.

(The following figures were then given.)

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Bible Readings Given..... | 102,295 |
| Missionary Visits | 403,420 |
| Persons Taken to Sabbath School | 76,585 |
| Hours of Christian Help Work | 531,597 |
| Treatments Given | 69,236 |
| Value of Food Given..... | \$54,213 |
| Clothing Given to Needy..... | 227,554 |
| Papers Mailed, Lent or Given..... | 3,640,284 |
| Tracts Distributed | 1,600,058 |
| Books Sold, Lent or Given..... | 303,641 |
| Subscriptions for Periodicals..... | 62,601 |
| Missionary Letters Written..... | 122,103 |
| Souls Won to Christ..... | 2,077 |

We are sorry that this summary is not complete, for many of our members who are active for the Master fail to let us know what they are doing and this greatly affects my report to you. However, we are thankful for even this record. Certainly many of our dear people are rendering efficient service for God. Daily we thank our heavenly Father for these messengers of Jesus, for busy as they may be to earn a livelihood, yet they are always willing and ready to drop their work and answer the call to service. What a beautiful scene it must be as the Lord looks down from heaven and beholds thousands and thousands of His children, unselfishly and quietly going from house to house, distributing literature, praying with and caring for the sick and giving the Word of God to those who are hungry for the bread of life. His promise is that they shall shine as the stars forever and ever.

As leaders in this great army of lay members, you will be glad to know that splendid gains have been made in every item of home missionary endeavor during the past four years over the previous quadrennial period. Notice from this chart the increase in the Big Week offerings. From 1921 to 1923 we raised \$15,389, and from 1924 to 1927 \$48,267 was raised, a gain of \$32,878. What a blessing the Big Week effort has been to our foreign fields! During the eight years that it has been in operation, over one hundred publishing houses, hospitals,

dispensaries and schools have either been erected or assisted. Think of the thousands of small books that have been sold here at home and of the people that have accepted the truth through reading them.

Here we have another chart showing the gains made in the Harvest Ingathering during the last quadrennial period over the previous one. From 1920 to 1923 \$243,169 was solicited and from 1924 to 1927 \$339,925, a gain of \$96,756.

Another graph tells of the steady growth the Harvest Ingathering work has made year by year for the last four years.

We praise God for these gains and for those witnessed in all other lines of home missionary endeavor, but we believe this is only the beginning of what we should expect to see. The dawn of a glorious day must be right upon us. The prospects never were brighter and more hopeful for a great forward movement by our lay members than at the present time. Soul-winning by the laity has been the message all through the Union Conference by presidents of conferences, pastors, and ministers. At our church officers' meetings and conventions this has been the main topic, and our church officers seem to catch the spirit of the meetings and more fully realize the possibilities wrapped up in their church members in winning souls to Christ.

The medical missionary work has come to the front in our field. In many of our churches classes in home nursing have been organized and the members are learning how to be a blessing to their neighbors in their physical needs.

Our campaigns today are not looked upon merely as money-raising campaigns, but as great opportunities to give the message to our friends and neighbors.

We are thankful for all of these achievements and for the success that has attended our efforts, but we know that God has still greater things in store for us. Shall we not at this Union Conference session lay plans to aid our pastors and church officers in some line of service for God?

We are thankful for the success that has attended our efforts, but we know more could have been accomplished if all our members had taken part in this personal soul-saving work. It makes our hearts sad when we think of the

large number who are doing so little. But, brethren, we are not discouraged for God has said: "So vast is the field, so comprehensive the design, that each sanctified heart will be pressed into service as an instrument of divine power."—*Vol. IX, p. 47.*

And again: "In visions of the night, representatives passed before me of a great reformatory movement among God's people. Many were praising God. The sick were healed, and other miracles were wrought. A spirit of intercession was seen, even as was manifested before the great day of Pentecost. Hundreds and thousands were seen visiting families, and opening before them the Word of God. Hearts were convicted by the power of the Holy Spirit, and a spirit of genuine conversion was manifest. On every side doors were thrown open to the proclamation of the truth. The world seemed to be lightened with the heavenly influence. Great blessings were received by the true and humble people of God."—*Vol. IX, p. 126.*

We believe God is ready to give us this experience now in its fullness. May He baptize us as leaders and our great army of lay members with His Holy Spirit and power from on high during the session of this conference.

DAVID VOTH.

SABBATH SCHOOLS

This report of the Sabbath school work of the Pacific Union Conference is made possible by the kind cooperation of the Sabbath school secretaries of the local conferences. It is really a compilation of reports they have prepared and submitted.

During the past four years there have been an average of 250 Sabbath schools in this Union. The membership has varied from 17,470 in 1924 to 18,625 in 1927. In his report, Elder Fulton has called attention to the discrepancy between the church and Sabbath school membership; let this report emphasize it. In this Union, the children who are not church members comprise about one-fourth of the Sabbath school membership. In some conferences they make up one-third of the membership, but one-fourth is a conservative estimate. That means about 4,600 children. Our Sabbath school membership goal is "all the church members, plus the children." If

we reached our goal, we would have 24,662 in our Sabbath schools, or 6,000 more than we have now. Our Union holds the unenviable record of having the largest number of missing Sabbath school members in the North American Division. The greatest discrepancy is in the conferences having large city churches, but no conference has fully reached its goal.

Faithful efforts have been put forth, and are being put forth all the time, by the Sabbath school secretaries and by the officers and members of the Sabbath schools. We feel that it is a situation demanding the thought and prayers of every worker and member in the Union. The Home Department makes provision for the isolated and the invalids. Provision has been made in the Traveling Workers' Department for the workers whose duties call them from place to place, so there is a special place for all. We would urge that every worker consider it his or her privilege to help gather in the scattered flock.

"The object of Sabbath school work should be the ingathering of souls." Remembering this, we are truly thankful for the baptism of more than 3,000 Sabbath school members in the four years just past. We know that the influence of the lessons learned in the Sabbath schools will not be lost, and that many a boy or girl who is now apparently careless and indifferent will yet remember the instruction and turn to Christ. Eternity alone will reveal the souls won by our Sabbath schools.

Perfect Record cards are familiar to our sight, issued to those who have been in attendance at Sabbath school each week during the quarter, and on time, and who have studied the Sabbath school lesson daily. Thousands of them are given out each quarter. When we remember the statement in "Great Controversy," and similar statements found elsewhere, "None but those who have fortified the mind with the truths of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict," we can see the importance of daily study. For it is a recognized fact that the study of the Sabbath school lessons is the only systematic Bible study engaged in by hundreds of our members.

The financial features of the Sabbath school work are all in the interest of its great soul-saving aim, for the offerings

go to save souls in the remote parts of the earth. During the four years just past we have given more than a million dollars to missions! We exceeded the previous four-year period by \$237,261. Yet even that large sum did not always bring us to the goal. If our absentee church members had been in attendance, our offerings would have made possible much additional mission work. Some time ago, the General Conference Sabbath School Department inaugurated the plan of sending a pennant to each local conference reaching the goal of 30 cents per member for the quarter, and giving an average of one dollar per member on the thirteenth Sabbath. Utah, Nevada, Southeastern California, and Southern California have received pennants under this plan. In Utah and Nevada the pennant has come, gone, and come again. In the Southern and Southeastern California Conferences the pennants have stayed on.

The last quarter of 1926 the averages for the Union brought a pennant to the Union office. It was to stay only a short time, for the next quarter brought reduced offerings and the pennant was regretfully wrapped up and returned to headquarters. The last quarter of 1927 our averages as a Union again brought the pennant to us. We have it here before you. It remains in our possession this quarter by virtue of the record of the quarter just past. Will it remain after March 31? We trust that we may never have to return it to headquarters. Our sister Union on the other side of the continent, the Atlantic Union, has kept the pennant for seven quarters.

The thirteenth Sabbath offerings have been a factor that has materially helped to increase our offerings. We have given more than a quarter of a million dollars on the sixteen special days in the period under consideration. The largest sum was given in 1926, \$68,839.29. These offerings have had another effect that is worthy of mention. As we have listened for thirteen weeks to stories of native life in first one field and then another, and have learned of the effect of the gospel on these lives, we have come into a closer feeling of brotherhood with those people. Even the kindergarten tots grasp a little of the meaning of missions as they sing of the children across the wide sea, and bring their offerings to help teach them of Jesus.

Birthday offerings are interesting in their results, more than \$16,000 in the four years. Southern California has been especially generous in this respect, giving \$6,437.10.

The popularity of the Investment Fund has been growing. Northern California leads in this, realizing \$2,689 on its investments in a single year.

Early in 1927 this Union set a goal of 40 cents a member through the Sabbath school, and the response to this challenge to increased effort and devotion has been most encouraging. The first quarter after the goal was announced several schools which had been reaching the 30-cent standard immediately increased their offerings to 40 cents, and the next quarter there were many others to join them.

May we leave this word with you? quoted from *Vol. V, p. 127*: "The Sabbath school work is important, and all who are interested in the truth should endeavor to make it prosperous."

OPAL STONE.

EVANGELISTIC COLPORTEUR WORK

While the colporteur work is brought to view in many portions of the Scriptures as an important work for this time, possibly no language could better portray this soul-winning army of house to house workers than that of Jeremiah 16:16, "Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the Lord, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks."

At this time when "Every nation, kindred, tongue, and people" must hear, every man and woman must be given an intelligent understanding of God's judgment hour message. God foresaw that the great masses of humanity would not be reached by the spoken word alone. Our text indicates that a most thorough search is to be made for souls who have not the opportunity to hear the living preacher.

"For this reason God ordained the canvassing work as a means of presenting before the people the light contained in our books, and canvassers should be impressed with the importance of bringing before the world as fast as possible the books necessary for

their spiritual education and enlightenment."—*Vol. VI, p. 313*.

"We are fast approaching the end. The printing and circulation of books and papers that contain the truth for this time are to be our work."—*Vol. VIII, p. 89*.

INCREASE IN SALES

The following report of "increasing success" in this branch of God's work, however brief and incomplete, will bring cheer and courage to our hearts, for it reveals that His prospering hand is ready to bless those who launch out in this needy soul-winning work by faith and with consecration.

The average number of colporteurs who have been at work and the number of hours devoted to actual canvassing, together with their total sales by years for the quadrennial period, are as follows:

| Years | No. Col. | Hours | Value of orders |
|---------|----------|-------|-----------------|
| 1924 | 63 | 26685 | \$ 71,348.35 |
| 1925 | 71 | 28068 | 74,920.55 |
| 1926 | 71 | 25317 | 70,195.32 |
| 1927 | 81 | 44573 | 97,382.26 |
| Average | 71 | 31160 | \$ 80,961.00 |

TOTAL SALES, for four-year period, \$323,846.48.

This means that, in the Pacific Union alone, these workers sold during the four years as much literature as our entire denomination published and distributed during the first forty years of its history. The average subscription book and magazine sales per year has been \$80,961. Basing this on our approximate population of five million in this Union, we have sold only about 1½ cents worth of our literature per capita each year. About 20,000 large subscription books have been sold annually by our colporteurs. This is one book to every fifty homes in our field. It will be seen by these figures that we are not overdoing this work. Our records indicate that we have in these eight conferences scores of counties and hundreds of towns and cities without a regular colporteur. Allowing a population of 33,000 to each colporteur we would have sufficient territory for more than 150 regular year-around colporteurs. Our average number of colporteurs per year has been 72. This number has been increased this past year (1927) to an average of 81 regular colporteurs, and our

sales have steadily increased month by month, totaling for the year 1927, \$97,382.26. This represents a gain of \$27,186.94 over 1926. The largest gain is to be seen in the hours devoted during the past year. This is a very encouraging item, which we believe is one of the good results of the "efficiency rewards" which have been given by our publishing house and some of our conferences. Our sales per hour still range above \$2.00 an hour on an average in the Union. This compares very favorably with the other unions throughout the North American Division.

MAGAZINE WORK

Besides our regular colporteurs combining a yearly subscription to one of our magazines with the subscription for the book as a follow-up method, about \$30,000.00 worth of our message-filled magazines were sold in single copies during the past four years by our enterprising sisters. These magazines have been sold principally to business men in the shops and offices of our cities of Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Oakland. Quite a number are rejoicing in the truth who were brought into the message through this channel.

In spite of the fact that the business of the world has experienced a decided depression in many lines during recent months, our book and magazine sales have been on a steady increase. What can be the reason for this prosperity in this line of work? We believe the answer is in the fact that "God has ordained" this work to go "forward with increasing success" and "there is no crisis with God."

CALLED OF GOD TO THE COLPORTEUR WORK

These reports of God's blessing bestowed upon our faithful colporteurs are bringing renewed confidence to our people, and many are volunteering their services to engage in this good work. Some have been given unmistakable evidence that God is calling them from their ordinary work to labor in the colporteur field. Many have given up well-paying positions in the world to follow their convictions and to join these gospel-literature evangelists. The following letter received from a brother in San Francisco is not only interesting, but convincing evidence that God is placing His stamp of approval upon the colporteur

work as a work of importance for this time:

"Dear Brother:

"This is to tell you that I will be ready to join your colporteurs soon, I believe. Do you remember at the prayer-meeting the other evening I asked you what you would advise me to do? Your answer was for me to pray that the Lord would reveal to me what I should do. When I came home that night I prayed and told the Lord my circumstances, for as I told you I have a business on my hands and two children to care for. That night I had a dream. I was somewhere among many colporteurs. They were working two and two, but I did not have a partner and seemed to have no part in the work. This troubled me much and I could not work the day following. By this I realized that the Lord must be calling me. That day was a day of torture. In the evening I prayed most earnestly and again I promised the Lord that if He would help me to dispose of my business by the first of February I would never again work for any one but Him.

"The following night I had another dream in which I saw a man coming to me and he asked me if I wished to sell my business. I said yes. Then he gave me a name. "Call up "Acme" but be sure to call for "Crame" as the latter will buy your business from you."

Since this brother wrote this letter he has sold his business to the firm shown him in the dream. He was advised to wait until the institute before starting out. This, however, he was unable to do and unknown to the field missionary secretary he launched out and during the first afternoon took three orders for the large book. He later attended our institute and was one of our best prospects and most attentive students. The last report we had from this brother indicated that God was greatly blessing him with sales as well as interesting experiences.

SOUL-WINNING RESULTS

More than ever before in the history of our publishing work, our colporteurs are seeing souls accepting the truth through the books they have sold. Many of our colporteurs throughout our Union have souls to show as the result of their work last year. Time and space will not permit relating these experiences in detail. And not only do our colporteurs

rejoice in souls won through their colportage, but a number of our faithful field missionary secretaries in this Union have converts as the result of their own individual colporteur work. We regret that the field missionary secretaries of a number of our conferences are not able to devote their full time to this much neglected colporteur work which requires constant encouragement and supervision. Wherever this work is promoted and encouraged it prospers and bears fruit.

It would only be fitting in this connection to make mention again of our dearly beloved veteran colporteur evangelist, Brother Walter Harper, whose faithful forty-five years of labor has been crowned with a rich harvest of souls. This soul-winner, though nearly seventy-five years of age, made his annual trip to Northern California this past summer and was not only successful in placing hundreds of dollars worth of our message-filled books in the homes of people, but the following experience will introduce another phase of our colporteur's service. By invitation this brother occupied one of our pulpits on the Sabbath. His experiences depicting the many providences of God in guiding him to the honest in heart and in winning them to Christ greatly inspired our people. His message was greatly attended by the Spirit of God and it stirred a slumbering church into action in using our literature more freely. Since then one of the members of that church who caught the idea of book selling sold one book which resulted in bringing nine souls into the truth. Let us remember this dear brother, with other of our colporteurs, in our daily prayers; that God will richly sustain and comfort him in his declining years.

"EARLY AND LATE"

"Down the valleys, up the mountains,
Hither, yon, I see them go,
Some o'er prairies, some by fountains;
Sometimes fast and sometimes slow.
Now in hamlet, now in woodland,
Busy mart, or quiet glen;
Faithful in their Master's business,
Seeking e'er the souls of men.

"Father, bless our dear colporteurs,
Men and women, young and old;
Build for each a glorious mansion
Close beside the street of gold.
Give them now Thy Holy Spirit,
Let an angel hold each hand
Till beyond the rolling Jordan

They shall reach the Promised Land."

CHANGES IN LEADERSHIP

During the four years several changes have come about in the leadership of this department of the Pacific Union Conference. Elder F. E. Painter, who had served efficiently in this line for many years, was forced to resign on account of failing health after carrying the work for the first eleven months of this term. Elder McEachern accepted the call to fill this post of duty and served untiringly for nearly two years, at the close of which he responded to the call of the Nevada Conference to serve as the president of that field. The speaker was called to fill this vacancy and has been serving in this capacity for the past year and three months. My work in association with our loyal and faithful field missionary secretaries in this Union has been a real pleasure. The good report of progress has been made possible through their efficient leadership as well as the cheerful cooperation of our workers and the prayers of our dear people.

THE FUTURE

The outlook on the future for the colporteur work is as bright as the up-look. The first two months show a marked increase over the same months last year.

| | Col. | Hrs. | Ord. | Val. |
|-----------|------|-------|------|------------|
| Jan. 1928 | 65 | 2,458 | 511 | \$4,626.75 |
| Jan. 1927 | 48 | 1,481 | 309 | 3,597.71 |
| Gain | 17 | 977 | 202 | \$1,029.04 |
| Feb. 1928 | 87 | 2726 | 739 | \$7,148.65 |
| Feb. 1927 | 64 | 1267 | 299 | 4,227.56 |
| Gain | 23 | 1459 | 440 | \$2,921.09 |

"As long as probation continues there will be opportunity for the canvasser to work. When the religious denominations unite with the papacy, places where there is religious freedom will be opened by evangelistic canvassing."—Vol. 6, p. 478.

Designed by the One who makes no miscalculations, the gospel printing press and the colporteur work alike are becoming mightier agencies in giving the Third Angel's Message greater speed year by year. Not until we shall read in heaven the "Who's Who" that God is writing most accurately, will we be able to know the full report of this soul-winning literature ministry.

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

"And he that reapeth, receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal; that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together."

Calling attention again to Jeremiah 16:16, I read in conclusion the following comment from the Spirit of Prophecy:

"Cavasser evangelists are needed to hunt and fish for souls. The canvassing work should NOW be earnestly and decidedly taken up."—*Colporteur Evangelist*, p. 31. EMANUEL REMSEN.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER

The eight or nine thousand children and youth in the Pacific Union Conference constitute our most precious heritage and our greatest challenge. As we think of, and plan for, the mighty forward movement for which the present hour calls, we must consider this developing army of youth. Our recorded Missionary Volunteer membership at the present time is 5,226, although the number attending the missionary Volunteer meetings is considerably larger than that. The number converted and added to the church is 1,742.

There is no problem that can come before this conference that calls for more earnest study or more careful planning than the problem of leading these boys and girls into the green pastures and beside the still waters of personal Christian experience, and then on into the widening fields of service to which our Heavenly Father, and the great need of a world lost in sin, is calling them.

This great task can never be encompassed by the few workers who are definitely engaged in Missionary Volunteer work. It calls for the loving interest, the earnest prayers, and the whole-hearted cooperation of all our workers, and of our entire church membership.

If ever there was a time when there needed to be a turning of the hearts of the fathers to the children it is now.

"The work that lies nearest to our church members is to become interested in our youth, with kindness, patience, and tenderness giving them line upon line, precept upon precept. O, where are the fathers and mothers in Israel? There ought to be a large number who, as stewards of the grace of Christ, would feel not merely a casual interest but a

special interest in the young. There ought to be many whose hearts are touched by the pitiable situation in which our youth are placed, who realize that Satan is working by every conceivable device to draw them into his net. God requires the church to arouse from its lethargy, and see what manner of service is demanded in this time of peril. The eyes of our brethren and sisters should be anointed with the heavenly eyesalve that they may discern the necessities of this time. The lambs of the flock must be fed, and the Lord of heaven is looking on to see who is doing the work He desires to have done for the children and youth. *The church is asleep, and does not realize the magnitude of this matter.*" —*Vol 6, p. 196.*

Shall we not all awake, and pray God for a vision of the great need of our children and youth, and then study and plan and pray and work together that we may know how to save them? The Missionary Volunteer Department invites your sympathetic cooperation in the work we have undertaken in their behalf. We invite our ministers and workers to carry out the suggestion in "Gospel Workers" page 208,—*"At every suitable opportunity let the story of Jesus' love be repeated to the children. In every sermon let a little corner be left for their benefit."*

All are familiar with the statement that the great objective of the Missionary Volunteer Department is, "To save from sin, and guide in service," the young people of this denomination.

Notwithstanding our limitations and shortcomings and the frequent changes of leadership, our young people in the Pacific Union have under the blessing of God, made a record during the past quadrennial term, which though far from the ideal, is really encouraging and indicates the tremendous possibilities in this army of youth.

The youthful energy, talent and

enthusiasm, is awaiting only development, training, and guidance to make it the mightiest human factor at our disposal for the inspiring task which is expressed in the Missionary Volunteer aim: "The Gospel Message to all the world in this generation."

It is difficult to convey by means of figures an adequate idea of what is involved in the work that has been accomplished by our young people during the time covered by this report. I trust, however, it will serve to bring to your minds a vision of groups of earnest young people who have been praying and planning and studying as to how they can relate themselves to the great cause which we all love. And I trust you will get a glimpse of the earnest enthusiasm manifested as little companies of these same young people have gone forth to hold cottage meetings and Bible studies to win the hearts of other young people, both within our ranks and without, and have carried the gospel message in printed form to many thousands of homes; thus carrying out the instruction given by the servant of the Lord which called into existence the Missionary Volunteer Movement:

"Let young men and women and children go to work in the name of Jesus. Let them unite together upon some plan and order of action. Cannot you form a band of workers, and have set times to pray together and ask the Lord to give you His grace, and put forth united action?" "Will the young men and women who really love Jesus organize themselves as workers, not only for those who profess to be Sabbath keepers, but for those who are not of our faith?"—*Christian Service*, p. 24.

The following figures show the record made by the young people in the Pacific Union Conference during the past quadrennial period in contrast with the previous four year period.

| | 1920-1923 | 1924-1927 | Per Cent Gain of Gain |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Membership | 5,141 | 5,226 | 85 |
| To Missions | \$50,563.00 | \$81,176.00 | \$30,613.00 60 |
| Morning Watch | 1,095 | 1,527 | 432 39 |
| Cert. Issued, Bible Year | 944 | 1,839 | 895 94 |
| " " Reading Course | 8,416 | 11,108 | 2,692 32 |
| " " Stan. of Attain. | 1,161 | 1,429 | 268 23 |
| Missionary Visits | 77,876 | 130,906 | 53,030 68 |
| Bible Readings | 14,772 | 18,888 | 4,116 27 |
| Hrs. of C. H. Work | 116,213 | 198,683 | 82,470 70 |
| Papers and Tracts Dis. | 430,581 | 1,282,061 | 851,480 190 |
| Books Distributed | 28,742 | 58,516 | 29,774 103 |
| Letters Written | 29,705 | 38,209 | 8,504 28 |

You will note the encouraging increase in all the items listed, together with the percent of gain. I would call special attention to the number of certificates that have gone out from our Union office to the young people in this field. This record has been made only as the result of earnest and continuous promotion by our conference missionary volunteer secretaries, and by the earnest and conscientious young people's society leaders. It has been demonstrated that where this promotion has been lacking in any conference the work begins to drop. There is only one way this work can go when left to itself,—that is down hill.

The report on missionary activities is encouraging yet it is only a beginning of what the young people should, and I believe can do with proper guidance and encouragement, and it does point out the necessity for more study and energy in the promotion of the various activities which the Missionary Volunteer department is trying to foster.

It will be of interest I am sure to note the comparative standing of the conferences as shown by graphs. [Lack of space makes it impossible to show the graphs presented]

The splendid record that this army of young people have made is due, First, to the blessings of God. Second, to the consecrated leadership we have had in the various local conferences, and third, to the fact that while there are many unconverted young people among us, yet we do have large numbers of splendid, earnest, praying young men and women, who have given hearty and enthusiastic cooperation in carrying out the plans that have been promoted by this department.

I feel deeply grateful for the help that has been given to us by Professor Kern and his associates in the General Department in Washington. I would especially express my appreciation for the earnest work that our local conference Missionary Volunteer Secretaries have done, also for the whole-hearted cooperation that has been given to the Missionary Volunteer work by the conference presidents and their committees, and I am not unmindful of the interest that has been manifested by so many of our conference workers. I would also emphasize the fact that a considerable part of the record that has been made has been done by the boys and girls in our primary schools,—our

juniors, under the intelligent leadership of consecrated teachers who are giving their lives to the education and training of these lambs of the flock. We need to give earnest study to the work that needs to be done in behalf of our juniors. There is no more fruitful field of endeavor open to us than is presented by these boys and girls of tender age. They are in that period of life when they are most susceptible and when we remember that, "What you put into the first of life you put in all life," we can better understand the great importance of doing our utmost to place the proper mold upon these boys and girls.

Mr. Roosevelt once said, "If you are going to do anything permanent for a man, you will have to do it before he is a man." The fact thus expressed is a clarion call for us to sense the responsibilities that rest upon us for these young members among us, and to take up in earnest the work that needs to be done in their behalf.

Youth is the deciding time of life,—the purpose forming age, and it is a tremendous, soul-stirring thought that within the next year or two these dear young people whom we love, these boys and girls that we are so used to seeing in our homes, in the church and Sabbath school, will be called upon to make the most important decisions possible for human beings to make,—decisions that will affect their entire future, both for this life and the life to come. Must thy face such issues alone? Shall not we who are older in years and experience endeavor by the grace of God to come close to our dear young people and with love and sympathy and understanding give them the help they need in this important period of their lives. Let us bear in mind, "To train the young to become true soldiers of the Lord Jesus is the

(Continued on page 16)

Advertisements

SPECIAL NOTICE—TERMS

Reference from the conference president must accompany requests for advertising space in the RECORDER where individuals are not personally known to the RECORDER.

Advertising rate: 50 words or less, first insertion, \$1.00. Each additional insertion, if run consecutively, 50 cents. No advertisement will be accepted unless cash accompanies the same. Real estate advertisements acceptable only when referring to a specific property, and only one property.

WANTED to care for invalid or aged person at my home. Treatment given if needed. For particulars write C. A. Kunkle, Loma Linda, Calif. 34-3t.

ANNOUNCEMENT.—A sanitarium for tubercular patients, on the edge of the desert where fogs are almost unknown, where mountain and desert breezes blow, at 2700 ft. elevation. Individual cottages, best of food, treatments include the Rollier method of sun treatment. We especially invite cases of tuberculosis of the spine, joints and bones. Address Beaumont Open-Air Sanitarium, Box 242, Beaumont, Calif. 34 3t.

WANTED.—Strong, unincumbered, middle-aged woman to care for aged feeble lady, and do light housework in family of three, mother and two adult sons. Wages \$60 per month. For further details address Mrs. M. J. Driver, 1714 Van Ness Ave., Fresno, Calif. 34-2t.

HELP WANTED.—Woman, middle-aged, for general housework in family of five. Address S., Box 128, Glendale, Calif. 34-3t.

RESIDENT AGENTS WANTED—for Calicoffee products. Calicoffee products contain no caffeine nor other habit-forming drugs; no cane sugar nor molasses. Made from fruit sugars, under the supervision of S. D. A. physicians. Address Calicoffee Co., P. O. Box 1198, San Francisco, Calif. 32-3t

HEALTH FOODS.—A full line of St. Helena Sanitarium Health Foods, and Battle Creek Foods. Also natural rice, genuine raw sugar, unsulphured dried fruits, etc. Write for price list. Mail orders given prompt attention. Vegetarian Cafeteria, 157 Mason St., (near Ellis), San Francisco, Calif. 33-3t

FOR SALE.—New, modern six-room house, on lot 87½ x 140, two blocks from Paradise Valley Sanitarium. Four-room house on back of lot, garage, chicken house and run; good garden, fruit trees, lawns, and plenty of flowers. For information, write R. W. Edminster, RR 255-C, National City, Calif. 33-36

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.—Good stock and dairy ranch of 412 acres, near Corvallis, Oregon. Plenty of fruit, timber, and water. One-half mile from shipping point, a few rods from fine highway. Will sell or exchange for Southern California property. Address C. F. Dail, M. D., 713 Bancroft Bldg., San Diego, Calif. 33-3t.

FOR SALE.—An opportunity to help. Home beautifully located between Los Angeles and Pasadena, bungalow and garage, two lots, valued at \$4,000. Owner will sell for \$3,000 cash. \$1,000 of this will be sent through the regular channel to pay for digging a well in connection with Dr. Hjalmar Erickson's work in South Africa, and \$500 will be donated to a Students' Revolving Fund. For further details write to Mrs. H. W. Boyer, El Cajon, Calif. 33-3t.

The criminality of today is due to rebellion against all authority.

We are sorry to learn of the serious illness of Elder E. L. Neff. We solicit the prayers of God's people in his behalf.

Elder J. H. McEachern reports that Mrs. McEachern is recovering satisfactorily after undergoing an operation last week.

Elder W. H. Anderson writes from Africa: "We appeal to you to help us to make a strong advance all along the line toward our goal, a finished work."

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA— IMPORTANT NOTICE

A Missionary Volunteer Officers' Institute will be held April 14 and 15. First session will begin Sabbath afternoon at 2:30. The institute convenes at the White Memorial church.

The Missionary Volunteer leaders, assistant leaders, secretaries and assistant secretaries and Junior society superintendents and leaders are invited as delegates to this institute. J. F. SIMON.

A BIG OVERFLOW MARCH 31

A personal letter from Elder W. H. Anderson has a plea that will surely touch all hearts. Remember, it is only the overflow, the amount above the \$100,000 planned for in the budget, that will be available for answering the calls for new work.

"We are very anxious for a big overflow on the Thirteenth Sabbath, which comes to the African Division the last of March. As you will remember, the African Division for the four years from 1922 to 1926 more than doubled its membership. I believe the 1930 statistics will show that we have twice as many Sabbath keepers in the Division as we had in 1926. Surely God is working in a very marked manner, when these results can be seen over a period of eight years. In all the thirty-three years that I have been in Africa, I have never seen the Spirit of God poured out as it is being poured out now.

"But what we see being accomplished in every Union could be multiplied if we had the money to put more men into strategic places all over the field. We just feel that we must push forward into these great new fields that are so fruitful wherever we have been able to cultivate them just a little.

"Several of our workers are well known to you there in California. Elder and Sister Baker came to us from the Glendale church. They are there on furlough and can speak for themselves about their new field. Our Doctor Tong is a graduate from Loma Linda. Sister Tong was a church school teacher in Southern California. Brother and Sister Harder came to us from the German church at Shafter in Central California. Sister Harder's parents live there now. Brother and Sister Huxtable came to us from the academy at Mountain View. Brother Huxtable is with me here on the way to the Cameroons to build a house for Brother Jones, our first missionary in that country. You see we have already drawn heavily on your Union for workers. Now we ask for support.

"I know the loyalty of the California people. I have preached in many of your churches, I have attended camp meetings in all your conferences except Arizona. I believe if the need is placed clearly before the churches of your Union that they will give the biggest Thirteenth Sabbath offering they ever gave."

J. E. FULTON.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER

(Continued from page 15)

most noble work ever given to man." I would call your attention to some of the factors that have entered into the making of this record: First, the conference young people's conventions or institutes, where the society officers and other young people get together for a week-end to study their problems and plans for improvements in this great work. These institutes have been held in most of our conferences during the past two years, and their value has already more than justified the little expense that has been involved. Usually the conferences have provided the transportation and entertainment for the society leaders and secretaries, but in some instances where this has not been done the interest of the young people in these meetings has been so great that they have come at their own expense. I have attended all such conventions held in this Union and have been profoundly impressed with their practical value in the development of this work for our youth.

Another factor has been the careful, systematic promotion of the weekly society officers' meeting, where these young leaders get together one evening a week for earnest prayer and study of the work they have in hand for that week. In proportion as this thorough kind of work is done the young people's society prospers or wanes.

The work done at our camp meetings is of the greatest importance in winning of the hearts of our youth, both juniors and seniors, and preparing them for service. That this work may be a real success it should be carefully planned for in advance by the Missionary Volunteer Secretary in connection with the conference committee.

A strong force of workers should be appointed for this occasion by the conference committee to co-operate with the Missionary Volunteer Secretary, and these workers should have daily meetings for prayer and study of the work that should be done. Such carefully planned work should bear fruit for the kingdom of God. How many of our boys and girls owe the beginning of their Christian life to the heavenly influences of the young people's meetings on the campgrounds? Not the least of these influences have been the "Evening Watch" meetings which in the past two years have become a regular part of our young people's work on the campground. Here is an instance or two:

Though the influences of godly parents a young man who had left the truth came to camp meeting. He was introduced to the Missionary Volunteer Secretary who put him in touch with other young people's workers. His name was placed on the prayer list of about a dozen persons chosen as workers for the youth. God does hear prayer in behalf of the erring. That was two years ago, and today that young man is a successful worker in the Pacific Union Conference.

A fifteen-year-old junior was impressed while at camp meeting to give her heart to God. Her guardians were not Seventh-day Adventists, and knowing their attitude toward the truth, she felt sure that persecution awaited her if she was baptized. She did not hesitate, but followed her Lord in baptism. For two months after she returned to her home she was forbidden to attend the church and was tested and tried in many

ways. Her attitude through it all finally made her guardian say: "Well, I see it is no use to oppose you longer. You are a Christian and you can go to church or do as you please." That junior is rejoicing in the Lord today.

Another feature of great value to our juniors is the plan of going out to sell *Little Friends* and other small publications, under the supervision of the junior workers. The boys and girls become very enthusiastic over this work, and many of them continue it throughout the year. I would also call attention to the fact that our young people take an active part in all church campaigns, such as "Institutional Relief" and the securing of signatures to Sunday law petitions. In some cases most of this work done is done by the young people.

Many changes in leadership in this department have occurred during the last quadrennial period. At the present time we do not have one Missionary Volunteer Secretary either union or local who was in this department at the beginning of this period. In some conferences there have been several changes. The most recent of these is the calling of Elder Bond to take up work in the General Department, and the coming of Professor Simon from the General Department, to take Elder Bond's place in Southern California.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER WEEK

The date for Missionary Volunteer Week has been announced as March 10-17, but since we will be in Union Session at that time, it has been decided by action of the Union Committee to set the date for this March 24-31. We urge that all of our conference workers unite with us to make this Week of Prayer the beginning of a mighty youth movement which shall have for its objective the winning of every boy and girl, every young man and woman, in this denomination to Christ, and enlisting them in active service for the winning of other young people who are not of our faith that they may also help to carry the gospel message for this hour to earth's remotest bounds.

In harmony with the instructions given us in the blue-print we are trying to enlist all of our senior Missionary Volunteers in the working bands that they may learn how to labor intelligently for others. Special emphasis is being given to the idea of spiritualizing all society programs, and making soul-winning the great objective of all our activities.

One of our great needs is the development of the right kind of leadership. We need leaders who love young people, and have a desire to work for them, and have a vision of the great possibilities which the future holds in the work to be done for and by our youth.

God grant that we may all recognize that conditions of life at the present hour, and the tides of evil that are sweeping over the world, make it imperative that we unitedly take up the task of winning our children and youth, and leading them forward more courageously and hopefully than we have ever done before. The responsibility for this rests upon us, and we can never evade it, and we must some day give an account for the way we have related ourselves to this great problem. The cry of every heart today ought to be, like Judah of old, "How shall I go up to my father and the lad be not with me?"

F. E. PAINTER.