

The Advent Review and Sabbath Herald



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No. 21

THE GOSPEL TO ALL NATIONS

RED CROSS WEEK

Proclamation by President Wilson

PRESIDENT WILSON issued a proclamation on May 7, designating the week beginning May 20 as "Red Cross Week," and appealing to the American people in the name of the American Red Cross, whose campaign for a second hundred million dollar War Fund will be carried on during that week. The proclamation follows:

" PROCLAMATION

" Inasmuch as the War Fund of 1917, so generously contributed by the American people to the American Red Cross for the administration of relief at home and abroad, has been practically exhausted by appropriations for the welfare of the men in our military and naval forces, and for those dependent upon them, and for the yet more urgent necessities of our Allies, military and civilian, who have long borne the brunt of war;

" And, inasmuch as the year of our own participation in the war has brought unprecedented demands upon the patriotism and liberality of our people, and made evident the necessity of concentrating the work of relief in one main organization which can respond effectively and universally to the needs of humanity under stress of war;

" And, inasmuch as the duration of the war and the closer and closer co-operation of the American Red Cross with our own Army and Navy, with the governments of our Allies, and with foreign relief organizations, have resulted in the discovery of rare opportunities of helpfulness under conditions which translate opportunity into duty;

" And, inasmuch as the American Red Cross War Council and its commissioners in Europe have faithfully and economically administered the people's trust;

" Now, therefore, by virtue of my authority as President of the United States and President of the American Red Cross, I, WOODROW WILSON, do hereby proclaim the week beginning May 20, 1918, as 'Red Cross Week,' during which the people of the United States will be called upon to give generously to the continuation of the important work of relieving distress, restoring the waste of war, and assisting in maintaining the morale of our own troops and the troops and peoples of our Allies by this manifestation of effort and sacrifice on the part of those, who, though not privileged to bear arms, are of one spirit, purpose, and determination with our warriors.

" In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

" Done in the District of Columbia, this 7th day of May, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the One Hundred and Forty-second.

[SEAL] " By the President:
" ROBERT LANSING, *Secretary of State.*"

" WOODROW WILSON.

PREACH THE WORD

In the Spirit of the Master

THE gospel minister is God's messenger, the messenger of his salvation to lost mankind. As that messenger he is to speak the words of God. God's words are contained in the Scriptures of truth. Hence the apostle Paul, in his efforts to prepare Timothy for the work of the gospel ministry, writes him:

"I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom: Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine." 2 Tim. 4: 1, 2.

Timothy lived in a philosophic age. He had to contend with subtle heathen philosophies, with Jewish superstition and tradition, with racial and religious prejudice. The great apostle warns him against making these themes the subject of his preaching. To do so would divert him from the great theme of the cross of Christ. Again and again Paul sounds the warning:

"Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee." 1 Tim. 4: 16.

"O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called: which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee." 1 Tim. 6: 20, 21.

"Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus." 2 Tim. 1: 13.

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. . . . But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes." 2 Tim. 2: 15-23.

"But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them." 2 Tim. 3: 14.

These words of the apostle are good counsel for the gospel minister today. Perhaps never in the history of the world was there needed such good judgment and so fine a sense of discrimination in knowing what to preach and how to preach the gospel of Christ, as is needed at the present time.

Let Us Avoid Sensationalism

The terrible World War has driven thousands of men and women almost to the verge of hysterics. They are looking for the spectacular, for the sensational. That which promises gratification of this desire, whether it be found in the pulpit, the popular lecture hall, the theater, or the moving picture show, is eagerly seized upon. Many are making gain out of this abnormal condition of the public

mind. Thousands of lecturers are pandering to this depraved taste for no other purpose than for the sake of gaining notoriety or for material profit. Thousands of books are being printed and sold that have no other mission than to take advantage of the excited state of the public mind for the purpose of monetary gain.

We cannot afford either to preach or to publish books or articles with such objects in view. It is entirely proper that we should take advantage of the conditions of things in the world to call the attention of the people consistently to the times in which we live; but in doing this we should seek to do it in the spirit of the Master, and without the employment of sensational methods or startling statements.

"Some ministers make the mistake of supposing that success depends on drawing a large congregation by outward display, and then delivering the message of truth in a theatrical style. But this is using common fire instead of the sacred fire of God's kindling. The Lord is not glorified by this manner of working. Not by startling notices and expensive display is his work to be carried to completion, but by following Christlike methods. 'Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.' It is the naked truth which, like a sharp, two-edged sword, cuts both ways, arousing to spiritual life those who are dead in trespasses and sins. Men will recognize the gospel when it is brought to them in a way that is in harmony with God's purposes."—*"Gospel Workers,"* p. 383.

And it is well for us to remember and realize that in these times, as perhaps never before in the history of the world, the preaching of the gospel minister should embrace the proclamation of the entire gospel. Men today need a knowledge of the love of God. They need to have Christ presented to them as their Saviour. They need to have the way of salvation, as represented in repentance, confession, forgiveness, faith, and baptism, presented so clearly that in the midst of the world's jargon they may hear a clear and distinct call to salvation. Thousands are tired of war discussions. They are closing their eyes to the horrors which this war involves. They long for peace of heart and mind. They long for a message of peace to their souls. Let us seek to give that message. Let us not confine our efforts to the preaching of the signs of the times, dwelling wholly upon some of the prophecies which are meeting such striking fulfilment at the present time. We should not ignore these, but we should place them in their proper setting in the great chain of Bible truth.

We need today to pull in even lines, to present sound doctrine, to make a well-balanced presentation of the truths of the Word of God.

Preach Positive Truth

This is a time when we need to emphasize the positive phases of the message. We have been too much inclined in the past to place emphasis upon what might be called the negative phases of the great threefold message. We have sounded the warning against those great combinations of church and state which the Word declares will stand in opposition to God and to his truth. This warning should be sounded clearly, uncompromisingly, consistently. It should be sounded even as Christ uttered his warning against Jerusalem, so characterized by the moving of the Spirit that men will understand that it is not given in a spirit of controversy or condemnation, but in love and in kindness.

But in the forefront of our propaganda we should proclaim the great positive truths of the threefold message. These truths are embraced in the message carried by the first angel:

"Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters." Rev. 14: 7.

This positive statement of truth embraces the preaching of Christ as creator and redeemer, his priestly ministry in our behalf; it proclaims the Sabbath truth, and brings to view the law of God as the standard of his judgment. When men are led to see these positions clearly, and recognize the rightful claim which God has upon their allegiance, it will be comparatively easy to lead them to turn away from the worship of error to the worship of their Creator and Redeemer.

Neither Christ nor the apostles spent time in directly attacking error. They preached the positive truth, but so simply and clearly, and with so much of the Spirit's power, that error trembled and took alarm, standing revealed in its pretentious hideousness. Some are inclined to feel today that these old-time methods are antiquated, and ill adapted to this modern age. We question, however, if Christ were on earth today, whether he would not employ the same simple methods of preaching gospel truth which he used so successfully two thousand years ago.

Avoid Unnecessary Criticism

We need today as never before to be sparing in criticism of our coreligionists. We should make no unnecessary attacks upon others, either Protestants or Catholics. The Spirit of prophecy has told us that unkind thrusts made against others will only be turned against us by our enemies in days to come. We need today to learn to present the truth of God in choice speech, in well-chosen words.

(Continued on page 24)

The Advent REVIEW And Sabbath HERALD

"Here is the Patience of the Saints: Here are they that keep the Commandments of God, and the Faith of Jesus." Rev. 14:12.

VOL. 95

TAKOMA PARK STATION, WASHINGTON, D. C., MAY 23, 1918

No. 21

JOINT SESSION OF THE GENERAL AND NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION CONFERENCES

MARCH 29 TO APRIL 14, 1918

CITY EVANGELISTS' MEETING AT THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

WHEN the General Conference convened, there had been no plans made for a meeting of city evangelists and other ministers. It was not long, however, after the beginning of the Conference, before it was arranged to conduct each day at 1:45 P. M. a service devoted to the study of various phases of our evangelistic work, especially the work of city evangelists and Bible workers.

Among the subjects discussed at these meetings were: "Publicity, or the Use of the Public Press as an Effective Means of Teaching the Message," "The Best Methods of Advertising," "How to Obtain Definite Results," "The Necessity of Making the Bible Prominent in Every Sermon," "How to Conduct Evangelistic Meetings in Theaters and Other Large Auditoriums."

The prevailing sentiment in the meetings was that we should discourage sensationalism both in advertising sermons and lectures and also in preaching; but on the other hand, it was the general belief that prosy and dry methods of advertising should by all means be avoided. It was also believed that a tame, uninteresting manner of presenting the truth should be discountenanced.

It has been demonstrated that spectacular methods of advertising and the copying of sensational evangelists in our preaching, do not produce the best and most permanent results. The people who will respond to the preaching of the third angel's message, are, as a class, those who are captivated more by a clear and interesting presentation of the Word of God than by any methods of modern sensational evangelism. Especially is this so in these solemn times when people

are becoming more and more serious in the face of the terrible conditions that have come upon the world as the result of this great World War.

One of the subjects which met with a hearty response in the evangelists' meetings was how to make the Bible occupy the exalted place in the minds of the people that the Lord would have his Word occupy. The points emphasized in the discussion of this subject were as follows:

1. Read the texts used in a sermon instead of quoting them.
2. Use the Scriptures freely, but not to such an extent that the minds of the hearers will become confused.
3. Emphasize each text so that the hearers will understand the points you are trying to teach.

Another question that met the approval of the evangelists was the necessity of presenting every man perfect in Christ Jesus; that is, the evangelist should not fail to declare the whole counsel of God. Those who accept the truth should be thoroughly instructed in every phase of the message. They should be instructed in regard to tithing, health reform, dress reform, the Spirit of prophecy, and the ordinance of humility. These questions should not be left for the president of the conference to present.

Considerable time was devoted in these meetings to discussing the question of organizing a ministerial department. It seemed evident from the diversity of opinion on the part of some of our evangelists concerning several questions, that something should be done by the denomination to unify this important phase of the work, and thus bring greater efficiency and power

into the efforts put forth by this denomination along evangelistic and ministerial lines, just as has been done in other departments of this message. All will have observed, before reading this article, that the question of organizing a ministerial department was referred to the General Conference Committee.

K. C. RUSSELL.

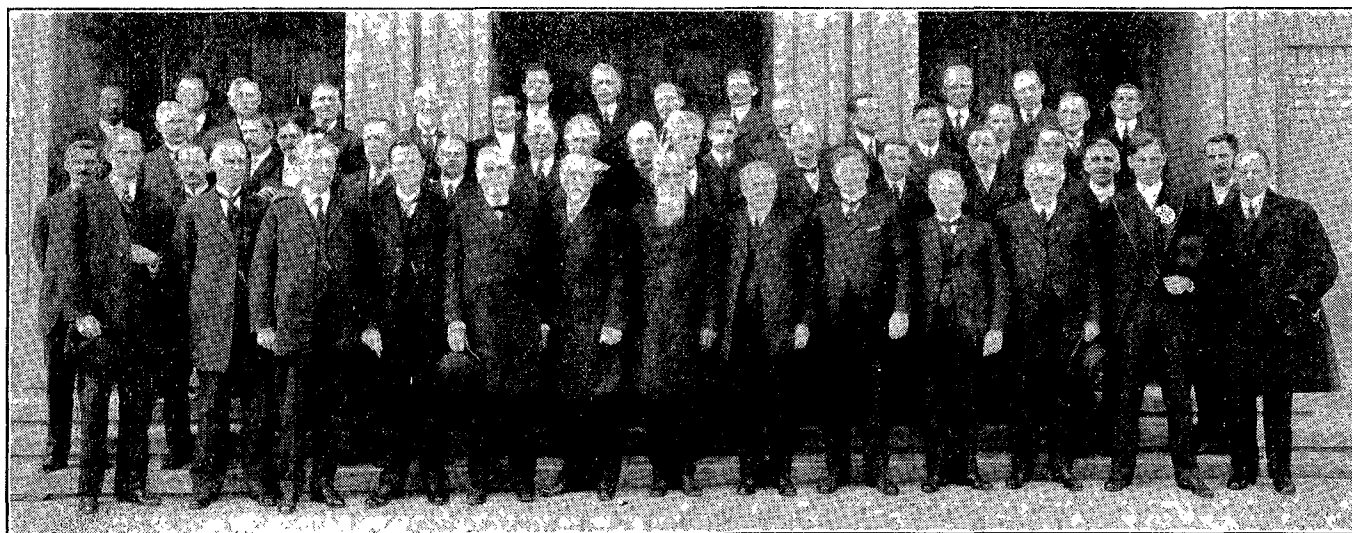
PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

THE members of the Publishing Department had a real "upper chamber" experience in the farewell social service held in the departmental room on the third floor of the Civic Auditorium, on the last Sabbath afternoon of the General Conference. The note of courage and devotion struck at this meeting augurs well for the success of the department in the future. The following are extracts from some of the good things that were said:

L. W. GRAHAM: We must be clean that bear the vessels of the Lord. I am very glad for the testimony that in a large degree the work of that other angel of Revelation 18 will be accomplished through our literature.

C. C. MORLAND: As I have looked at this home missionary chart, showing that 9,644 have been brought into the truth during the past five years as a result of the work of our lay members, it has given me great courage, for I know that these results have been largely brought about by the use of our literature. I desire to give my best service to this cause.

J. A. P. GREEN: When I arrived at this Conference, a brother introduced me by saying, "Brother Green loves to sell books." I was glad this could be said of me. Love of this work makes a man successful. It is not new methods, but a larger vision of the importance of this work, that is needed. We should be like Abraham. The record says



MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

he staggered not at the promise. When we first went into the Spanish fields, we did not know the language of the people. But we went ahead, and the success which we have had is not ours, but God's.

F. O. RAYMOND: Nine years ago I went to India. Eight and a half years of this time I have spent in the canvassing field, and they have been the best years of my life. I praise God for the blessings of this Conference. I desire to be willing to endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

N. Z. TOWN: Just a word in regard to the work of Brother Raymond. I was greatly surprised to see a report from him showing that he has been working forty hours a week with the mercury at 120° F. During his stay in India he has sold \$12,000 worth of literature.

E. M. OBERG: I honor these men who return from the regions beyond, just as our boys are honored who are home from the trenches. What we have seen and heard at this Conference has greatly impressed my heart. It is an evidence that we are in the time of the loud cry. We ask that you pray for our colporteurs.

J. H. MCEACHERN: Fourteen years ago a colporteur came into the lumber camp where I was working and brought the truth to me. I have had two feasts in connection with this General Conference. First, on the way to this meeting I visited in Washington State the colporteur who brought the truth to me in Canada. I found him on a homestead, rather discouraged. But as I talked to him of the work and its progress and prayed with him, God's Spirit melted his heart, and he reconsecrated himself to the Lord.

This meeting has been a wonderful feast to me. I came expecting a Pentecost, and have not been disappointed. As at that time the people brought their gifts and laid them at the apostles' feet, so this morning these many gifts have been brought to advance God's cause. I desire to reconsecrate myself to God. When I was called to the Central Union Conference, I found the same kind of people as I left back in Ohio; and now that I am asked to go to South America, I believe that I shall find the same responsive hearts there. I desire to give my life to the work in that great South American field, and to be strong for God.

D. W. DILLEN: My heart has been made to burn as I have listened to these testimonies. As I think of the future and its perplexities, I feel my nothingness. Our field is a difficult one, and our only hope is to live very close to the Lord. The sentiment of my heart is expressed in the song "Jesus, Saviour, pilot me."

M. W. SHIDLER: My vision has been greatly enlarged in this meeting. I want to be in the place where God can use me best.

J. B. GIDDINGS: I have received great blessings from this Conference. I am glad that there is no crisis with the Lord. I desire to reconsecrate myself to God.

L. D. RANDALL: The Lord would not bring his people together and stir us up, unless he were going to help us carry the work through. This is the task God has set before us, and expects us to accomplish. I desire to be faithful.

C. E. WEAKE: While traveling up the coast of China, I met a man who had been on one of the mine sweepers in British waters. This young man expects to be absent from his family until 1920. He said that people asked him about his experiences, but he declined to answer, saying that it was all he could do to keep his courage up without talking about the difficulties. I am glad that we are engaged in a work that

keeps our courage up. We have some difficulties in the Far East; but our trust is in God. In Harbin, Manchuria, I met one of our brethren who was sent to the Siberian prison two years ago. He had been through great hardship. He said that only those who kept up their courage were able to live through it; the despondent ones died. This man praised God that he was free and able now to preach the gospel.

It has been a great treat to me to meet again the men who have been so many years in this branch of the work. I am glad that the work will soon be done. I am going back to help finish it in the Far East. I am glad to go, and am of good courage.

N. Z. TOWN: I am glad for the good meetings we have had here together. My heart has been greatly cheered as I have listened to the reports of progress, and I am also glad for the note of courage which you have all sounded in these meetings. I am sure that we all rejoice with the mission fields that they are getting the needed funds. This means that new fields will be opened up, such as Siam, Annam, and the Celebes Islands. I sincerely hope that we shall be able to get the workers that our brethren are calling for to man those fields. Here in the homeland we should make an effort to get men far enough advanced in years to be free from the military draft law. I was glad of the word that I received from Brother E. M. Fishell of Indiana, saying that never before has he found it so easy to get men of mature age to go into this work. Let us remember that there is no crisis with the Lord. I am glad to be associated with you for another four years. Let us pull together, and work for greater success than ever.

J. W. MACE.

Delayed Reports

THE ATLANTIC UNION CONFERENCE

It is with pleasure that I present to this body of delegates the quadrennial report of the Atlantic Union Conference. This union comprises the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York, and the Bermuda Islands. The population of the union is approximately 18,000,000. There are in this field 179 churches, with a membership of 7,802. We have 47 ordained ministers, 29 licentiates, 82 who hold missionary credentials. There are 222 Sabbath schools, with a membership of 7,158.

In taking a brief retrospect of the work done in this union during the past four years, I feel that first of all should be mentioned the very successful ministerial institute and union conference that was held in South Lancaster several years ago, with Elders Daniells, Evans, and Thompson, and others from the General Conference, present. The time of that meeting was not given so much to making reports, formulating plans, and adopting resolutions, as to seeking an understanding of our own spiritual needs, of where we were in the history of this movement, and how we could quickly finish the work and triumph in the conflict.

We date the beginning of larger things in this field from that meeting. We attribute them to the spirit that characterized that meeting and the efforts that were immediately put forth by our leaders and workers to carry back to all our people the experience and inspiration that came to all of us at that time. A strong spiritual campaign has been carried forward with good results. Reformatations have taken place in

all the local conferences, and as a result of this awakening there has been a large ingathering of souls, as well as a substantial increase in tithes and offerings.

The plan of asking every one to pledge a definite sum weekly to foreign missions, known as the Dollar a Week Fund, was put into operation in the summer of 1914. This has proved a very great blessing to the field. It has enabled the union to send its full quota of mission funds to the General Conference, and at the same time pay off almost \$150,000 on our institutional indebtedness. The splendid results obtained by this continuous and systematic plan of raising funds have encouraged the local presidents to continue the same policy from year to year.

Educational Work

The educational work throughout the field is very encouraging. At the beginning of the quadrennial period we were conducting 22 church schools. At the close of this present year there were 45 in operation. The attendance in 1914 was 265; in 1917, 576.

South Lancaster Academy has had a large enrolment during the past four years. The general character of the work done by this institution is excellent. There are at the present time about four hundred students enrolled, including those in the normal department.

The work carried forward by our Missionary Volunteer department is doing much for our young people, and we see a constantly growing interest in all lines of their activities. At the close of 1917 there were 84 organized societies, with a membership of 1,469. Special attention is being given to cantonment work, and we have appointed one of our ordained ministers, with a corps of assistants, to give his entire time to looking after the spiritual needs and other interests of our soldier boys.

Medical Work

The New England Sanitarium, situated at Melrose, Mass., has enjoyed a splendid patronage during the past four years, and the spiritual condition was never better in that institution. The growth of the patronage has made it necessary to double the capacity of the treatment-rooms. A new cement block building, tiled throughout and fitted with modern equipment, has been provided from the earnings. A gift of \$30,000 from Miss Browning is enabling the institution to build an addition, to be known as the Browning Annex. This building will furnish a beautiful dining-room and parlor, also a number of additional rooms, and a commodious sun-parlor which will be much appreciated during the long New England winters.

Publishing Department

The work done by our publishing department shows a very large increase in the literature sales of the past four years as compared with those of the previous four years. A comparative statement of sales for these two periods is as follows: 1910-13, \$149,632.63; 1914-17, \$280,965.66. During the last four years a most remarkable gain has been made. In 1914 the sales amounted to \$39,496.59; in 1917 to \$103,440.33, a gain of 162 per cent. These figures speak for themselves, and represent the labors of a faithful band of colporteurs.

Home Missionary Department

The most recent addition to our organized work is the home missionary department. There is a growing interest and an increasing activity on the part of our people to engage in some branch of the work. The year 1918 has opened with a home missionary secretary in every conference. As a result of this well-organized work, and aggressive campaign with our small books has been

carried on. During the year 1917 there were 376 converts reported as a result of the work done in this department, and \$17,742 was raised in the Harvest Ingathering campaign the same year. The prospects for the future are excellent, and we anticipate far greater results the coming year than ever before.

The truth is soon to triumph gloriously, and all who choose to be laborers together with God will triumph with it. If every person in this denomination was fired with zeal for the living truth of this message, and would go out and find some unsaved soul, and, by God's help, save him, and then find another, and carry the same message to him, and let it spread like a prairie fire to all parts of the world, it would not be long until every soul would hear the message and the end would come.

Evangelistic Work

Unquestionably the greatest problem that confronts the Atlantic Union Conference is the proclamation of the message in the many great cities throughout these Eastern States. We must go into these crowded centers and proclaim the message in power. Nothing must turn us aside from this mighty task. In a vision published in 1856 Sister White was shown that when the message had increased greatly in power, then the providence of God would open and prepare the way in the East for much more to be accomplished than could have been done at that time. This communication says that as strong men are sent to this field, and means are sent here from the more prosperous conferences in the West, and God's people take steps to advance the work rapidly in the East, the blessing of heaven will rest upon their efforts, and we shall see memorials for God established as centers of interest in many places now unworked. The cause of God will be strengthened in all its departments, and a mighty impetus will be given to the movement now in progress.

During the past four years strong campaigns have been carried forward in Portland, Boston, New York City, Brooklyn, New Haven, Providence, Buffalo, Albany, Rochester, Syracuse, Schenectady, Springfield, and other places. Quite a number of fine church buildings have been bought. Others have been erected and dedicated in several of the cities above mentioned.

The work before us is a great work, and no human power or human wisdom is sufficient to grapple with the situation. For this service there must come upon us in this generation what came upon the apostles in the first generation,—the fulness of the Holy Spirit.

The Outlook

Before concluding this report, I instinctively turn toward the future with a broader and fuller vision of its infinite possibilities. I am almost led to join the great apostle Paul in forgetting those things that are behind and reaching forth to those things which are before. What greater incentive could be held out before us than to know that at the beginning of the time of trouble we are to be filled with the Holy Ghost as we proclaim the message more fully.

The apostolic church was face to face with the same problem that confronts us today. Those men whom Jesus Christ commissioned to preach the gospel to all the world and to every creature under heaven, were just as helpless as are we until they had received the special endowment that qualified them for the work. There must be the dawning of a new day. What we need is an "upper chamber" experience. This alone will qualify us for our great tasks, and will bring all other blessings in its train. If

we could clearly see the effect that Pentecost had upon the early church, and especially upon Peter on the day of Pentecost, we would have a true idea of the effect the outpouring of the Holy Ghost would have upon the church today.

Dr. Parker, in speaking of the results of Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, says:

"His words produced an immediate effect upon the people who heard him, and the Holy Ghost was poured out upon them as he had been poured out upon the assembly of the church."

We see here a double action of the Holy Ghost. He is first poured out upon the church, to sanctify and confirm it in the faith; then he is poured out upon those outside of the church, that he may alarm, convict, and direct them to right conclusions. Peter's sermon was an ideal one, a model for all times. He quoted from David, Joel, the Psalms, and the prophets; and while he was talking history, he made history. But even this great sermon does not explain the full results. The preacher must have had something to do with the effect. He had just received the Holy Ghost.

An inspired doctrine needs an inspired ministry. When the Holy Ghost is not only in the doctrine but in the people who profess it, then shall we see again, as of old, men pricked in their hearts and crying out, "What must we do to be saved?" Again and again, under the preaching of Christ and the apostles, we read that the people "cried out." To a great extent we have lost that cry, but the gospel still retains the same power, and why should we not witness the same results? It is the fire of the Lord; it is the sword of the Spirit; it is a cry that can awaken a cry. We would, therefore, place as the first and greatest of all our needs a fully consecrated and Spirit-filled ministry and church. Nothing short of this will meet the demands of the hour, and nothing but this will bring the end in this generation.

R. D. QUINN, President.



THE CENTRAL UNION CONFERENCE

It is with growing confidence in the general movement with which the Seventh-day Adventists are identified that I give a brief report concerning the work of the Central Union Conference for the last quadrennial period. It is now forty-six years since I began to hold official responsibility in connection with this organized body of believers; hence I have been in a position to watch closely its development for nearly half a century. My confidence in the fundamental doctrines held by this people and the ultimate triumph of the message has grown with these eventful years of association with its believers. The evidences of the speedy return of Christ to this earth to put an end to the long night of sin, are most convincing. Even in the midst of the maelstrom of a world's war, we can look up with clearer vision and hail the omens of the dawn of the eternal day as tokens that our earthly warfare is soon to be ended.

Whatever may have been accomplished in this union is due to a constituency possessing confidence in this movement and to co-operative team work on the part of conference and union officers, who sought to do their best. "They helped every one his neighbor; and every one said to his brother, Be of good courage." To this spirit of co-operation, under God's direction, is due any advance we have accomplished.

Reorganization

One of the most important steps undertaken in 1914 in the Central Union, was the

work of reorganizing its conferences and institutions. The two small conferences in Missouri were united into one; the two conferences in Kansas were united into one. This has proved a blessing, and has conserved both men and means in carrying forward the work in these places. Later, the Western Colorado Conference was transferred by its own request to the Pacific Union, uniting with the Utah Conference. This leaves only five conferences in the Central Union,—Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and Wyoming.

It naturally fell to our lot to foster the International Publishing Association in College View, as the Central Union Conference president was president of the corporation, and therefore chairman of the board. Upon careful study of its plan of organization, we found it very unnatural and unworkable, though charged with carrying forward an extensive work among the foreign-speaking people of the United States and Canada. With a large work outlined for it, the association had neither parentage, capital, nor any territory over which it had recognized rights, such as our other publishing houses possessed. After months of untiring effort we saw the work of the International Publishing Association of College View transferred to the Pacific Press Publishing Association, to be operated as a branch of its publishing interests. This marked a new epoch in the history of our publishing work for the foreign-speaking people of North America, and brought relief to the Central Union Conference in the release from responsibilities we were unprepared to carry. A little later, fire at College View destroyed most of the property of the International, and the plant, with its insurance money, was removed to Brookfield, Ill., near Chicago, where it has since continued to do a growing business.

About the time that the transfer of the International to the Pacific Press took place, Union College was reorganized and placed upon a more workable basis, embracing as its legal constituency the Northern, Central, and Southwestern Unions. This has been a great blessing to Union College in its operation.

More recently, the reorganization of the Clinton Seminary was effected, and it is now known as the Clinton Theological Seminary. The seminary was placed upon a broader foundation, with a more workable plan of operation. We feel that these steps in reorganization have been most important to the growth and prosperity of these institutions as well as to the work at large.

Evangelistic Work

The strength and growth of our denomination are not to be measured by the increase of institutions or by financial prosperity so much as by the spiritual growth of our churches and the increase in their membership. Any conference that overlooks this great truth and adopts any policy that does not have for its ultimate purpose the conversion of souls and the development of spiritual life in the churches, makes a great mistake.

United efforts have been put forth in the conferences of the Central Union to increase their membership. Especially has this been true in our larger cities, and it has met with some degree of success.

The membership four years ago, not including the Western Colorado Conference, which was transferred to the Pacific Union, was 7,618. Our membership at the close of 1917 was reported to be 9,924, or a gain of 2,306. This addition of nearly one third to our membership has been made largely in the last two years.

We have conducted each year from five to seven camp-meetings in the union, with an increasing attendance year by year. The increase in attendance is attributed to the increase of spiritual power attending the meetings in the conversion of souls, and to the encouragement our brethren have received at these meetings. The baptisms at each of the camp-meetings have been from 35 to 90 persons.

Dearth of Laborers

Notwithstanding the large number of young people who are giving themselves to the work, the expansion of the work is so great, especially abroad, and the call for men is so constant, that successful laborers are more scarce and in greater demand today than ever before in the history of this cause. There is a great dearth of laborers in our part of the field. We are sorry that we cannot always answer the many appeals that come to us. If there ever was a time when Christ's words apply to us with force, it is today, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest."

Beloved brethren, shall not our prayers entreat the Lord of the harvest until he shall move upon men of ability, many of whom are not among us today, to give themselves to be used by the Holy Spirit to aid in finishing the whitened harvest?

Cause for Encouragement

On every hand there are indications that the Spirit of the Lord is working upon hearts, and a spirit of consecration to service is shown which is a source of great encouragement. This is made manifest by the increase of new believers, the number of young people in training, the amount of mission offerings, the interest in home missionary work, and the increase of tithe. It is also shown by the hearty response our brethren and sisters make in rallying to efforts to relieve our institutions from debt. Our efforts to pay off our indebtedness have brought new courage and faith to many of our older members. In all our conferences the offerings and the tithe have increased more proportionately than the membership. The amount of tithe paid in to the union, including that from Western Colorado, in 1913 was \$130,786.34, or \$16.13 per capita for our membership. The amount paid in tithe in 1917, not including the Western Colorado Conference, was \$231,746.63, or \$25.49 per capita,—a little more than \$100,000 annual increase of tithe in four years. During the four years, mission offerings and tithe turned to the general work outside of the union amounted to \$376,511.98, or nearly \$100,000 annually. This does not include any of the come-back or any funds raised for clearing our local indebtedness, or for the assistance of such enterprises as the schools in the South and the medical school at Loma Linda. The amount of tithe and mission offerings for 1917 was \$36.13 per capita for our membership, and this includes at least 2,000 children and youth in attendance in our schools as a part of the membership. We are grateful to God and to a generous, self-sacrificing people for the liberal offerings we have been able to make.

Education

We have in the Central Union two training schools, Union College and the Clinton Theological Seminary, besides four academies. Union College is at the present time the oldest college in the denomination, and the largest. More than two hundred of her students are in foreign lands, and a large number are scattered throughout the entire world, occupying many places of responsibil-

ity in connection with this cause. The spiritual and general moral uplift of these two institutions has grown year by year. The annual baptisms from the student body in Union College have run from 35 to 60. A strong missionary spirit is developed in connection with both these institutions, and a large number of the students are definitely committed to either foreign or home missionary work as soon as they have finished their training and the way is opened for them. The missionary spirit is shown in the circulation of denominational literature by the student body. Last year the students of Union College sold more than \$30,000 worth of our publications, leading the schools of the entire denomination in this line of work.

The past four years 295 full scholarships have been earned, and 236 young men and women have attended Union College as a direct result of the colporteur work; besides, a large number of students attending the Washington Missionary College and others of our large schools outside of the Central Union, have earned scholarships in the Central Union territory. The students in Union College alone have sold during the four years, \$86,000 worth of truth-filled books and magazines.

The Clinton Theological Seminary has increased its attendance during the past four years about 100 per cent. This school is doing a good work in preparing a large number of young people for service. The present enrolment is 210.

Four years ago there were enrolled in Union College 310 students; the present enrolment is 435.

Industries Connected with Our Schools

More than half of the students of Union College are paying all or part of their way in school by means of some industry or some missionary effort fostered by the college. One of the general branches of industry carried on by Union College is printing. This gives employment to a considerable number of students. At present two weekly papers and one monthly are published, and in addition a large amount of job work is done. This work is under the direct supervision of a member of the faculty, and the students are given an excellent training in printing and in the making up of papers, so as to prepare them for similar work in distant lands. Besides the printing plant, there is a general laundry and a bakery; there are also dairying and farming industries. Our dairy and farm are educational features as well as sources of profit, giving employment to a large number of students. The work of the dairy is conducted according to sanitary and up-to-date methods. The herd won eighteen prizes from the State of Nebraska during 1917.

Four years ago the attendance in the academies of the union was 295. At the present time their attendance is more than 400. Four years ago the church schools were 63 in number, with an enrolment of 1,053; at present the number is 77, with an enrolment of 1,443. If we had had teachers to supply the demand, this number would have been greatly increased. The present number in attendance in our schools in the union is 2,462. Prof. W. W. Ruble, assisted by members of the Union College faculty and others, has conducted teachers' institutes annually in each of the various conferences in the union, which have been a great advantage in raising the educational standard and in unifying the work in the church schools.

Young People's Missionary Volunteer Societies

Young people's societies throughout the union have been organized. Usually their goals have been more than reached, and a large amount of mission funds has come in

as a result of the Young People's Missionary Volunteer movement. But better than this, many conversions among the young have been seen each year as a result of the young people's efforts.

Finance

Successful financial management of the various enterprises and departments of this cause is essential; however, it is not the only essential element in meeting the object for which our institutions and conferences exist, but it has a close relationship to successful home and foreign mission enterprises.

For many years we were in the habit of making debts, and operated much of our institutional work at a financial loss, notwithstanding the fact that we had condemned the practice repeatedly in conference resolutions. It was not until the year 1914 that a general movement throughout the field of North America was set on foot to correct this evil and to reduce our indebtedness.

The Central Union was one of the unions which had large institutions and therefore large liabilities. We had in 1914 an indebtedness of \$384,878.88, with accruing interest of about \$20,000 to be met annually. Such institutions as Union College, the Boulder-Colorado Sanitarium, and the Clinton Theological Seminary were among the large corporations carrying heavy obligations. Conference obligations and those of smaller institutions made up the balance, with something like \$118,000 carried by the corporations of the Central Union Conference.

The task seemed stupendous, almost impossible of achievement, yet our conference presidents and union men, with faith in God and with courage, have accomplished much more than some dared to hope. Our educational institutions have been entirely relieved from debt, with the exception of \$12,000 against the seminary. About \$20,000 has been paid on the debt of the seminary, and about \$4,000 expended in improvements; however, not all of this was raised for the seminary by the Central Union Conference. The whole amount of indebtedness that has been liquidated during the past four years is \$264,878, leaving at present about \$120,000 against institutions in the Central Union, mostly against sanitariums. We hope, with two years more of reasonable prosperity, to be able to clear this amount, while not lessening our other home and foreign missionary efforts.

I wish to say that the Northern Union Conference helped on the debt of Union College to the extent of about \$18,000, and has also assisted in repairs on Union College to the amount of about \$2,700, not including contemplated repairs for the coming year. It has also assisted in paying the salaries of teachers on the basis of \$1 from the Northern Union to \$2 from the Central Union. In addition to raising the debt on Union College, which represented about \$72,000, necessary improvements have been made in Union College to the amount of \$21,000. This has consisted of repairs on buildings, heating and lighting plant, equipment for printing plant, building barn and securing farming equipment. It does not include, however, investment in a herd of about 35 head of registered Holstein cattle, which has taken the place of a common herd during this period. The grade herd that was sold was worth about \$2,000, while the present herd, at a very conservative estimate, would be valued at more than \$10,000. This registered herd of cattle has been built up by the president of the college and by other individuals interested in securing for the college a representative and profitable herd of cattle.

The Campion Academy in Colorado has made necessary improvements representing

\$9,000 the present year, besides paying off a debt of about \$15,000.

Every conference in the union has either paid off its entire indebtedness or has made splendid progress in that direction.

Publishing for the Blind

The North American Division has in College View a printing plant conducting quite a large business in behalf of the blind. The general oversight and direction of this work has naturally fallen to the Central Union Conference, which does its work gratis for the North American Division.

We have sent out 82 tons of free reading matter to the blind people during the past four years. This reading matter is sent out in a monthly magazine called the *Christian Record*, and in a circulating library. These are circulated in the United States, Canada, Mexico, England, China, India, Jamaica, the Bahamas, and the Philippine Islands. The Government sends this reading matter free of postage.

Last year we installed an automatic rotary cylinder press at a cost of \$2,500. In 1914 we sent out 12½ tons of reading matter to the blind, and in 1917 we had increased this to 28½ tons. We give the amount in tons, as we have no fixed price on the reading matter; it all goes free of cost to the blind. The annual cost is from \$7,000 to \$8,000 above the appropriation. The North American Division appropriates \$4,000 annually, and the Central Union is asked to find the remainder. While this adds to the work of the Central Union Conference, we are glad to do what we can for these afflicted persons. The reading matter is greatly appreciated by the blind, and many are interested in the message. Some improvements ought to be made in the printing plant if the work is to grow in proportion to its importance.

L. N. Muck, our blind brother, in reporting to us, says:

"We earnestly urge the representative brethren assembled at this Conference, when considering the needs of different fields, not to overlook the cause of the blind. When we take into account the large number of blind men and women in the world, our small beginning is far too little, for we have scarcely touched the work with the tips of our fingers."

Sanitariums

We have four sanitariums in the Central Union Conference: One at Boulder, Colo.; one at Wichita, Kans.; one in College View, Nebr.; and one in Hastings, Nebr. These institutions carry the principal part of the indebtedness in the union at the present time. They have all been recently compelled to make more or less repairs. Some of them had for many years done but little to keep up their buildings. During the past four years we have made about \$40,000 worth of improvements in the four institutions without increasing debts, and there is great need of an expenditure of twice that amount to put these institutions in proper working condition. We have seen some accept Christ as a direct result of coming in contact with our sanitariums, and a far-reaching influence for good is felt by a much larger number; nevertheless we feel that we need a new baptism of the Spirit of Christ in these institutions, that we may see more evidences of God's special blessing upon this kind of ministry.

Colporteur Work

In the last four years the Central Union Conference has sold and circulated through the missionary efforts of the colporteur \$317,276.66 worth of literature. This is a gain of \$132,186.88 over the previous four years. We have increased the number en-

gaged in this work 30 per cent and their efficiency 34 per cent. This line of work has greatly aided students in securing means to attend school, besides being a medium through which they obtained a splendid spiritual experience. Each of our schools has fostered the missionary spirit among its students, not only in this branch of the work, but also in other lines of home missionary endeavor.

In closing we wish to express in behalf of the conferences and institutions of the Central Union Conference, our thanks and appreciation of the timely assistance bestowed from time to time in counsel and personal labor by the officers of the North American Division Conference. We further wish to acknowledge that we owe all that has been accomplished to the leadership of the Holy Spirit and to the wise counsel and help given us during these four years by our brethren; nor would we be unmindful of the faithful watchcare of the General Conference officers. We wish to express our hearty sympathy and pledge our loyal support in their efforts to carry the message to all the world ere the coming of our King.

R. A. UNDERWOOD, *President*.



COLUMBIA UNION CONFERENCE

THE Columbia Union is a big sea of humanity in which to work. Stretching from Indiana to New York and from Lake Erie to North Carolina, it contains one quarter of the population of the United States, or 26,000,000 inhabitants; while of the 71 cities in the United States of 100,000 population or more, 20 lie in this union.

And what have been the resources at our command to win this immense population for Christ? We actually have fewer ordained and licensed ministers, and fewer canvassers and Bible workers today than we had six years ago; that is, we have only 63 ordained and 20 licensed ministers, 83 licensed missionaries, and 84 book or periodical canvassers.

Increase of Membership

Nevertheless, our growth in membership has been almost phenomenal, comparing the past four years with the previous quadrennial period. For the quadrennial period ending Dec. 31, 1913, the net increase was only 300 members; while for the last quadrennial period our net increase has been more than 3,000. Our net increase for 1917 over 1916 was 992. Thus while our membership in 1913 was 6,949, at the end of 1917 it was 9,605.

Tithes and Offerings

Our splendid increase in membership, tithe, and offerings was not handed out to us on a silver platter. The figures we will now give represent work, hard work. In fact, in arriving at results we found that we were apt to try some wrong ways before we found the right way. The total tithe for the past quadrennial period was \$731,092, or an increase of a quarter of a million dollars above the previous period. Our tithe for 1917 alone represents nearly a quarter of a million dollars, or in exact figures, \$244,489.09, which means an increase of \$54,173 over the tithe for 1916.

It is said that on one occasion when a certain minister looked over his fine appearing audience, he said, "Where are the poor?" but after the offering had been taken and he looked into the collection basket, he said, "Where are the rich?" On the contrary, when we look over the handful of believers within the confines of the Columbia Union, we might say, "Where are the rich?" but when we inspect the magnificent offering of

practically \$100,000 for foreign missions made in 1917 by this handful of believers, we may exclaim, "Where are the poor?" During the period of four years, the Columbia Union has given to foreign missions a total of \$327,064, or a net increase over the previous four-year period of practically 100 per cent. The increase of 1917 over 1916 amounted to \$16,060.

Evangelistic Work

The unusual record of 1,132 baptisms for 1917, with a net increase in membership of nearly 1,000, indicates how much more earnestly the Union has devoted itself to evangelistic work in 1917 than in any previous period. Of course all this gain cannot be attributed directly to the preacher or to city efforts. Nevertheless, we could not pass this period without calling attention to the three big city efforts that were held in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, which might be called union efforts; and the similar campaigns, perhaps not quite so large, but just as earnest, conducted in Norfolk, Va.; Parkersburg, W. Va.; Newark, N. J.; Baltimore, Md.; and Washington, D. C. Large crowds in all these places heard the word preached. Many accepted the truth, while a tremendous influence was left behind, destined to make itself felt more and more in the future. In addition to this, strong work has been done in Cleveland, Columbus, Elyria, Erie, Altoona, Jersey City, Burlington, Lebanon, Stroudsburg, Lynchburg, Charlottesville, and Huntington.

We take special pleasure in calling attention to the fact that in 1917 the first tabernacle campaign made its appearance. The crowds that filled the theater during the meetings of Elder T. B. Westbrook, at Parkersburg, W. Va., sent him out to search for a midweek auditorium. Unable to secure anything adapted to the situation, he was pressed in spirit to build a tabernacle, which went up when it was six below zero. I visited the building after it had been used every night for five weeks, and found an audience practically filling its seating capacity. At the time of this writing, twenty have already taken their stand for the truth as a result of this effort, while many more are keeping the Sabbath. We feel safe in saying that this will undoubtedly inaugurate a new era in our evangelical work.

Decrease of Indebtedness — New Buildings

The institutional indebtedness assumed by the union during the past four years totaled \$107,382.38, divided as follows: Washington Missionary College, \$54,941.74; Mount Vernon Academy, \$28,332.88; Pennsylvania Sanitarium, \$17,107.76; and \$7,000 on the Shenandoah Valley Academy. This has been reduced by \$103,557.44, leaving only the comparatively small sum of \$2,724.94 to be met.

We have to record some other new enterprises which came into existence during this same period.

Headquarters for the Columbia Union Conference were erected, at a cost of about \$8,000. This investment is so profitable that already the property could be sold for a marked increase upon its original cost.

Work has begun on the new \$60,000 building at the Washington Missionary College, and at present there is in hand in the union treasury, \$30,000 for putting it under cover. A new dormitory known as "Lyndon Hall," was purchased for the use of the college.

The Columbia Union Conference appropriated \$6,000 for the new hospital building of the Washington Sanitarium.

Church buildings, the source and home of our spiritual life, have also made their appearance. Toiling together, the brethren

have erected the following new Sabbath homes: One in Akron, Ohio, costing \$8,000; another in Zanesville, Ohio, \$6,000; one in Pittsburgh, \$5,400; in Yale, Va., \$500; Burlington, N. J., \$5,000; Blossburg, Pa., \$1,000; Smithsburg, Md., \$2,500; Republican Grove, Va., \$500; Sayre, Pa., \$2,000; Camden, N. J., \$6,000; Jersey City, \$10,000. There is also a sound of movement in other centers.

Change of Forces

The work has rushed on, but we will pause a moment to speak of the loss of those for whom we have an affection as well as a memory. Elder W. J. Tanner, president of the West Virginia Conference, fell while pressing on with his work. We would also remember Elders M. C. Kirkendall and J. O. Miller, presidents of the Chesapeake Conference, and Elder J. M. Gaff of New Jersey.

During this period we have surrendered seventeen workers to fields outside of the union.

Departments

After we have mentioned the conferences, the strong units responsible in so large a measure for these splendid results, we must consider an equally important factor in their production—the departments in the union. The literature department, probably our oldest, registers a total subscription book sales for the past quadrennial period of \$514,083.23, or more than half a million dollars, which is \$198,563.30 more than the amount of the sales of the preceding quadrennial period. The average sales per hour for the quadrennial period 1909-12 was 96 cents; while the average sales per hour for the five-year period 1913-17 is \$1.30, a general increase in sales of 35 per cent.

There has been a steady increase in all fields of activity in the educational department. All our schools are running at practically full capacity, while the growth in attendance at the Washington Missionary College has grown so far beyond the small plant originally built to accommodate the Foreign Mission Seminary, that we are now erecting a new building. There has been in our church schools 50 per cent increase both in the number of schools and in the enrolment of pupils.

At the close of the year 1913 our Missionary Volunteer department had 39 societies. Four years later there were 105 societies, or an increase of 250 per cent. All other activities of this department show a correspondingly heavy increase.

Home Missionary Work

The banner union in Home Missionary work for the year 1917 was the Columbia Union Conference. Whereas we raised by the Harvest Ingathering campaign in 1915, \$8,416.10, and in 1916, \$18,722.51, we made for 1917 the splendid record of \$26,685.30.

And now we are bringing into existence a new line of work,—that for our soldier boys. The serious situation, long neglected, is at last receiving attention. Already the war has affected between 800 and 1,000 of our young men. These are either in camp or under draft. Within three weeks after real oversight was taken, a census was made of all our young men included in the draft, and a fund of \$1,000, to be used in producing literature, was launched. During those three weeks 500 copies of "Steps to Christ," khaki edition, were distributed, one young man in a base hospital, himself alone, placing 200 copies. Of the 150 Seventh-day Adventist boys already in camp, we rejoice to report that 60 per cent are having a good spiritual experience. May this crisis soon find 100 per cent of the boys, both in camp

and at home, thoroughly surrendered to God.

"Not finished, just begun," seems to say every voice within the Columbia Union Conference; for all fields of activity are opening, not closing. Instead of being alarmed at the prospects of the work's diminishing, we are more alarmed at our inability to meet the great demands now constantly augmenting. With headquarters at Washington, and with our union territory surrounding this city, now becoming perhaps the most important city in the world, the union stands in an important and strategic world center. We thank God for what has already been done, and for the many promises that in the future he will help us to do still more.

B. G. WILKINSON, *President.*



THE EASTERN CANADIAN UNION CONFERENCE

THE Eastern Canadian Union Conference extends from Port Arthur, Ontario, on the west, to and including Newfoundland on the east; and from the international border line on the south, to the unknown fields of ice and snow on the north. It embraces the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Cape Breton Island, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, and Labrador. It is a field of magnificent distances, being nearly three thousand miles long from east to west and more than one thousand miles from north to south. The distance from our union office, at Oshawa, Ontario, to St. Johns, Newfoundland, is about two thousand miles; and the journey requires more time than it does to travel from Oshawa to San Francisco, Cal. The province of Quebec alone is as large as the combined areas of all the States bordering on the Atlantic Ocean from Maine to Georgia, not including the State of New York. Because of the immense size and the scattered condition of the territory, it is far more expensive and in some respects more difficult to administer the affairs of the conference than it would be were it smaller and more compact.

The climate is not nearly so rigid as many suppose. In the northern section, it is true, the summers are short and the winters long and severe; but in the southern part, which is adjacent to the Great Lakes and lies within the same latitudes as does the northern half of Iowa, the winters are usually milder than in southern Wisconsin and Iowa, and the summers are cooler and much more pleasant than in the northern States.

The population numbers over six million. More than three fourths of all the inhabitants in the Dominion of Canada live within the borders of our union. The people of eastern Canada and Newfoundland are principally of English, Scotch, and Irish descent, and are largely Protestant in belief, except in Quebec, where more than 80 per cent are French Catholics. Formerly the population was mostly rural, cities being few and small, but conditions are rapidly changing. Simultaneously with the opening and settling of western Canada, large commercial and industrial centers have sprung up in the east. Canadian, British, and especially American capitalists have not been slow to discern and improve the opportunities for developing on Canadian soil a successful manufacturing business to meet the ever-increasing demands of a growing country.

Since the outbreak of the war, which has caused a dislike or hatred for things of German and Austrian make, a great demand has been created for "Made in Canada" products. To meet this demand, new factories are being built and old plants enlarged. This

expansion in manufacture and trade is naturally drawing people of all classes into the cities, which, as a result, are increasing in number and size; and today the urban population of eastern Canada outnumbers the rural.

The work of the third angel's message was opened up in our field by men from across the line who labored under the direction of near-by conferences in the States. These workers met with success. Interests were created, companies and churches were raised up, and one by one the Quebec, the Ontario, and the Maritime Conferences were organized. In the year 1901 these three conferences and the Newfoundland Mission were organized into a union conference.

Membership

At the opening of the year 1908 the reported membership of the union was 941, and at the close of 1912, a period of five years, it was only 859, or 82 less than at the beginning of the period. This condition caused many to feel that eastern Canada was an unfruitful field. But the record of the past five years, while nothing to boast of, nevertheless demonstrates that even in this, the oldest section of the Dominion, where both conservatism and Catholicism are so strongly entrenched, the third angel's message will prove victorious. During these five years from 1913 to 1917, the membership increased from 859 to 1,349, a gain of 490, or 58 per cent.

At this rate of increase the membership would more than double in ten years, which, according to statistics, is about the rate at which the denomination has developed. But with the help of God we are determined to more than double it in less than half that time, and we have faith to believe that it can and will be done if time lasts that long. This past winter, efforts have been conducted in large theaters or in commodious halls in a number of our cities. The attendance has been excellent and the interest good. At present there are 125 or more new converts awaiting baptism.

Finances

Financially, the progress has been much more marked than in the matter of membership. The tithe for the five years between 1908 and 1912 amounted to \$57,308.02, and for the five years from 1913 to 1917 it aggregated \$111,244.21, a gain of \$51,936.19, or 90 per cent. Most of this gain was made during the past two years, and especially during last year. The tithe for 1917 was almost one third of the total for the five years.

For five successive years the union has exceeded its apportionment on the Twenty Cent a Week Fund. Last year the average was \$15.02 per member, or 29 cents a week. The total for the five years was \$59,007.13 as against \$24,034.11 for the preceding five years, thus showing a gain of \$34,973.02, or 145 per cent. During this same time the Sabbath school donations increased from \$7,287.37 for the former period to \$26,127.51 for the latter, a gain of \$18,840.14, or 258 per cent.

Though these gains were quite remarkable, they were eclipsed by the gains made in the Harvest Ingathering work. For the five years ending in 1912 \$4,896.62 was realized from the Ingathering campaigns; and during the following five years there was obtained from this source the handsome sum of \$18,632.70, which was an increase of \$13,736.08, or 280 per cent. If we are correctly informed, the Eastern Canadian Union has for several years stood at the head of the list of conferences in the division in this important work. Not only has one or more

of its conferences been first in reaching the goal set by the division, but its per capita has also been the highest. Last year gallant little Newfoundland headed the list with an average of \$7.14, and the average for the union was \$5.30.

A comparative study of the statistical report for the last ten years reveals some interesting facts. In the year 1908 the amount obtained from the Harvest Ingathering work constituted only 6 per cent of the total sent to the Mission Board. Two years later it accounted for 23 per cent, in 1913 for 27 per cent, in 1915 for 32 per cent, and in 1917 for 35 per cent of the whole. During the last five years it equaled more than one third of the whole, and was as large as the combined gifts of our people for the preceding five years. In view of this, are we wrong in concluding that this is one of God's appointed channels through which the wealth of the Gentiles will flow to us?

The Publishing Work

Owing principally to a lack of funds, the union and two out of its three local conferences endeavored for a number of years to build up the book work without the services of field secretaries. It is needless to say that, except in Ontario, where a good man was in charge, little progress was made. But a little more than a year ago, at a meeting of the union committee, with Elder W. W. Eastman present, it was felt by all that the time had come for a change. It was therefore decided to employ a field secretary for the union, and action was taken inviting Brother J. W. Davis, field secretary of the Southern Union, to fill the position. A few months later the Maritime Conference also selected a capable young man to take charge of the colporteur work in that field. How much of the remarkable progress made since is to be attributed to the change in policy and to the efforts of these men we do not know, but we do know that the increase in literature sales of the Canadian Publishing Association for the year 1917 amounted to about 125 per cent. One of the brethren at Washington recently informed us that according to membership the literature sales in the Eastern Canadian Union were higher than those of any other union in the division. The book sales were only a little below the sales of one large union having nearly as many thousand members as the Eastern Canadian has hundreds.

Just recently the Quebec Conference voted to employ a field secretary, and they have already secured a suitable young man for the place. Plans have also been laid for placing canvassers in Newfoundland this year. A boat has been purchased with funds provided for the purpose at the autumn council in Minneapolis, and the Publishing Department at Washington is arranging to send us some experienced colporteurs for the island. With the field thus well manned and equipped, we believe that, with the help and blessing of heaven, we shall see a strong, successful book work built up in our field.

In the past there has been more or less activity along Missionary Volunteer and home missionary lines, but as there has in reality been no one in charge of these departments until recently, there are no accurate reports available back of the year 1917, consequently we can give no comparative statement of the work done. These departments are now well organized, however, and an excellent work is being done.

The Educational Work

One of the first church schools conducted by the denomination was opened in Quebec. Years later two intermediate schools were

started, one at Williamsdale, Nova Scotia, and the other at Lorne Park, Ontario. These schools were a blessing to the young people in the field. Many of the students who attended them are today engaged in the work in various parts of the world. Some of them are occupying important positions. But even though these schools were a blessing to our youth, they did not fully meet the needs of the field. There were only intermediate schools, and the young people were compelled to go to one of our advanced schools in the States to finish their training. After spending several years across the line, they seldom, if ever, returned. This was a source of discouragement to our people and a decided hindrance to the successful development of our work in the union.

This deplorable condition was apparent to the General Conference men as well as to the men on the ground, and in order to remedy the situation, they recommended that Ontario turn over its school to the union, with a view to making it a union training school. With this in mind, Ontario disposed of the Lorne Park property, secured a new location near Oshawa, and began a new, up-to-date building. Soon after the last General Conference this property was transferred to the union. With a small constituency and limited funds, it has called for both faith and persevering effort to attempt to carry out the purpose of the recommendation made by the General Conference brethren, but we are glad to say that with the help of God it has been done, and today the Eastern Canadian Union has a good junior college free from debt—the Eastern Canadian Missionary Seminary.

The wisdom of this undertaking has already been demonstrated. Instead of losing our young people, we are now holding them in the field. Already our conferences have been supplied with competent workers for the schoolroom, office, and field, and during the vacations with an army of successful canvassers.

At Williamsdale Academy two new cottages were built last year, and at the seminary a bungalow was erected for the principal. Various other improvements were also made. Both of these institutions are now filled to overflowing with a fine class of students. The attendance at the latter is practically double that of former years. The crying need in both of these institutions is for more room.

The Outlook

The outlook for our work in the Eastern Canadian Union was never more hopeful than now. With feelings of praise and gratitude to God for his blessings of the past and with a prayer for his help and guidance in the future, we unitedly dedicate our lives anew to him for more faithful and, we trust, more efficient service during the days to come.

A. V. OLSON, *President*.



SOUTHEASTERN UNION CONFERENCE

It gives me great pleasure to bring from Dixie a brief report of the progress of the work of God. Surely there is no more interesting or promising field in the world than the great Southland. About no other field has the Lord spoken so frequently through his servant, calling upon this people quickly to enter the rapidly opening doors and present the message to the thousands who are ready to hear. Repeatedly has the instruction been given to hasten to establish memorials for God throughout the South, that preparation might be made for a great work in this field. The following is

not unlike scores of other messages that have come from time to time:

"Brethren, we have a great work before us in the Southern field,—a work that as yet we have only begun. We must not continue to stand as we have stood for years, dreading this work. . . . My brethren in the Southern field, I ask you, in the name of the Lord God of Israel, to quit you like men. The Lord is at the helm. He will give his servants grace and wisdom. . . . God lives and reigns. He will open the way for the neglected Southern field to be cultivated for him. . . . You will have to meet a doubting, objecting spirit, but this will give way before firm, consistent trust in God."

"To those who are laboring in the South I would say: Be not discouraged by the present feebleness of the work. You have had to struggle against difficulties that have at times threatened to overcome you. But by God's help you have been enabled to move forward. If all in our ranks knew how difficult it was in years past to establish the work in places that have since become important centers, they would realize that it takes courage to face an unpromising situation, and to declare, with hands uplifted to heaven, 'We will not fail nor become discouraged.'"

"My brethren, there is no reason for discouragement. The good seed is being sown. God will watch over it, causing it to spring up and bring forth an abundant harvest. Remember that many of the enterprises for soul-saving have, at the beginning, been carried forward amidst great difficulty."

"Difficulties will arise that will try your faith and patience. Face them bravely. Look on the bright side. If the work is hindered, be sure that it is not your fault, and then go forward, rejoicing in the Lord. Heaven is full of joy."

"Never let your courage fail. Never talk unbelief because appearances are against you. As you work for the Master, you will feel pressure for want of means, but the Lord will hear and answer your petitions for help. Let your language be, 'The Lord God will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed.' Isa. 50:7. If you make a mistake, turn your defeat into victory."

"True workers walk and work by faith. Sometimes they grow weary with watching the slow advance of the work, when the battle wages strong between the powers of good and evil. But if they refuse to fail or be discouraged, they will see the clouds breaking away, and the promise of deliverance fulfilling. Through the mist with which Satan has surrounded them, they will see the shining of the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness."

We can truly tell you today that we see the clouds breaking away and the promise of deliverance fulfilling. The cloud is lifting, and in some ways the Southern field is setting the pace for our work in other places.

The Southeastern Union Conference comprises the territory of the two Carolinas, Georgia, Florida, and east Tennessee. The last five years, or the period covering approximately the time since the last General Conference, have brought great advancement in all branches of the work in this field. The membership has increased from 2,842, Jan. 1, 1913, to 3,961, Dec. 31, 1917. This shows a gain of 1,119. The greater portion of this gain was made last year; some of the conferences increased their membership 30 per cent during 1917. Forty-four new churches have been organized, giving a total of 124 church organizations at the present time. The union has set for itself the goal of raising its membership to 5,000 by the close of 1918, and the present indications are that the goal will be fully reached.

The Colored Work

Of the above membership, 1,151 are colored. The colored work is developing rapidly. We have at present 41 organized col-

ored churches in this territory. Each conference has two or more colored ministers, besides a number of mission school-teachers and others regularly engaged in conference work.

Tithe and Mission Offerings

The Southeastern Union was organized in 1908, or just ten years ago. During the first five years of its history the total tithe receipts amounted to \$141,849.24. For the last five years the amount received was \$244,406.11. The yearly tithe income five years ago, or in 1912, was \$33,560.01. This has been increased to \$68,418.12 in 1917. The last two years have shown the largest gains by far, the gain over the previous two years being \$36,637.01.

The total amount given to missions during the first five years of the union's history was \$48,589.79. For the last five years, it totaled \$121,605.33, showing a gain of about 150 per cent. The yearly amount has increased from \$15,202.44 in 1912 to \$33,504.17 in 1917. The goal of 20 cents a week per member was reached for the first time in 1917, and several of our conferences went considerably beyond the mark.

Literature Sales

Our literature department has made wonderful progress, especially during the last two years. The total sales for 1917 show a gain of more than 100 per cent over the record of the previous year. For the first five years the total amount of literature sold was \$182,961.55, while the report for the last five years shows a total of \$316,062.96.

The Southeastern Union shows the largest per cent of gain in sales for 1917 over 1916 in the Southern Publishing Association territory, if not in the world. Our sales for the single month of September amounted to \$31,151. Of this month's work, Brother L. D. Randall, our Atlanta Branch manager, writes:

"All records broken! This [\$31,151] is not only our highest September sales record, but almost three times the value of books sent out in any previous month during our history, passing our former biggest month by \$19,900. For this one month the business amounts to \$7,115 more than it did for the entire year 1908. Notice Georgia — \$12,261 for September; more than a thousand dollars in excess of any shipment ever before sent to the entire union during any one month. The gain in sales for this September over last September is \$24,767, or 388 per cent. July sales for 1917 were three times those of July, 1916; August sales for 1917, four times those of August, 1916; and September sales for 1917, five times the September sales of 1916."

We are glad to report that this good gain is continuing in 1918. The first two months of this year show a gain of more than 100 per cent over the corresponding months of 1917.

A colored student from Oakwood carried away the season's banner for individual sales, having delivered more than \$2,400 worth of large books during his eleven weeks' vacation. Another Oakwood student delivered \$1,400 worth in the same period. This was in Georgia. A portion of the credit for the literature sales, of course, is due to our Home Missionary department, as it has been pushing the sale of our small books and magazines quite vigorously.

At the recent Florida camp-meeting, all records in small book sales were broken. Thirty-two thousand copies were sold to the white members in attendance, and 34,000 to the colored members, making a total of 66,000 copies. Surely the day of God's power is here, and his people have been made willing.

Union Evangelistic Work

We have two evangelistic companies, one white and one colored, operating in our large cities, under the direction of the union conference. These efforts are meeting with splendid success. By this means several strong churches have been raised up during the past two years, and other churches have had their membership more than doubled. This has greatly assisted our conference in increasing its membership and strengthening its work. Our experience as pioneers in this line has led us to believe that far more would be accomplished in all the evangelistic activities of the denomination, if, instead of sending so many out single-handed, with little or no help, fewer companies were put into the field, and their personnel strengthened and enlarged. We should be pleased to see this Conference give careful consideration to the matter of creating an evangelistic department of the division conference, that this branch of our work, which takes precedence over all others, might be placed on a more successful basis.

Educational Work

Our educational work has been greatly strengthened the past two years. For many years we have greatly needed a strong industrial training school where it would be possible to provide work for many young people who could not pay their entire way through school. This need is now being fully met by the erection of the new training school known as the Southern Junior College, at Ooltewah, Tenn. Though the plant is far from complete, we were able to care for more than 150 students the past winter. This training school was established to meet the needs of the Southern and Southeastern Unions.

During the summer vacation about 70 students earned all or a part of their scholarship for this year's schooling. A girls' home has been erected, furnishing accommodations for 100 girls. This year, however, the school work is being carried on on the first floor of this building, thus lessening somewhat the available room for students. Our boys still live in temporary buildings and tent houses, patiently waiting until means can be provided to finish the plant by erecting a boys' home and a college building. The school has a present worth of \$42,520.82. The standard is also being raised in our church schools, and the number of schools is increasing.

There are quite a large number of rural schools in the mountain districts of this union, which are doing a splendid work among the people. Several good churches have been raised up by these self-sacrificing workers. The members go out without any financial support except what they can produce from the soil and the small industries which they establish. Many more such schools should be established, as this appears to be the most effective means of reaching the people of these backward communities. We are glad to report that, with the exception of one or two, these rural schools are working in full harmony with our regular organized work.

Cantonment Work

There are within the territory of this union nine large cantonments, besides many smaller soldiers' and sailors' training camps. Quite a large number of our brethren are now serving in these camps, and in order that they might be given proper assistance from a spiritual standpoint, two permanent war-camp secretaries have been appointed by the union, who now give their entire time to this work. So far as we know, all our young men in these camps have now been transferred to noncombatant branches of

the service, and have been granted exemption from Sabbath duty.

Medical Work

This union contains one sanitarium owned by the denomination, the Florida Sanitarium situated at Orlando, Fla., and ten private institutions, large and small, scattered over the union. The largest of these are the Graysville and Reeves sanitariums. The sanitarium at Orlando is enjoying splendid patronage, and has been able materially to reduce its indebtedness during the past few years. The present buildings have proved far too small to accommodate the growing patronage, and plans have recently been laid to increase the present equipment before another winter season.

Our Needs

We need a membership of 7,000 believers. The tithe being paid by our present membership of 4,000 covers about four sevenths of our operating expense. If the membership were 7,000 instead of 4,000, we should be entirely self-supporting. We believe, therefore, that it would be an act of wisdom for the division conference to provide a few additional strong evangelists for this field, to assist us in raising the membership to this point.

Most of our conferences have only one white and one colored ordained minister besides the president, with practically no helpers. They must often labor alone and with poor equipment. If the division could see fit to provide enough means in addition to our regular appropriation, to enable us to place one additional white and one colored minister in the conferences of Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Cumberland, I feel confident that the union could be entirely self-supporting by the year 1920. In securing additional workers, I will say that we need for the South not only the best talent, but especially men who will love the South, and who will be willing to make it their home, if need be, while time shall last.

In addition to evangelists, we need for the year 1918 at least one hundred loyal Sabbath-keeping families to settle in the mountain sections of the South to do practical self-supporting missionary work — to conduct schools, hold cottage meetings, nurse the sick, and do general community uplift work. We earnestly solicit the co-operation of our sister unions in securing these families as soon as possible, that they may begin work without delay.

We also greatly need some financial help in the erection of a few suitable church buildings in important centers, in order that stability may be given to the work. We trust that favorable consideration will be given to these needs at this Conference, that help may be had at once.

W. H. BRANSON, *President.*

SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE

THE Southern Union in the past five years has made some advancement. Its working force and constituency have been materially strengthened and increased, but the increase has barely kept pace with its rapidly growing population. There are now approximately eleven million people in this union, of whom about four million are colored. Louisiana has a large French population. The Southern people are courteous, easily approached, and at the present time are eager to study the doctrines held by Seventh-day Adventists.

Probably not since ante-bellum days has there been such prosperity in the South as

now. Its natural products, such as cotton, sweet potatoes, rice, sugar, and tobacco, are in demand. A strong effort is being put forth to make the land more productive. To the small railroad stations in the farming districts the demonstration car is sent, and the farmer is given every opportunity to be up to date in methods of cultivating the soil. Thousands of people are flocking to this section, because of its natural advantages and its favorable climate. This territory has large navigable rivers, lakes, and well-equipped railroads for handling its products, and is well covered with growing cities and towns. It is today marketing large quantities of lumber, and its mineral products are by no means small. I quote the following from the *Literary Digest* of May 12, 1917:

"Of fifty-seven useful minerals used in the United States every one of them is mined in the South except platinum and borax. Nine are produced nowhere else in the country besides the South. The South's mineral production in 1914 was \$465,000,000, and mineralogists say the resources are so vast the surface has barely been scratched!

"The present proved coal reserves in the Southern States are figured at 530,000,000,000 tons, or twenty-five per cent more than the most thorough exploration of European countries has disclosed. . . . Kentucky has enough coal at present rate of consumption to furnish the whole world with this fuel for generations to come.

"Alabama has demonstrated her ability to manufacture pig iron more cheaply than any other locality on earth. The South possesses fifty per cent of the total iron resources of the nation, and her production of pig iron in 1914 was valued at \$27,000,000—a mere hint of her possibilities. In the Birmingham region coal and iron lie side by side, and no higher grade of steel is manufactured in the United States than that made from Southern iron. . . .

"Forty-two per cent of lead and forty-one per cent of zinc production of the United States comes from the South. The South's output in 1915 was valued at \$63,000,000. They even mine diamonds in the South. . . .

"Louisiana has put the United States on the sulphur map of the world. Of 327,000 tons mined in this country in 1914, 300,000 tons, valued at \$5,000,000, came from the South."

Millions of barrels of oil and thousands of dollars' worth of natural gas, quantities of aluminum, fish, oysters, and lumber are in abundance. We must not today think of the South as without resources.

The following figures will give some idea as to how the work of this denomination has prospered during the past five years:

There has been an increase in membership of 1,244, or more than 50 per cent. In the year 1917 the tithe was \$19,010.64 in excess of the year 1912, a gain of 60 per cent; the increase in offerings to foreign missions was \$13,624.93, or a 110 per cent gain; and in book sales the increase was \$62,616.66, which is a 200 per cent gain. The proportion of increase in membership and in tithes and offerings, was much greater among the colored than among the white people.

We now have 37 schools, composed of church, rural, and mission schools, with an enrolment of approximately 750 students; and 65 students in the Southern Junior College, which is conducted by the two unions, namely, the Southeastern and Southern. The Nashville Agricultural and Normal Institute is situated at Madison, Tenn., twelve miles from Nashville. This school is in a prosperous condition, and has at present 98 students. In connection with the school is a well-patronized sanitarium, which will accommodate 35 patients. It is doing an excellent work, and its influence is far-reaching.

The Southern Publishing Association, at Nashville, Tenn., is an institution with which the delegates are well acquainted. One of its products, the *Watchman Magazine*, is perhaps having a larger circulation than any other periodical in the denomination. The entire output of the association in the year 1917 was valued at \$535,000. This is an increase of 106 per cent over 1916. Two more years as prosperous as 1917 will place this institution on vantage ground and make it a strong factor in the spreading of the third angel's message.

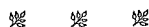
We have two union evangelists, Elder I. M. Martin for the white people, and Elder J. H. Lawrence for the colored. During the last five years the efforts of the union evangelist for the colored people proved so successful that it was considered advisable to institute the same plan for the white. Accordingly, in the fore part of the year 1917 this plan was set on foot. Brother Martin opened up work in Mobile, Ala., laboring in connection with the local workers. Forty-five members were added to the church, and a church building was left as a memorial. Just previous to this Conference he conducted an effort in Nashville, Tenn., and already some have accepted the truth, but it is too early to give exact figures.

Since the last Conference session church buildings have been secured for the colored people in New Orleans, Memphis, Nashville, Louisville, and Huntsville.

The Outlook

The present prosperity and the interest of the people, leading them to inquire into what the present-day conditions mean, make this a most favorable time to work the Southern field. Surely the Lord has made it possible for us to give the third angel's message to this people, and it seems that this is the moment when the supreme effort of this denomination should be made to reach the English-speaking people who are sitting in darkness, the French in the untouched territory of Louisiana, and the colored people in nearly all sections. In behalf of the workers and constituency of the southern field, I take this opportunity to thank the denomination for the liberal gifts that have enabled the workers to prosecute the work thus far, and to pledge our all for the finishing of the work in the South.

S. E. WIGHT, President.



WESTERN CANADIAN UNION CONFERENCE

THE Western Canadian Union Conference is bounded on the east by the eighty-ninth meridian, which passes near Port Arthur, Ontario; on the west by the Pacific Ocean; on the south by the forty-ninth parallel; and on the north by the sixtieth parallel; embracing the four local conferences of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia. It is a land of magnificent distances and wonderful opportunities. The union was organized in 1907. It then had a constituency of 1,284 Sabbath keepers. In 1908 Elder H. S. Shaw took general charge, and to his faithful labors and careful management much credit for the steady and substantial development is due.

The writer was called to the presidency in 1915, and by the help of the Lord and the faithful co-operation of the conference officers and people, we have continued to build upon the good foundation already laid, and a measure of success has attended the efforts.

The gain in membership during the period was 974. Our membership embraces many nationalities, including English, German,

Russian, French, Bohemian, Serbian, Polish, Icelandic, Finnish, etc.

A few figures will help us to understand the progress as far as figures can measure prosperity in the work of God:

The total amount of funds contributed for home and foreign work during the period was \$475,976.68; total sales of literature, \$150,000.00; copies of the Current Events Series sold during 1917, 22,113.

Tithe per Capita

1913	1914	1915	1916	1917
\$29.46	\$21.76	\$20.40	\$29.25	\$46.57

Twenty Cents a Week for Missions — Weekly per Capita

1913	1914	1915	1916	1917
\$.23	\$.20	\$.20	\$.24	\$.35

Harvest Ingathering, per Capita

1913	1914	1915	1916	1917
\$.87	\$.70	\$.82	\$ 1.83	\$ 4.79

In all of these items the per cent was figured on the membership at the close of each year. The per cent would be slightly higher if based on the General Conference membership figures.

Educational

We have in the Western Canadian Union three schools doing ten grades of work and more, with a combined enrolment of 447. Our church school work is still in its infancy, but some progress is being made in all the provinces. The junior college at Lacombe, Alberta, was started in 1907, with an enrolment of 37. It now has an enrolment of 226. During the last two years improvements to the value of about \$20,000 have been made. The buildings now have steam heat and electric lighting. A water and sewerage system will be installed when money is on hand for the same. The present worth of the school plant is in excess of \$44,000. We confidently look to our schools for efficient laborers to answer the many and increasing calls.

The Battleford Academy opened in 1916 with an attendance of between 50 and 60, and the enrolment reached more than 100 the first year. The present enrolment is 151. The school site is leased from the Dominion government for 21 years, at a nominal rental. It was formerly the seat of government of the Northwest Territories, and was the scene of some interesting historical incidents. This school now has a present worth of more than \$34,000. It was visited a few months ago by His Excellency, the Duke of Devonshire, governor-general of Canada, on his tour through the West.

The school at Armstrong, British Columbia, is conducted as a church school, does ten grades of work, and has an enrolment of a little less than 100.

Our departmental work is still in the process of organization. Plans have been laid for strengthening both the evangelistic and departmental work. All our provinces have field secretaries to lead the book work. During the last year, two new union secretaries have been selected to give full time to the work, one in the educational and young people's departments and the other in the home missionary department.

Drs. Hans and Dale Bonde are conducting very successfully a small sanitarium in Calgary, and the medical work is further represented by treatment-rooms in Calgary, conducted by Brother G. R. Close, and in Edmonton, by Brother S. H. Logan.

Among our most pressing needs is that of more experienced field laborers to develop the work in both cities and country. We are of good courage, and desire to have our part in the third angel's message till it closes in triumph.

C. F. McVAGH, President.

SOUTHWESTERN UNION CONFERENCE

THE Quadrennial period closing with December, 1917, was one of prosperity for the Southwestern Union Conference. I may be permitted to speak more freely regarding this matter since my official connection with it as its president covers only two years of this period. The conference had formerly been blessed with experienced, aggressive leaders, and progress in all departments of missionary activity is visible. The Lord has dealt very kindly with his people, and with deep gratitude of heart we acknowledge his blessings, both spiritual and temporal.

The Southwestern Union Conference includes in its territory the States of Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico. Its population is equal to that of the States of Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, Oregon, and half of Washington. In area it is equal to the territory comprising the Atlantic Union, the Columbia Union, and the Lake Union, with enough left over to form the State of Iowa, or in extent equal to one sixth the area of the continental possessions of the United States. It is a very expensive field to operate, not only because of the long distances and time consumed in travel, but because of the high freight and passenger rates. However, to offset these inconveniences, the territory produces practically all kinds of foodstuffs and household supplies raised in the United States, with factories and mills in the territory to prepare the foods for the use of its people.

With the exception of a few colonies of Germans and Scandinavians, and quite a strong element of Spanish-speaking people along the southern boundary, the people nearly all speak English. These foreign colonies are not exclusive in their manner of living, consequently the English language serves to carry the message to practically all our people, excepting those who speak Spanish.

Our workers are constantly employed in aggressive evangelistic work, with some visible results. We now have in our union conference a membership of 4,485, with 137 churches. During the last four years, 1,859 people have been baptized into the third angel's message. The membership of the union conference has not increased proportionately to the number baptized; this is largely due to the fact that a revision of our church list has greatly reduced the membership; also large numbers have moved away from our field. For instance, the Hamby church, in the Texico Conference, with more than seventy members, was reduced last fall to about 15, the majority of the members having moved to California. This condition makes it very hard to build up a large constituency, and, in a measure, is discouraging to those in charge of the various conferences. There are in our union at the present time 32 ordained ministers, 18 licensed ministers, and 43 missionary licensed workers, besides a large corps of evangelistic colporteurs scattering our literature by the millions of pages.

Finances

Our finances show a general advance throughout the entire field. There has been a steady increase in our tithe receipts during the last quadrennial period, as follows:

1914	\$ 66,633.30	\$14.87 per capita
1915	73,333.00	16.36 per capita
1916	92,830.70	20.71 per capita
1917	130,105.50	29.04 per capita

This makes a total of \$362,902.50, an average of \$20.24 per capita for the four

years. This, compared with the previous quadrennial period, shows an increase in tithe of \$161,401.02. The offerings to missions amounted to \$242,990.35. Compared with the offerings of the previous quadrennial period, \$140,869.48, they show a net gain of \$102,120.87. Including the entire amount raised for missions, home and abroad, we have \$605,892.85, or an average of \$135.21 for every Sabbath keeper in the union. This does not include the money that has been raised in our field for the construction of church and school buildings, which, if added, would materially augment this sum.

We are pleased to report that every conference, tract society, and conference association, local and union, are free from debt, with a neat little working capital in each conference, both in our tract societies and our conference operating funds.

It is of especial interest to know that the Southwestern Junior College, at Keene, Tex., has paid the last dollar of its indebtedness and has a cash credit of about \$10,000 as a working capital. We have besides this a fund of about \$6,000 on hand to spend in needed repairs and improvements in the college. This amount is, however, but a beginning of what is needed to place the Southwestern Junior College on vantage ground, to do its appointed work. The policy of our college board is to provide the money needed before starting building operations.

Our Sabbath School Work

Our Sabbath school work has made commendable growth during the last four years. We have at present 190 Sabbath schools, with a membership of 5,925. The sum total of offerings to missions during the last four years was \$78,900.52. Compared with \$42,587, the amount received during the previous quadrennial period, it shows a net gain of \$36,313.52, the offerings nearly doubling themselves during the last four years.

Educational Work

This feature of our work is also encouraging. Sixty-two church schools are being conducted in the union, employing 72 teachers. The enrolment is 1,334. This does not include the young men and women in our training schools. It is estimated that we have 2,250 young people of school age in our territory. Of these about 1,600 are in our church schools, academies, and training schools. Our aim is to encourage and assist every boy and girl, every young man and young woman, to enter our schools in training for service in the cause of God. In this department we are unable to make a comparison with the previous quadrennial period, as no records were kept that are available from which to draw a comparison.

What was formerly the Keene Academy has been advanced to a junior college, and the name changed from Keene Academy to the Southwestern Junior College. The work has been checked and brought up to the standard of General Conference requirements. Our industries are proving of great benefit to the school, not only as an element in training, but as a financial asset. Although the year 1916-17 was a trying year to our institutions because of the high cost of food products, yet we are able to report that the school not only met its operating expenses, but showed a net gain of nearly \$5,000. We believe that during the present year the school will not only operate on its own resources, but show a reasonable gain.

Publishing Work

Our literature sales for the quadrennial period closing December, 1917, were \$358,

802.37, as compared with \$309,580 for the previous period, showing a net gain of \$49,222.37. During the year 1917 we had an average of 90 evangelistic colporteurs selling our literature. The sales amounted to \$119,209.92, as compared with \$67,962.48 for 1916 with 89 colporteurs, or a gain of \$51,247.44 with only one additional man in the field. We hope to have a large bookmen's army during 1918, though many of our young men have been called to serve our country in army service.

One very encouraging feature of this work has been the large increase in the sale of literature at our camp-meetings. Last year we sold more than 72,000 copies of the World's Crisis Series during these meetings, besides a large number of other large and small books. These are used by our laity in home missionary work, and form the basis of real aggressiveness on the part of the believers in our field. Up to the year 1916 the home missionary work had not been organized in the Southwestern Union, hence we are unable to give a very full report of the work in this department. We are glad to state, however, that it is on a good working basis and is doing much to keep up the spiritual life of our churches.

The Missionary Volunteer Department

A growing interest in the Missionary Volunteer work is seen, though we have never reached all the goals planned by the general Missionary Volunteer Department. Our department shows that more than 300 young people have been added to the church. While we are grateful for what has been accomplished for the youth in our field, we feel that this work is yet in its infancy, and we expect much larger results in the future.

The Colored Work

We have a colored population in the Southwestern Union Conference of nearly one and one-half millions. It is divided among the States as follows: Texas, 738,300; Arkansas, 487,180; Oklahoma, 146,900; Texico Conference, about 3,000. At the present time we have a membership of 220. The work among the colored people in this union has been sadly neglected, a condition due especially to the fact that we have not had strong, aggressive evangelistic workers. We are glad to report that during the last year and a half more than one hundred new colored believers have come to the faith. We are pleased to have Elder M. G. Nunes, a strong evangelist, to lead out in the work in the Oklahoma Conference, and Elder Sydney Scott as union evangelist, at present giving his time to the work among the larger cities in the southeastern part of our union. We have also secured a splendid young man who gives promise of developing into a strong preacher—another Herbert Green, from the Oakwood Junior College. At present he is with Elder J. W. Miller in Houston, Tex. Our colored workers are earnest and desirous of bringing souls to a knowledge of the truth, and we believe, with proper encouragement on our part a very material growth in membership will be seen among this people. No records were kept of the colored work prior to 1916, when the Negro Union Mission was organized. During 1916 these people paid in tithe \$1,219.10, while in 1917 the tithe was \$1,487.20, showing a gain of \$268.10. The mission offering for 1916 was \$603.18; for 1917, \$748.46, showing a gain of \$145.28. During the year 1916 two colored churches were organized and one neat little chapel was built and dedicated free from debt. There are at present two other church buildings in course of construction, while arrangements are under way

to provide a chapel for the believers in Houston, Tex., and also one for the believers in Little Rock, Ark. The field among the colored people is virgin soil, and, with proper tillage and earnest effort, we believe we shall reap a bountiful harvest.

Work Among the Indians

We have within our union a large number of the real natives of North America—North American Indians. We cannot give the exact number, having been unable to obtain definite data upon this point. Their reservations however, are situated in the eastern part of Oklahoma and the northwestern part of New Mexico. In eastern Oklahoma the Indians belong to what was called the five civilized tribes; namely, Cherokee, Creek, Seminole, Chickasaw, and Choctaw, with a few representatives of the Wyandot, Kansas, Peoria, Quapaw, Osage, and Shawnee tribes on smaller reservations. Under their tribal governments the lands were held as community property, the tribes governing themselves somewhat after the manner of States, each having a governor, an auditor, a treasurer, and a superintendent of tribal schools. About 1890 agreements were made with the United States which resulted in the abolition of the tribal form of government and in the distribution of the lands by allotment to the Indians. Four years later, Congress extended the authority of the United States courts over the Indian territory. Among these Indian tribes are to be found many refined, well-educated, prosperous people. A few of these have been brought under the influence of the truths of the third angel's message and are identified with this movement as members of our churches. However, nothing has been done among these tribes with the special view of reaching the Indians with this message. This is a problem that confronts us, to which we must give attention. The earnest petitions coming from our Indian believers that something be done for their people, cannot much longer be unheeded.

We are glad to report that a beginning has been made among the Indians in northwestern New Mexico. At the 1916 fall council in Washington, action was taken to establish a mission among the Navajo Indians. A committee, composed of Elders I. H. Evans, E. E. Andross, and J. W. Christian, was appointed to give careful study to this matter. A complete report was submitted to the 1917 fall council at Minneapolis. This council authorized the establishment of the mission, the purchase of 640 acres of land, and the erection of suitable buildings as a home for the missionaries, a school building, a dispensary, and other needed improvements on the mission farm. A committee to have charge of the mission was also appointed, consisting of the president of the Southwestern Union Conference, the president of the Pacific Union Conference, the president of the Arizona Conference, the president of the Texico Conference, and the director of the mission. These brethren met in council shortly after their appointment, and we are glad to report that a section of land has been purchased, about fifteen miles northeast of Thoreau, New Mexico, on the bank of a lake right in the heart of a thickly settled district of Navajos. Brother Orno Follett and his family have been among these people for nearly two years. He has learned the language in a remarkably short time, and is able to converse with the Indians very freely. They are friendly to our mission and welcome us among them. We are now pushing the work forward as rapidly as possible, and expect to have our school ready for work by the

middle of the summer. In the fall of 1917 the first candidate from the Navajo nation offered herself for baptism, a young woman educated in the government schools. We hope she may become a real help to our work among her people. We are thankful for this beginning, and earnestly pray that God may through this give us a vision of what can be done for these benighted souls.

Religious Liberty Work

The past four years have witnessed much activity in our union in religious liberty work, especially in Oklahoma. Drastic Sunday measures were passed, and some of our brethren were called to witness for the truth in the free exercise of their conscience in religious matters. But God did not forsake his children, and out of all these tribulations he has delivered us. The supreme court ruled in favor of our brethren who were unjustly charged with being lawbreakers. We feel that at this time much attention needs to be given by our workers to an educational propaganda, in order that the true principles of religious liberty may be properly set forth to the people within our borders.

While we feel that there is ample reason for rejoicing in the advancement made in the various lines of activity in our church work, we appreciate that the real test of growth in any field lies in the number of people brought to Christ. During the past winter we have held a number of workers' meetings and church officers' meetings, and in each of these the keynote has been, "More souls for Christ." With the financial cares of our conferences in a measure lifted, our workers feel called upon to throw themselves, heart and soul, into the great task of winning souls to the truth of God.

There is a strong desire on the part of the people throughout our field to see the message carried to the dark corners of the earth as well as to every part of our own field, that the work may speedily be finished and the Lord come to gather his people. There is nothing that thrills the hearts of the believers like the plain, simple doctrines of the third angel's message as they were originally proclaimed by the pioneers in this great movement. We find our people ready to give of their substance, and to give themselves, to the finishing of this work. To this end we pledge our hearts, our sympathy, and our earnest support.

J. W. CHRISTIAN, *President.*



NORTHERN UNION CONFERENCE

THE Northern Union Conference comprises the States of Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota, and has an area of 289,280 square miles, with a population of 6,000,000. There are 7,923 believers in the truths of the third angel's message, comprising 245 organized churches.

The union and the four local conferences have, according to the latest statistics, a working force of 226 laborers, as follows: 57 ordained ministers, 38 licentiate ministers, 67 licensed missionaries, and 64 book and periodical canvassers. These workers, with others who labored before, and with the earnest missionary endeavors of our loyal church members, have been instrumental in gathering into the fold during the past five years, by baptism, 2,758 persons, adding to the church 1,724 members, thus increasing our membership from 6,199 in 1913 to 7,923 in 1917. The past year has been the banner year of the five, both in baptisms and in increased membership; 754 persons were baptized, and the membership was increased by 665.

During the past five years the constituency of the Northern Union has paid \$769,499.49 in tithe. In 1917 there was an increase over 1913 of \$80,195.59, an increase per capita from \$19.93 to \$27. Of this amount, during the period mentioned, we appropriated to fields outside our union \$177,676.17.

Our offerings to missions have shown an encouraging increase also. The total amount given to foreign missions during the period since the last General Conference, was \$383,879.39, which was an increase over the corresponding period from 1908-12 of \$183,015.98. From 1913-17, the sum of \$118,617.89 was contributed to home missions. Thus the grand total raised in our union for the support of the work,—evangelistic, and foreign, and home missions,—since the last General Conference, was the magnificent sum of \$1,271,996.77.

Our faithful constituency in giving thus liberally have not entirely neglected the home church work, for during this same period they have given for the support of their local church work the sum of \$126,548.18, and have built 31 additional church buildings, increasing the estimated value of their church property \$94,988.

We have in the Northern Union Conference 361 organized Sabbath schools, with a combined membership of 9,614, an increase in 1917 over 1913 of 41 schools and 2,404 members. These schools have contributed during the period covered by this report \$164,173.43, all of which has gone to foreign missions, and is nearly one half the total amount raised.

The increase in Sabbath school offerings in 1917 over 1913 was \$17,479.48, which is but little less than the total amount of our Sabbath school offerings for 1912.

Our union has pursued the policy of liberality in furnishing laborers for fields outside our own union. During the past five years the demands for workers have been quite heavy. It might be of interest to mention some of the places of responsibility now filled by those who have gone from the Northern Union Conference since the last General Conference. We have furnished one union conference president, five local conference presidents, seven city and field evangelists, three union field agents, one local field agent, two branch house managers, two union conference educational and Young People's Missionary Volunteer secretaries, one seminary president, and five workers for the Asiatic Division, besides releasing a number of our best stenographers, secretaries, and teachers.

The Northern Union has endeavored, in addition to this and the meeting of all quotas and pro ratas, to keep well organized in all departmental lines. Our various departments are rejoicing in the encouraging results of their efforts.

Educational Department

We are operating four academies, one in each conference of our union. Their average yearly enrolment exceeds 400. In addition there is within our territory the Danish-Norwegian Seminary, with an average enrolment of 150 students. As our young people finish the courses offered by our schools, the large majority either engage in some branch of our work or enter college for more advanced preparation.

In addition to the schools first mentioned, we are conducting 62 church schools, with a teaching force of 65 and an enrolment of 826. Four of these schools have two rooms and employ two teachers each. Some attention has been given to making our elementary schools permanent. In one of our larger conferences the church school prop-

erty and equipment represents an investment of \$18,000. Of this amount \$13,000 has been added during the last five years. We have a number of modern, up-to-date school-houses. One of these is in the State of North Dakota. It is situated sixteen miles from the railroad, but is up-to-date in every respect, and the school is the pride of the community.

Our teachers are making constant efforts to improve in efficiency. Every year from three fourths to five sixths of the number attend our college summer school. In scholarship and preparation they compare favorably with the public school teachers of the State. In general it is not too much to say that their average is above that of a like number taken promiscuously from the public school teaching force. The cost of maintaining these elementary schools approximately \$20,000 yearly.

Besides all these, we have several family schools taught by the mothers.

Missionary Volunteer Department

The work in this department has gone forward with a healthy interest, the average membership during the five-year period being 1,328. The usual activities of the department have been pushed forward. In the matter of conversions of the youth our records are not complete, but the report for the past year is approximately correct, and shows that 467 young people were baptized during that time and added to the church.

A few of the items showing how the young people have been carrying on their work may be of interest: Letters written, 11,098; letters received, 4,149; cottage meetings held, 3,330. In the matter of distribution of literature there have been 93,342 papers mailed and given away; 5,519 books sold; 1,226 subscriptions for our periodicals taken; and 79,880 tracts lent and given away.

Not every year have all the items of the goal set by the division conference been realized, but the average results have been gratifying. Our youth have been active in giving personally to missions, and in soliciting funds for those needy fields. For various reasons the yearly reports have been only approximate, yet the amount of \$12,455.63 is recorded on the union conference secretary's book, and \$7,112 of this is reported as having been gathered during 1917.

Our department is operated according to the outline given by the North American Division. Each State department is in charge of a live secretary, and the outlook for the future is encouraging.

Home Missionary Department

We are endeavoring through our home missionary department to encourage every believer, "from the youngest child to the oldest grandma," to become an active worker in the winning of souls.

The following figures will show what can be accomplished when the church members are enlisted for service. The items here reported are from about 32 per cent of the membership of our union, and indicate what could be accomplished when all have a mind to work and co-operate with the Lord in the finishing of the work.

During the period covered by this report there have been:

Missionary letters written	40,266
Letters received	16,501
Missionary visits	78,608
Bible readings	28,123
Subscriptions taken for periodicals	13,199
Papers sold	241,439
Papers given away	1,112,362
Books sold	27,268
Books given away	27,534

Tracts sold	162,651
Tracts given away	1,867,159
Hours of Christian help work	85,848
Articles of clothing given away	37,295
Number of meals provided	3,346
Treatments given to sick and infirm	6,401
Signers obtained to temperance pledge	977
Offerings for home missionary work	\$11,377.35
Number of conversions	649

We have endeavored to push the Harvest Ingathering work each year with increased enthusiasm. We are pleased to be able to report that during the past five years our faithful workers and lay members have gathered \$54,579.50 in their various campaigns.

Our Book and Periodical Work

It was thought by many that the present world conditions which began in 1914 would cause the people in this country to conserve their means to the extent of purchasing only the necessities of life. But, on the contrary, we found that a desire to know what these things mean caused such an inquiry for literature that our colporteurs have been greatly blessed in their sales, as indicated by the following comparative figures:

During the period from 1913-17, there were sold in our union \$432,001.62 worth of our books and periodicals. The sales were as follows:

1913	\$ 61,078.25
1914	63,341.16
1915	71,706.04
1916	101,353.19
1917	134,522.98

Comparing this with the previous five years, we find that from 1908-12 the sales were \$219,194.06. Year by year they were as follows:

1908	\$39,860.84
1909	41,611.90
1910	41,167.60
1911	44,657.92
1912	51,795.80

The total gain of the past five years over the previous period is \$212,807.56, which is nearly 100 per cent.

These figures are very interesting, and show results that are encouraging. But a more encouraging feature than can be expressed in dollars and cents is the fact that scores of people are rejoicing in the truth through reading the literature distributed by our colporteurs. A few incidents will illustrate this fact.

Recently Brother George A. Campbell, field secretary for Minnesota, met with a company of ten who had accepted the faith through reading one copy of "Daniel and the Revelation." At Warsaw, Minn., there is a company of five or more people in the truth as a result of reading another copy of this same book.

Brother H. A. Rentfro, the field secretary for South Dakota, recently answered a call from a family who were keeping the Sabbath and desired church membership with us. He found that they had accepted the faith through reading a copy of "Bible Readings" purchased from one of our agents.

A family in Iowa embraced the truth after reading a copy of "Bible Readings." A young man from this family is attending one of our schools, preparing for the ministry. He plans to engage in the colporteur work during the summer. In response to an interest created by the books sold by one of our regular canvassers in North Dakota, a series of meetings is now being held, and their last report states that twenty-eight persons have taken their stand for the truth. Other similar and interesting incidents could be related.

Another encouraging feature of our colporteur work is the fact that while some of our young men have been drafted and are serving in the army, many of our young women have arisen to the emergency and entered the colporteur field, so that our ranks have not been depleted in number nor in efficiency, as the reports will testify.

Notwithstanding the world conditions, the outlook for our colporteur work was never brighter. In the recent series of institutes that have been held, unusual interest has been shown in this branch of the work. We are endeavoring to build up a permanent corps of workers in our field; the results are quite encouraging, as the reports received during the severe winter season just past will testify. We believe that the Northern Union has a loyal corps of faithful colporteurs, who will continue the circulation of our message-filled literature until all within our territory have had the privilege of receiving the message of God for this time. While some satisfaction may rightly be enjoyed in seeing the results we have mentioned, yet they seem feeble when compared with the times in which we live.

Medical Work

Situated at Nevada, Iowa, is the only denominationally owned and operated sanitarium in our union. This institution enjoys the confidence of our constituency, who give it a liberal patronage. Its staff of workers consists of a medical superintendent, a lady physician, a business manager, matron, head nurse, and two graduate nurses, with a good class of young people taking the training course.

During the past five years hundreds of people have found in the institution relief from physical suffering, and many have received the light of the gospel of salvation, and left the institution rejoicing in deliverance both physically and spiritually.

There are also three institutions privately operated, and a number of loyal, consecrated doctors and nurses in various parts of our field, who are engaged in relieving suffering humanity, and are doing excellent work in harmony with the light God has given his people upon healthful living and the treatment of diseases. They have also responded loyally to the calls of our Government in assisting the work of the Red Cross, Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., and other agencies whose activities have for their object the aiding and relieving of those who have been wounded in the present conflict.

The lengthening shadow of fulfilled and fulfilling prophecy indicates that the sun of human probation is about to set forever. The destiny of all mankind is soon to be decided for eternity. As we think of this, and then see the millions of souls unwarned and unprepared, we feel that we must quicken our pace, redouble our energies, and obtain a greater hold upon God and a more gracious infilling of divine power, even that power that was manifested in apostolic days, which caused men to cry out, "What must I do to be saved?"

CHAS. THOMPSON, *President*.

NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

IN rendering this report of five years of service, we recognize that nothing could have been done without the fostering care of our heavenly Father, and to him we ascribe praise for what has been accomplished.

This union was organized in 1906, and included Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, British Columbia, the Hawaiian Is-

lands, and Alaska. The membership was 4,834. Upon the organization of the Western Canadian Union, British Columbia, with a membership approximating 300, was ceded to that union, and the Hawaiian Islands were taken over by the General Conference. Alaska is a mission field, and the remainder of the territory is divided into six conferences.

During the period just closed, we have employed an average of 61 ordained and 19 licensed ministers, 48 missionaries, and 51 book and periodical workers. There have been 3,557 persons baptized and added to the 206 churches of the union, making the present membership 10,115.

During the past three or four years special efforts have been made to increase the spiritual condition and activities of our people, and a marked improvement has been seen. There is a deeper consecration, and a more ready response to a call to service. Union, harmony, and brotherly love prevail throughout the union and its institutions.

We have 309 Sabbath schools, with a membership of 10,179, a gain of 49 schools and 2,523 members during the quinquennial period. The annual offerings have increased from \$20,314 the last year of the previous Conference period to \$52,096 the past year. The total contributions to missions for the period were \$178,660.05. The lessons and helps provided by the Sabbath School Department are greatly appreciated, and the interest in Sabbath school work is constantly growing.

Religious Liberty Work

In 1916 the advocates of religious legislation organized a strong campaign in the State of Oregon with a hope of securing the passage of a drastic Sunday law by way of the referendum. It was generally understood that if successful, the campaign was to be extended to adjoining States, and ultimately throughout the United States. Under the leadership of our secretary, Elder H. W. Cottrell, funds were raised and plans laid to meet the issue. The magazine *Liberty* was placed in the hands of legislators, jurists, lawyers, ministers, physicians, editors, and educators. We also circulated in the union 75,000 copies of a specially prepared issue of the *Signs of the Times*, and 150,000 copies of a special tract. The public press and platform were utilized, and many able articles appeared, and speakers visited nearly every place of importance in Oregon and western Washington. The election brought an emphatic victory in behalf of continued religious liberty for that section.

The Medical Work

The medical work of the union is represented by the Portland and the Walla Walla Sanitariums, operated under denominational management, and a number of institutions under private control. Nearly a score of physicians, and a large number of nurses, are exerting a splendid influence in private work.

The Portland Sanitarium is under union control, and is enjoying a good patronage. Some improvements have been made, adding to the value of its assets. Its original indebtedness of nearly \$54,000 has been reduced to \$22,000. It enjoys the confidence and support of our people in the union.

The Walla Walla Sanitarium is controlled by the Upper Columbia Conference, and is exerting a splendid influence throughout the section where it is situated.

Book and Periodical Work

During the past five years we have had an average of 51 book and periodical work-

ers in the field. Their sales for the five-year period were as follows:

1913	\$ 73,307.63
1914	84,615.37
1915	71,706.04
1916	75,920.56
1917	100,910.85
Total	\$406,460.45

The prospects for the future of the book work in our union are exceptionally bright. Our field men have enlisted a corps of permanent workers, and many of the students in our larger schools are enthusiastic over the book work and are looking hopefully forward to their vacation, when they can enter the field. We are led to believe that we shall have a stronger force of salesmen this year than ever before. Our sales the first two months of this year are more than five times what they were the same period last year.

Young People's Work

The young people's work is organized into 67 societies, with a membership of 1,567, which represents a gain of nearly 700 over the previous period. Their faithfulness and devotion is shown in the fact that they paid in nearly \$10,000 to home and foreign work. Experience and statistics demonstrate that our schools are the most potent factor in saving our children and youth to the cause. Eighty-five per cent of those who are in our schools obtain a Christian experience. Eighty-five per cent of those who do not have the advantage of our schools find their way into the world and are lost to the cause. More than 98 per cent of those who complete the college course are employed in some branch of denominational work. It is therefore apparent that earnest efforts should be made to give our children and youth the advantages offered by our schools. The young people's department is manifesting commendable zeal in its efforts to interest the young people of the union in our denominational schools.

Educational Work

The educational department of the union is well organized, and earnest efforts are being made to strengthen all lines of the educational work. A marked improvement is to be noted in the matter of facilities as well as in school buildings.

At present the conferences are operating 74 church schools and 7 or 8 intermediate schools, at an expense of \$22,226. The enrolment is 1,893. The enrolment at the college above the eighth grade is 327, making a total enrolment of 2,220. The church schools are employing 100 teachers. These schools represent an investment of nearly \$40,000 in buildings.

Walla Walla College is operated by the union. It has experienced a steady growth, and is today enjoying the largest patronage in its history. The enrolment is 155 in the normal department, 242 in the academic, and 85 in the collegiate, a total of 482 students. Twenty-six young men who will finish the college course within the next two or three years, are taking special work with a view to definitely fitting themselves for the work of the ministry. As many more will take this line of work another year. A number of the original buildings of the institution were of a more or less temporary nature, and it became necessary to replace these to provide room for the growing work. A new normal building 36 x 62 feet, two stories and full basement, was erected at a cost of nearly \$8,000. A gymnasium 36 x 60 feet, containing a pool 18 x 56 feet, has been provided at a cost of \$3,200. A modern barn, silo, and outside feeding sheds have

been erected. A new boiler has been installed in the heating plant. Cement sidewalks have replaced the board walks about the campus. Repairs have been made on the main building, and the classrooms have been provided with suitable chairs. These improvements add greatly to the appearance and facilities of the institution and its surroundings.

Our college herd of 41 registered Holstein cattle is attracting the attention of dairymen throughout the Northwest, and it is conceded that we have some of the best stock to be found in this section. The gratifying financial returns thus far received assures us of the wisdom of the investment in the herd.

The spirit of co-operation between the schools of the union is fostered, and the outlook for the educational work is most encouraging.

Financial

Owing to the unseasonable conditions for agriculture, labor agitation in the timber belts, and strikes in the mining sections, the financial conditions in our union have not been the most favorable.

Tithes have been paid in as follows:

1913	\$127,124.72
1914	130,664.55
1915	130,909.06
1916	167,784.47
1917	243,265.14

Total \$799,747.94

This shows a gain of \$367,316.10 over the previous period. Of the total tithe received—the tithe of the tithe, \$79,974.79; the per cent of tithe, \$173,258.77; the Sustentation Fund, \$52,511.97—a total of \$305,745.53 was turned over to the division conference. This represents a gain of \$178,690.47 above what was turned over during the previous period.

Our contributions to missions were as follows:

Sabbath school offerings	\$117,660.05
Offerings	183,221.18
Missionary Volunteer	5,880.00

Total \$367,761.23

This is a gain of \$197,882.95.

Offerings to home work	\$ 46,747.21
To local work	111,111.81
Missionary Volunteer offerings to home and foreign work	1,973.24

Total \$159,831.25

This is \$10,044.03 less than was raised for like purposes during the preceding period. The total amount of all funds for all purposes raised in the union amounted to \$1,327,340.42. Of this amount \$673,350.76, or nearly 41 per cent, was turned over to be used outside of the union.

The indebtedness of the union has been reduced from approximately \$160,000, with but a small amount of assets to apply on the same, to \$55,000, with available assets to nearly cover this amount.

In conclusion, we are of good courage, and are here to dedicate ourselves anew, with you, to the finishing of the work.

C. W. FLAIZ, President.



OUR WORK FOR THE JEWS IN NORTH AMERICA

THE following words of Job, when considered in connection with the Jewish people, are very significant:

"Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me." Job 19: 21.

The condition of the Israelitish people, looked at from a spiritual standpoint, is

one deserving of sympathy and pity. There are no people, all things considered, who are in need of help and compassion more than "the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Without doubt, the Saviour had this people in mind when he made the following statement in the Sermon on the Mount:

"If thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!"

While it is true that the world today is, to a large extent, led by Jewish thought, controlled by Jewish finance, and molded by Jewish sentiment, the spiritual condition of these people is pitiable. The sad part of it all is, that comparatively few give this phase of their life much thought. The prophet Jeremiah truthfully lamented for them when he uttered these pathetic words:

"Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, which is done unto me, wherewith the Lord hath afflicted me in the day of his fierce anger." Lam. 1: 12.

The hearts of Christian men and women will certainly be touched as the sorrow of this people is considered. For the prophecy said,

"The children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim." Hosea 3: 4.

Listen to the echo of Israel's mourning children:

"Because of the abundance of our sins, we have no burnt offering, nor sin-offering, no staves for the holy ark, no peace nor meat offerings, no lot nor heavenly fire, . . . no sanctuary nor any sprinkling of the blood, no trespass offering nor any sacrificing, no purifying with ashes, no red heifer, no Jerusalem nor any Lebanon, no laver nor any bread of the presence, no altar nor evening sacrifice, no veil nor any atonement; . . . and all this because of the abundance of our sins and the sins of our forefathers. We are diminished, and have not these things; and since that time, we have been destitute of these things."—*Prayers for the Day of Atonement.*

Listen to their mournful petition for help and light:

"We see not our signs; there is no more any prophet: neither is there among us any that knoweth how long." Ps. 74: 9.

Should not some one look at their sorrow? Shall the priest and the Levite pass by them on the other side, and not give heed to their sad and pitiful condition?

Some one has said that the Jews are like the burning bush of Horeb, which burned and burned, and was never consumed. Prior to this war, there never was a time in all their history when they were numerically so strong as they were then. Nations have risen and fallen; kingdoms have come and have gone; but in spite of the rack, the torture, the fagot, the flame, the Jew still lives and numerically thrives. This is certainly wonderful.

We are glad, and we thank God, that there are some people today who are considering the spiritual condition of the Jewish people, and who are giving some heed to their cries and their appeals, and are willing to minister to their needs.

As a denomination, we have attempted this work for the Jews. We have done for them as much as the disciples were willing to do for the Canaanitish woman: we have given them a few crumbs. This has not been because we have been unwilling to give them more, but rather because of conditions and circumstances. However, there are no people who have a greater obligation to give the

bread of life to the Jewish people than have this people, and there are none who are better adapted to carry the good news of the risen and returning Messiah to the children of the prophets than this denomination. We today bear the same relation to the Jews that Solomon bore to his father David, when he said, "I am risen up in the room of David my father." We are doing the identical work which the Lord gave the Jews to do; hence we are risen up in their place. It must be apparent, therefore, that there can be no people who can work for these people as can Seventh-day Adventists.

The apostle Paul, in speaking of the literal seed of Abraham, says:

"Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy." "For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief; even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy."

The Spirit of prophecy tells us in "The Desire of Ages," page 351, that "if the Jews would receive the gospel, God purposed to make them his messengers to the Gentiles." So now, since they did not accept the gospel, the Lord has called out a people for his name who are doing the work which the Jews should have done; and this people, therefore, should see to it that they give time and effort to the saving of souls among these people.

We are admonished by the Spirit of prophecy that "when this gospel shall be presented in its fulness to the Jews, many will accept Christ as the Messiah."

"In the closing proclamation of the gospel, when special work is to be done for classes of people hitherto neglected, God expects his messengers to take particular interest in the Jewish people whom they find in all parts of the earth." "Many will by faith receive Christ as their Redeemer. To them will be fulfilled the words, 'As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.'"—*Acts of the Apostles,* pp. 380, 381.

This does not mean that there will be merely a handful who will accept the light of God's truth; for, says the servant of the Lord:

"The time has come when the Jews are to be given light. The Lord wants us to encourage and sustain men who shall labor in right lines for this people; for there are to be a multitude convinced of the truth, who will take their position for God. The time is coming when there will be as many converted in a day as there were on the day of Pentecost, after the disciples had received the Holy Spirit."—*Review and Herald, June 29, 1905.*

We read again:

"Among the Jews are some who, like Saul of Tarsus, are mighty in the Scriptures, and these will proclaim with wonderful power the immutability of the law of God. *The God of Israel will bring this to pass in our day.* His arm is not shortened that it cannot save. As his servants labor in faith for those who have long been neglected and despised, his salvation will be revealed."—*Acts of the Apostles,* p. 381.

It is therefore clear from the Bible and from the Spirit of prophecy that the gospel must go to the Jews; that many will hear it, and a multitude will receive and believe it. From them there will be some who will be a power in the finishing of the work of God on earth, and the Lord "will bring this to pass in our day."

It has taken much faith to hold fast, without wavering, these exceeding great and

precious promises; but we are encouraged to hold firm unto the end. The Lord has spoken; he will surely bring it to pass. Since we are told that there will yet be as many converted in a day as there were on the day of Pentecost, it would seem that we must carry out Pentecostal methods in order to secure Pentecostal results.

The first instruction given to us as a people on how to labor for the Jews, was in connection with a testimony given to a young man by the name of Marcus Liechtenstein, more than forty years ago. Of him the servant of the Lord wrote:

"His education in the Jewish religion would have qualified him to prepare publications. His knowledge of Hebrew would have been a help to the office in the preparation of publications through which access could be gained to a class that otherwise could not be reached."—*Testimonies for the Church,* Vol. III, p. 206.

From this instruction it would seem that the way to reach the Jews is through our publications. To any one acquainted with the Jewish situation, the great wisdom of such counsel is apparent. In this country there is not a denomination, outside of this people, that has undertaken work for the Jews. There are a number of missions in different cities supported by Christian people of different denominations; but no one denomination will attempt any work for these people from a denominational standpoint. It is extremely expensive work, the results are meager, and there are many and almost insurmountable obstacles to overcome. The Jews do not consider that they are under obligation to attend any religious services outside of their own. They do not feel that the Gentiles have any religious information to impart to them. With anathemas from the rabbis on the one hand, should they dare to enter a Christian house of worship, and with prejudice and hatred against the Christian religion on the other hand, it is evident that it is a serious proposition to conduct aggressive propaganda work in a general religious way, until proper preparatory work is conducted along "right lines."

The Jews, however, are great readers. Illiteracy among that people is almost unknown, that is, among the male population. In this country, as in every civilized land, the women are also literate, and everybody reads. Could the light which was given this people more than forty years ago have been followed, doubtless we might have many Jews among us today who would have been doing their "bit" in carrying forward this work.

During the past quadrennial period, not a great deal has been done in scattering literature among the Jews. For the last two years we have been issuing a magazine in the Yiddish language, and it is receiving a cordial reception from many of the orthodox Jews. There have been a number of Jews baptized in different parts of the country, although it has been hard to gather the exact data.

In the month of May, 1915, in South Lancaster, Mass., we held a Hebrew-Christian convention for four days. We had about twenty Jews in attendance at that meeting. The time was spent very profitably in considering the needs of the work among our people, and all went away determined to do more aggressive work among our brethren. Not being able to get literature to supply the needs, the zeal of a few of the believers has waned; but the majority have held fast to the truth, and are desirous to do all they can to help spread the message among the Jewish people.

Our own people are ready and willing to co-operate. This is true of our Conference

officials and the departmental secretaries. We are grateful for the thoughtful consideration on the part of our union conference and local conference brethren, and we appreciate very much the efforts of the rank and file of the people. It is a wonderful thing to the Jew to see a Christian Sabbath keeper. Truly, Seventh-day Adventists are for signs and wonders in Israel from the Lord of hosts. It is almost unbelievable by the Jews that there is a Gentile Christian people who have so much, in belief, in common with the Jews. Our people, by a few simple suggestions, can easily gain an audience with the most bitter and prejudiced Jew; and this should be considered by us as a great asset.

Our greatest difficulty in working among the Jews is prejudice. Ninety per cent of our troubles lie in this direction. If we can only overcome this serious and perplexing problem, we believe that with the power of God and tactful methods, we can yet win our way to the hearts of the Jews.

The Saviour has given us a most wonderful illustration of how to overcome prejudice. This is recorded in John 4, in the Saviour's experience with the woman at the well of Samaria. The prejudice which existed between the Jews and the Samaritans was terrible; and the Saviour knew full well that unless something was done to break down this prejudice, his disciples could never gain access to the hearts of these people. So, in a wonderful manner, he battered down the wall of prejudice, and thus prepared the way for his followers to labor among them.

We believe that by the simple methods which the Lord has given us as a body of Sabbath-keeping Christians, we can overcome, to a large extent, this terrible prejudice the Jews have against the Christian religion as we know it; and it behooves us to see that our people everywhere receive this information. From places where these suggestions have been put into operation, word comes that the Jews are very friendly. Thousands of our magazines are sold among the Jews, and our literature can be placed in their hands. By these simple suggestions, considerable money has been received from the Jewish people in our Harvest Ingathering work, and much more will be received if we follow the methods suggested.

There never was a time when the eyes of the world were turned toward the Jewish people as they are now. Since the capture of the Holy City by the Allies, a new zeal and earnestness has arisen among the Jews, and the entire Christian world believes that something unusual is about to take place. As a people, we have great light on the true meaning of these things; therefore it is now high time that we put forth most strenuous efforts to place the light of present truth before the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

The outlook for the work among the Jewish people never was more bright and encouraging than it is at the present time. Through the kindness of the North American Division Conference, it has been made possible to have our literature in the Yiddish language taken care of at the Pacific Press Publishing Association at Brookfield, Illinois.

During the last few years, calls have come to us from all over the field for literature especially adapted for circulation among the Jews. Just before we left for this Conference, an earnest appeal for literature came to us from South Africa. Australia has written on several occasions; and many plaintive pleas have reached us from all the States from Maine to California, from Canada to Texas, for suggestions how to work for the Jews, and for literature to be circulated among them. Shall these calls

be answered? We should like to offer a few suggestions for future work among the Jewish people.

1. This work should become a strong department of the General Conference, with their special care, attention, and oversight.

2. We should plan for the issuing of a good, strong literature especially adapted to the needs of the Jewish people.

3. Since this message appeals so strongly to the Jews when they come to learn of us and our work, earnest efforts should be put forth to conduct such a publicity campaign among them that they may learn of us and of our work in as rapid a manner as possible.

4. We should plan each year to issue a Harvest Ingathering magazine for circulation among the Jews, and our people should receive special instruction on how to approach them with it.

5. We should continue to issue a magazine in the Yiddish language, and greater efforts should be put forth for its circulation.

6. A systematic campaign should be conducted to instruct our people in these large centers where the Jews live, in order that proper missionary work may be successfully conducted among the Hebrew people.

7. We believe that if, as a body, we were to issue a pronouncement and an appeal to the Jewish people, it would create a sentiment among them which we feel would be used of God to turn the hearts of many of them to a consideration of our message.

8. Since the war began, it has been almost impossible to secure New Testaments in Yiddish and Hebrew from Europe. A special committee should be created for the purpose of giving this matter serious consideration.

9. We would suggest that our people everywhere take the utmost precaution, in talking with the Jewish people, to use Biblical terms rather than terms which would arouse their prejudices.

10. As far as possible, where our workers are conducting efforts along health lines, the attention of the Jewish people should be called to this phase of our work.

11. We would suggest that, as far as possible, special efforts be put forth in behalf of the *Liberty* magazine and our religious liberty work. This feature of our work will strongly appeal to them.

In closing this report, we desire to thank our brethren for their kind co-operation until this hour; but we feel bold in praying that they do much more in the near future than has been done in the past. The time is ripe for it; for we believe that there is "a sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees." We think that Esther's petition to King Ahasuerus is directly applicable as an appeal from the Jewish brethren to this council:

"If I have found favor in thy sight, . . . let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request." "For how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?"

May the prayer of the great apostle to the Gentiles be the prayer of all our dear people at this Conference in behalf of the Jews:

"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved."

F. C. GILBERT, Secretary.

BE brief; for it is with words as with sunbeams, the more they are condensed the deeper they burn.—*Southey*.

REPORT OF THE PRESS BUREAU FOR 1913-18

DURING the past five years steady progress has been made in giving our message through the newspapers in many parts of America, as well as in some of the foreign countries. A systematic campaign has been carried forward among our workers, and we have seen souls saved as the result of the publicity that has been given our message.

Not only have our evangelists taken hold of this newspaper work in an encouraging way, but our local conference presidents, as a rule, have encouraged their workers to use the papers at every opportunity. Many of our local church officers have also given their co-operation toward the spreading of the gospel through this agency, with the result that much seed has been sown over a wide territory.

Hundreds of letters have been received from our workers, telling of the manner in which they have succeeded in attracting large audiences to their meetings through newspaper advertisements and reports of their sermons. These testimonials have been of such a character as to encourage us to continue to supply our brethren with material for their home papers at frequent intervals.

An idea of the way in which the newspapers have been used can be gained from the fact that the Press Bureau has in its possession more than 7,000 clippings from periodicals in different parts of the world, each of which says something about our work. In this collection of clippings is represented every State in the Union, every province in Canada, places in China, India, Japan, the Philippines, England, South Africa, and South America.

The Press Bureau has been unusually busy ever since the war began, nearly four years ago. When war was declared, we felt that an excellent opportunity had come to give an explanation of the prophecies concerning present-day events, and efforts were immediately put forth to supply to our brethren in this country well-prepared articles on such subjects as "The Signs of the Times," "The Meaning of the War in the Light of Prophecy," "Social Conditions Existing Throughout the World," "Industrial Unrest," "The Peace-and-Safety Cry," "The Battle of Armageddon,"—in fact, nearly all the doctrines upon which our evangelists preach in their tent and hall efforts.

Our workers to whom these articles were sent generally succeeded in having them published. In fact, a number of them succeeded in getting reports with attractive headlines, published on the first page of their home papers. Our ministers were advised of the opportunities before them to give the message, and many of them visited the editors with reports of their sermons, which were freely accepted and published. Hundreds and hundreds of such reports were heralded to the masses through this agency. Our speakers in the smaller cities in particular not only found it easy to secure the publication of reports of their sermons, but they were also called upon by the editors to supply Biblical explanations of the war. A number of our men who had hitherto found it difficult to get articles published, saw a great willingness on the part of their home editors to take articles from them, and they have continued to take advantage of this willingness, with the result that many of them have had reports published throughout a whole series of meetings.

The publication of some of these reports has also brought forth editorial comment in different parts of the country, the editors in most instances giving their approval of

the views advanced in our articles; and on the strength of such editorial comment our workers have had the opportunity of giving further explanations of the prophecies to seekers after the truth.

Short articles on the doctrines in the form of "letters to the editor" have been sent out on different occasions to our local church elders and other officers, many of which were gladly printed by the editors. These letters have dealt with such subjects as, "Will All Mankind Cry for Peace?" "Strikes, Wars, Famines, Pestilences, and Disturbances on Land and Sea Are Signs of the End;" "The Crash of Nations;" "Plunging a World into Bankruptcy;" "Wicked to be Destroyed in a Lake of Fire;" "Plowshares Now Being Used as Swords;" "World's Course in Sin Nearly Ended;" "The Real Yellow Peril: Not Yellow Men, but Yellow Metal;" "Europe's Sick Man Sinking;" "Another Universal Empire Predicted."

Our lay brethren in many parts of America have had some encouraging experiences in connection with this line of work, and have written to the Press Bureau, asking that more such articles be sent them. They have told us that many of their friends and acquaintances were impressed with the thoughts brought out in these articles, and the publication of such letters has been the means in many instances of opening the way for our brethren and sisters to visit the homes of these people and enlighten them further concerning the truth.

While a great deal of effort has been put forth since the war started to supply our evangelists and local workers with such articles, our local conference presidents have also co-operated with us in a most encouraging manner, especially during the camp-meeting season, when they have appointed brethren to supply daily reports to the local papers published where the camp-meetings have been held. In some instances as much as a page at a time has been published in connection with our camp-meetings, and our workers have seen large outside audiences present at the evening meetings as a result of the publicity the papers have so cheerfully given them. Not only have the local papers given of their space for such reports, but papers in other parts of some States have also printed reports, thus helping to advertise the camp-meetings over a wide area.

However, our evangelists in the big cities, where the problems are many, have met with a different proposition. In some instances our ministers have been invited to supply the papers with special articles treating on the war, but the editors have not been very free in publishing the great fundamentals of our message.

In visiting the editors in various large cities, it has been found that they are giving very little space for the publication of religious news. They believe that church organizations ought to pay for the publication of their doctrines, the same as any other business enterprise has to pay. They believe that they are doing the churches some good, and that through the use of the newspapers churches are benefited to the extent of increasing their membership, which means an increase in their funds, and the paper managers have taken the position that what is published ought to be paid for.

The editors are glad to give abbreviated reports in their news columns of our sermons, the same as they do for churches of other denominations. But the thought has impressed me that our message is too exalted for us to be satisfied with merely abbreviated reports in the papers, and therefore our brethren in these great cities have

been encouraged to prepare their sermons in a very careful way, incorporating in them the most striking texts of Scripture that they would use to prove their points, and pay for their publication.

We must face conditions as they really are. A study of any large newspaper will reveal the fact that most of its space is given to war news, and editors are not impressed with religious matters. We are not to let this condition deter us, however, from giving our message through the only agency that can carry the truth into every home; and surely the time has arrived for our workers in the big cities to have their sermons published as fully as possible, even though they have to pay for them. By paying for our sermons, we are permitted to put into them just what we think our readers ought to have, and we have the assurance that they will appear in type just as we have written them, without fear of having an editor blue-pencil any part of them. We also write our own headings, eliminating the possibility of having anything ridiculous appear.

This method has been tried successfully in Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, Denver, and other places. Our brethren in the cities named, announced the subject of their next sermon, and they both received and heard many encouraging remarks from persons who had read the reports. In Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee this past winter our brethren also advised the readers that if they desired any free literature on the subjects thus far presented, they should communicate with the evangelist in charge. Our men in these cities have had some interesting responses from various classes of men. Among those who have been heard from are included lawyers, doctors, preachers, and substantial business men, who in their letters expressed the desire to know more about Bible truth. Of course these openings are now being followed up.

In the Detroit effort, Elder A. V. Cotton has had twenty articles on different phases of the message published in newspapers. Of this feature of the effort he says:

"The newspapers in the city of Detroit have had the reputation for quite a number of years in the past of being hostile to the work of Seventh-day Adventists. They apparently have taken delight in writing scurrilous things about our people and our work whenever the opportunity has presented itself to them. But this past winter we have endeavored in every way possible to break down this prejudice. We have made it a point and a part of our business to make the acquaintance of both the editorial and advertising staffs of the different newspapers. We found that the policy of the Detroit newspapers is not different from that of the papers of other cosmopolitan cities. They will not cater to religious news; consequently it is only a very meager report at most that we can get into the news columns.

"We have followed the policy of placing a substantial paid advertisement announcing the meetings every week in all the newspapers, using the church page wherever possible. This placed us upon a speaking acquaintance with the men, and has made it possible to become better acquainted with them. They, in turn, have from time to time given us reports in their news columns.

"We felt, however, that it would be very desirable to have the message in the form of sermons printed in condensed form, so that we might reach those who read the newspapers every day. This began in a small way, paying advertising rates for about a column in the morning paper. We secured a special rate, which was, of course beneficial to us. With each article we invited the reader to make a request for free reading matter.

"The response to this has been very encouraging indeed, and a large number of letters have been received from people who have been reading the papers, expressing their interest and appreciation of what they have read and their desire for additional reading matter. This we have followed up, writing to every individual a personal letter and inviting him to send again for additional reading matter if he so choose. The response has been so gratifying that we increased the space from one column to two columns, and during the month of February we had at least two columns of each Sunday night sermon published in four of the Detroit papers.

"The publicity given to our work through the newspapers has been the means of bringing the truth to the attention of thousands upon thousands of people in the city of Detroit, and also throughout the State. Here and there reports have come in from people in the different cities of the State who have become very much interested and exercised through the reports that have appeared in the newspapers, and some have actually begun the observance of the Sabbath. I am very much of the opinion that if the message is to go to the world in this generation, we must utilize the medium of the public press. Practically everybody reads the newspapers, high and low, rich and poor. They will read the message in the newspapers when they would not care to read it in a book or a periodical that is strictly a religious publication.

"The rural districts and the smaller towns look toward the city and reflect what is going on in the city. The city rarely reflects what is going on in the country districts, and I believe that the evangelistic effort in the big city, together with active newspaper publicity, will be the means of reaching millions of people and hastening the finishing of the work and the coming of Christ."

Of the newspaper work done in Chicago this winter, Elder Milton H. St. John says:

"In January of this year we began a series of meetings in the Central Music Hall, in the 'loop' district. Elder I. J. Woodman began holding two meetings a week in a moving-picture theater on the South Side of the city. Though the weather conditions were anything but propitious, the attendance at both places has been extraordinary.

"After the second Sunday night meeting in the Central Music Hall, we began publishing our Sunday night sermons in the *Daily News*, which has the largest circulation of any newspaper in Chicago. By paying for an average of two columns of each sermon, we were enabled to present the truth through this agency without fear of having it mutilated by the editors. At the end of each sermon we stated that those who were interested to read further upon the subject would have mailed to them free literature by addressing us. The response was immediate and quite astonishing.

"We also put in three of the largest papers display advertisements of our Sunday night meetings, and at the third meeting of the series the hall was filled to its utmost and many were turned away. The report of this sermon appeared in the *News*, an afternoon paper, the next day, and before the day was over we had received twelve telephone calls, asking for literature on the subject, and expressing a deep interest in it. Then letters began to come in, first from Chicago, and then from neighboring States, until up to this writing we have had more than five hundred responses, some from as far away as Montana and Montreal, Canada.

"We feel profoundly impressed that this method of getting our message before the public is the most effective that we have ever heard of. Many people who would not come to our meetings, nor read our literature in tracts, books, or papers, are reading it through the columns of the newspapers. Many of these requests for more literature on the subjects presented come from prominent business and professional men and women. Also we have received letters from

people who expressed their disappointment in not being able to attend the meetings, and saying that they were following the sermons closely as reported in the newspaper.

"Before this experience it was considered that Chicago was one of the most difficult places in the country in which to get publicity. The newspapers of this city are very conservative, and loath to print any religious news free of charge. Indeed, we know that in some cases they would not take paid advertisements where they thought that the doctrines proclaimed were of a sensational character. It seems quite certain that this privilege of using the newspapers, even for paid reports of our sermons, will not be long continued; hence we feel that this method, though expensive, is immensely profitable in the long run in getting the attention of the public and in the salvation of souls.

"Through this means we have now more homes opened to our Bible workers than they are able to visit. Our tithes and offerings have never been so large, and we feel sure that there will be abundance in the treasury to meet the extra expense of this sort of advertising. As our people see that something is being done to reach the masses, they are more willing to give. We certainly expect to continue this method of advertising the message until the work is finished in our great cities."

The latest word from Milwaukee, where a two-column report of each Sunday night sermon is still being published in the leading paper of the city, says:

"God is surely blessing our efforts. Our crowds have increased every Sunday night until we have had to turn people away because of lack of room. Our offerings are also increasing, and we are keeping up our newspaper work. We are getting word from our newspaper work from all over the State. It is certainly a God-given method of reaching the public."

In a number of other cities our evangelists have used the advertising columns to advantage, and through this method have succeeded in attracting large crowds to hear the truth presented. In Atlanta, Ga., where our evangelist was holding a Sunday-night effort, the theater was filled practically every Sunday night through newspaper advertising. Similar success attended the efforts in New York City, Philadelphia, Nashville, Toronto, and other cities where our workers made newspaper advertising a large part of their advertising campaign.

A steady campaign through the newspapers in the Pacific Union Conference territory has been carried forward during the past five years, under the direction of Brother Frank A. Coffin, a newspaper reporter, and most encouraging results have been obtained. Would to God that more newspaper men would accept this message, and join us in our efforts to proclaim this glorious truth to the multitudes through the greatest agency we have at our command!

The Associated Press, the greatest news-gathering agency in the world, has also sent a number of reports of our work over its wires, and they have been published in many of the leading papers of America. The present General Conference session has been widely advertised through the Associated Press, the International News Service, and many individual newspapers in different parts of America.

While God has greatly blessed this work in America, he has also been with his servants in foreign countries. Editors in different foreign countries are eager to print our views on the war. While Elder Daniells was in the Orient, he had some encouraging experiences with reporters and editors, which indicated that men in various parts of the world are looking to our ministers for an

interpretation of the Scriptures treating on world conditions. The English newspapers of Shanghai, China, very readily published extensive reports of his lectures on the war; in fact, the editors solicited him for written reports of his lectures. Concerning the value of using these Shanghai newspapers, Elder Daniells wrote as follows:

"I believe the daily press is opening more and more for our service in the proclamation of this great message to the world. Through these Shanghai papers the most of the English-speaking people in all China were able to get a fair outline of the lectures I gave on the cause and meaning of this world war."

In Hankow the editors also asked for copies of Elder Daniells's lectures. He says that the editor of the leading Hankow paper not only published a good report of his lecture, but devoted about a third of a column in one of his editorials to the support of the theory set forth in the lectures.

One reporter in this country interviewed Elder Daniells on the meaning of the world war, and syndicated the article, which was a column long, and attractively put together, to 300 newspapers.

Copies of "The World War" have been sent to 500 of the leading newspapers in the United States, and a number of interesting reviews of the book have been published.

But with all that God has done for us through the newspapers, there is still a mighty work to be done, and we should work with greater diligence in the future than we have ever done in the past.

Now as to the future of the Press Bureau, I should like to ask that more help be provided. Looking into the future, I can see that big city efforts are going to become more frequent, which will necessarily make more demands upon our department. Only this past winter it was necessary to refuse assistance to several of the big city evangelists because of other efforts calling upon me at the same time. We must also help the evangelists in smaller places by supplying them with material on many doctrines we hold. These requests, which show that our articles will be acceptable to the newspapers, should all be complied with if it is physically possible to do so. When you consider that there are 25,000 newspapers and periodicals in the United States alone, you will readily see that we have a big field before us.

WALTER L. BURGAN, *Secretary.*

EAST GERMAN DEPARTMENT

THE disciples were commanded to begin "at Jerusalem," so Paul began preaching the gospel of Christ in the cities of the ancient world, considering them the most commanding positions of influence. In the East German Department, which includes all the territory east of the Mississippi River, nearly all the work done has been in the cities, not because it is easier to work in cities or on account of the influence it may have on the work in general, but because it is in the cities that the large German population is found.

Growth in Membership

We are led to speak especially of the blessings of the Lord when we see how his prospering hand has been with the work carried on for this nationality since the last session of the General Conference. In looking over the reports, I find that the membership is almost double what it was in 1913. Only through the many earnest prayers sent to God by his people has this progress been

made possible. May the Lord give us a still greater measure of the spirit of devotion.

A Forward Step in Finances

While congregations of other creeds are finding it difficult to meet their financial obligations in these times of war and uncertainty, we can report a forward step in financial matters. The Lord is certainly developing a people willing to sacrifice for the cause of God.

Home Missionary Work

The churches are taking a very active part in the home missionary work. Most of the progress we have experienced in our evangelistic work can be traced to the effective help rendered through the Home Missionary Department. Recently the Pacific Press Branch at Brookfield, Ill., translated Present Truth Series No. 23, into German, issuing it as a special number of the *Christlicher Hausfreund*. Thousands of pages of English reading matter are also circulated by them. Some very successful magazine sellers are found among the Germans. We have some sisters who sell from 6,000 to 10,000 copies of the *Signs of the Times* and *Watchman* magazines every quarter.

The Need of Workers

I succeeded Elder J. H. Schilling as secretary of this department in 1914, and ever since I have found it very difficult to fill all the calls that the conferences have made for workers. In some places the work has suffered because no one could be had to fill the calls. Very few of the older workers can stand the continuous grind of the city work and not break down under it. Consequently we have lost several workers during the time covered by this report. We have a number of students in the Clinton Theological Seminary who will finish their school work at the close of this year. They are laying plans to enter the field permanently this summer. I am sure that this addition of new workers will strengthen the work in the eastern section very materially. I feel confident that still greater things are held in store for us by the Lord, and through his help a good strong work will be developed.

B. E. MILLER.

WEST GERMAN DEPARTMENT

Territory

THIS department embraces all the territory west of the Mississippi River to the Pacific Coast, and extends from the Gulf of Mexico on the south to the uttermost inhabited regions of the north. While we have a large territory, its German population is comparatively small, as the greater number of the German people live east of the Mississippi, in the large cities.

The work started in the West among the farmers. From these it was carried eastward, across the Atlantic to Russia and even to Germany itself. While our membership has never been large, yet we have sent workers from the department to almost every part of the world where the German language is spoken.

Membership

Our membership at present is about 4,000; we cannot give an accurate number, as some of the churches have not reported. We have 108 churches and companies in all. Four years ago we had only 69 churches, with a membership of 3,704. The gain is 39 churches and 296 members. Six other companies are ready to be organized.

Workers

At present we have 26 ordained ministers and 9 licentiates. The Lord has blessed the workers with fairly good health. Only two have been laid to rest since the last General Conference, Elders F. Jorg and George Wagner, both in old age. Elder G. A. Grauer had a serious accident, and his life was despaired of by the physicians; but in answer to the prayers of God's people he was restored to health and is again out in the field.

Finances

When we look at the financial phase of our German work, we see steady improvement. When we began to gather in the reports, the percentage of tithes and offerings was very small. We found quite a few of our churches far behind in the payment of tithes. Many were taken into the churches in former years who did not accept the tithing system, and with these we have had much difficulty. Some brethren went so far as to work actively to discourage others from paying tithe.

But the Lord has helped from year to year, and we see a steady increase. We are glad that we are able to present this report to you, that you may see how our people are coming up in matters of finance. It is true that in some places the crops were good, but in other parts of the country they were very short.

The Seminary

The Clinton Theological Seminary has the largest patronage this year that it has ever had.

We have now reached the time when we shall realize the fruitage of our seminary more and more. While we have sent out quite a number into the field, comparatively few of these had finished a course. In 1913 we sent 6 to South America as missionaries, and later 7 more; but they had not finished the work in the seminary. This year we have 10 who will finish the ministerial course, and about 15 are ready to go out permanently into the field.

Needs

What we need now is the co-operation of all our conferences that have large German settlements. We might mention the following States where something should be done: Iowa, Minnesota, Wyoming, and Texas; and Manitoba, Canada. In these places no German worker is employed at present. Then there are several conferences that are calling for further help. Brother B. E. Miller will speak of the needs in the East, but what we are strongly calling for over the whole territory is co-operation. We like to put our young men into the field, but we cannot do it unless we find open doors in the conferences which have a large German population. We are preparing the workers in our seminary, brethren, and we are ready to send you good men and women, who are able to accomplish much in the proclamation of the third angel's message.

Young People's Work

We have a strong force of young people in our churches who need to be trained for service. It took years to get our people aroused to see the need of a good Christian education for their young people. They were used to farming, and many thought that was all their children were good for. There are still some who think that way, but the most of them have become converted to a better idea. They are willing to spend their money for the education of their children. So many calls have come that it is impossible to furnish the teachers. We have begun to train teachers in our seminary, and

will soon be able to answer more of these calls.

Prof. J. F. Simon, who has charge of the German young people's department, is doing a good work. He is organizing societies in the churches, and is getting in touch with the young people all over the field. There is a great work to be done for our young people, in order to enlist them in the service for God; and we must do this now, before it is forever too late.

Prospects

The prospect for the future is very bright. In some parts of the field it is better than ever before. With the young men and women coming out from our training school, with the many open doors before us, and the readiness of our people to support the work,—and I believe I dare say also, with the willingness of our conference officers to co-operate with us,—our faith can see greater things in the future for the work. We can see a great work accomplished in this field as well as in all the fields of the world.

G. F. HAFNER.



THE SWEDISH DEPARTMENT

Our Swedish population is mostly in the Northern States and in Canada, and the message finds earnest hearts among the people of this nationality. They live much in colonies, and have churches and schools where the native language is used. We have for a number of years carried on active work in this field, and as a result have now about 2,700 Swedish brethren.

Our Regular Field Workers

are thirty in number. Last spring one ordained minister and three new Bible workers were added, for which we thank God very much, because they were much needed. We have now sixteen ordained ministers, four licentiates, and ten Bible workers. Three of our ministers, because of peculiar circumstances, have worked among the English-speaking population for some time. We would like to have this changed as soon as possible, because there are Swedish fields which for years have sent earnest appeals for Swedish workers. We earnestly hope that things may be adjusted so that all our Swedish ministers may be released from work in the English, and help be sent without further delay to the needy who are not able properly to understand the message if given them in the English language.

The Publishing Work

for our department is done by the Pacific Press Branch at Brookfield, Ill. There we have three faithful workers employed, who get out papers, books, and tracts in good, up-to-date style. Almost one hundred per cent of the Swedish population can read and write, and when we work among educated people it is of immense value to get out the printed pages in the proper way. We have two Swedish papers: one weekly, Sions Vaktare (Zion's Watchman), and one monthly magazine, called Tidens Tecken (Signs of the Times). The one last mentioned is self-supporting, and we are making earnest efforts to make the other self-supporting also. We are circulating these papers very extensively. Not long ago we sold out a twenty-nine-thousand edition of an extra number.

Great efforts are being made to get the message of salvation before the Swedish population in these stirring times. We earnestly solicit the co-operation of the brethren of other nationalities, especially in localities where the Swedish people live, and

where we have no Swedish workers among them. It is easy to address the Pacific Press, Brookfield, Ill., when reading matter in the Swedish language is desired. Nearly all the tracts that we have in the English language have been translated into Swedish. They can be obtained from the same place.

The Educational Work

is progressing very satisfactorily at the Broadview Swedish Seminary, La Grange, Ill. This institution has had a healthy, steady growth. Seven years ago, during its first school year it had an enrolment of twenty-two students; and since our last General Conference the number of students has about doubled, so we have an enrolment this year of eighty-five, and are much in need of more room. All the debt has been paid, and we raise money as improvements are needed. Last summer we built a home for the principal of the school, added many hundred volumes to our library, and now teachers and students have just put up a new barn. A liberal Swedish brother volunteered to pay for all the material. Another good brother donated a fine span of horses. We thank God for inclining the hearts of these men to help. Last year we also made improvements in other lines on the farm, so now our stock is composed mostly of Holstein cattle. Already we have some successful workers in the field who received their training in the Swedish Seminary.

Present Results of the Work

are encouraging, but we are working hard and praying earnestly for better results. According to the reports for the last year, we gained 261 new converts, baptized 229, and added 270 to the churches in our little department. This measure of success compares quite favorably, proportionately, with the success in American fields. So far as we know, last year was the most successful year in the Swedish field. At the last General Conference we reported 1,700 Swedish brethren in North America, and at this General Conference we are glad to report about 2,700.

Our Needs

are many. We have workers now in only seventeen conferences, and there are many more which ought to be entered, for very earnest appeals have come to us for help. We need strong, efficient workers, because we have a hard field. The people who come from Scandinavia have from childhood developed hardness of mind and body; they must do this in order to live in their country, where they have to put up a strong fight for existence if they are to live respectably. It certainly takes great faith and a God-given power and perseverance to work successfully for such people. All our workers are put to a very severe test, and still they are, as a rule, of good courage, greatly appreciating the opportunity of bringing such a glorious message of salvation to their nationality, gladly sacrificing all to win precious souls to Christ.

Co-operation

We are glad to be able to report that a very kind spirit of love, confidence, and co-operation pervades our workers in the field, as well as in the publishing and educational branches of our work. We feel that it is high time to drop all old prejudices, and co-operate with all nationalities for one single purpose,—the salvation of souls. In these perilous times we must have our hearts trained and directed by God to love all for whom Christ died. So, while we feel it our duty to work for the Swedes, we give out the printed pages in different lan-

guages, and speak a kind word whenever opportunity offers; and we would invite our American brethren and those of all other nationalities, to co-operate in the same way, — to do the same for the Swedes who come in touch with them. Even if they can speak English fairly well, religion always makes the strongest impression when presented in the mother tongue, because they have read the Bible more or less from childhood in the Swedish, and are acquainted with the religious terms of that language. As we co-operate in brotherly love, the smile of Heaven will be upon us, and the mighty God of love will greatly bless the work in all nationalities; and happy will be the day when we meet around the throne and there see the results of our labor.

S. MORTENSON, *Secretary.*

THE DANISH-NORWEGIAN WORK IN NORTH AMERICA

As early as the year 1866, Elder John G. Matteson applied to the Review and Herald board of trustees to ascertain if they would print, for the use of the Scandinavians, pamphlets and tracts in their language. At that time there were persons of his nationality in Wisconsin and Minnesota who had accepted the message, about fifty, all told. The Review and Herald complied with his request. Thus it is more than fifty years since the message of the second advent began to be proclaimed to the Scandinavians of this country.

We are sincerely thankful to a kind heavenly Father that the work among the Danes and Norwegians has never had to sound a retreat. However, when we remember what God has been anxious to do for and through us, we bow our heads with shamefacedness that we have accomplished so little.

The report I shall give covers only the three years that I have acted as secretary of the Danish-Norwegian Department.

Our Work and Workers

During this time we have employed an average of fourteen ordained ministers, ten licentiates, and thirteen Bible workers, who have devoted their time almost exclusively to the Danish-Norwegian work. This does not include the teachers in the Danish-Norwegian Seminary. These workers have reported the following results:

During the three years covered by this report, 616 new converts have been won for the truth, 11 new churches have been organized, of which 5 are exclusively Scandinavian. During these three years these workers have secured 3,100 subscriptions to our different periodicals. We also have a harbor missionary stationed in New York City, who distributes and sells thousands upon thousands of our periodicals, tracts, and books. He has reported several converts to the truth.

Publishing Work

At present we are publishing in our language in this country, 23 books, 22 different tracts, and some pamphlets, also a 16-page weekly church and missionary paper. Last summer we printed a special number of our weekly paper somewhat after the order of the Present Truth Series. Of this special number we circulated an edition of 20,000. We have another special just off the press. There is apparently an adverse feeling to our literature on the part of many ministers of other denominations among the Danes and Norwegians, but in the face of this it finds a ready sale among the laity, especially since the outbreak of the war.

While the students from our seminary sell not only Danish-Norwegian books, but books

in other languages as well, we aim to have them canvass in Scandinavian districts. At least two of our boys passed the \$1,000 mark during last summer's vacation, and with but a few exceptions, all earned their scholarships, some two or three.

Educational Work

This present year will conclude the eighth year of the seminary's operation, and it has been its best year. We are at present employing 14 teachers. Our enrolment is nearing the 170 mark. When the property was purchased, the committee delegated to secure it guaranteed the citizens of Hutchinson an enrolment of 50. There was considerable talk of building a temporary wall in the building so as to avoid heating the entire building; but God willed it otherwise. Our first year's enrolment was 82, and we have had a gradual growth up to and including the present year. Because of this growth, it became necessary for us to build an addition to the old building. We have only one building besides our farmer's cottage, barn, and small outbuildings.

This new addition, a west wing to the seminary building, has given us 13 additional students' rooms, 5 classrooms, and a ladies' parlor. We have also built a new \$500 silo, and an addition to our barn. The whole has cost us approximately \$27,000. Of this amount the Northern Union gave us \$6,000, and the Central and Lake Unions each gave us \$1,000. Our Danish-Norwegian brethren appreciated these gifts from the conferences, as they assisted us materially in raising the rest. Of the remaining \$19,000, we are lacking only \$500 to have it all paid up, but this amount is fully covered by good pledges, and will very soon be realized in cash.

While quite a number of our students are preparing for work among those of their own nationality in this country, we are also impressing upon them, with pleasing results, the great needs and urgent calls of the regions beyond. Especially, but not to a selfish exclusion of other fields, are we interested in Manchuria. We have a fine class of students, and an excellent spirit prevails. We learn to love these splendid boys and girls. Sincere and devoted as they are, many of them put some of us to shame.

Needs of the Department

One of our greatest needs is experienced workers. It seems that no sooner do we have some developed, than they are switched off into some official position or disappear from our particular work. While this makes our work hard in many ways, we are nevertheless thankful for a constant stream of young prospective workers.

We have many large communities of Danes and Norwegians, some thinly and others thickly settled, that have never heard a living preacher proclaim this message, where a working knowledge of the language is absolutely essential. We must reach them by voice and pen. There are many precious gems among this people. But our work is not an easy one. Prejudice has been instilled into their minds from earliest childhood. Unless we can very materially quicken our pace, we are very sure that we shall have to face our Lord with an unfinished work among this people. In many places it is advisable to conduct our efforts in both languages, sometimes largely in the English, oftener largely in the Danish-Norwegian. What we are after is sheaves for the heavenly garner. We are with you to finish the work and hasten His glorious appearing. We love our Lord, and long to be at home with him.

We sincerely appreciate the hearty co-operation we have enjoyed from our local

and union conferences, and this has been no less true of our brethren of the North American Division Conference. God has also blessed us with unity and co-operation on the part of our workers and the laity. We heartily appreciate the sincere efforts that all have put forth. We are truly anxious for more of his Spirit in our lives, that we of the Danish-Norwegian Department may better serve the great cause of truth.

P. E. BBODERSEN.

THE FRENCH WORK IN NORTH AMERICA

NORTH AMERICA has about four million French-speaking people. One million of this population is in the Eastern States, another million is scattered over the other States, and two millions are in Canada. Most of these people are Canadian, Belgian, or French.

Our Workers

During the last five years we have had among this nationality only one regular French worker besides the writer, Elder J. Vuilleumier, who labored for five consecutive years in the city of Montreal, Canada. Brother Vuilleumier worked hard and faithfully, and succeeded in raising up a French church in Montreal. Two Bible readers began work among the French in several conferences. One of these workers, Brother Samuel C. Hannon, was sent by the Lake Union to the French Department in South Lancaster in order to prepare for the large French field in that union. After his return, he had scarcely begun working for his people when he was called back into the English work.

French Literature

Our quarterly magazine, *Les Signes des Temps*, is circulated among both Catholics and Protestants. If we had a few regular canvassers, we could dispose of a large edition of this paper. We have also prepared three special papers, and intend to publish several others before the year is over. Like the Present Truth Series, each number of these special papers presents one point of our truth. For a long time we have felt the need of having such a publication in our work among the Catholics.

Our Educational Work

In 1915 our French educational department was moved from South Lancaster to Oshawa, Ontario. We believe this was a good move. We have several promising students in attendance, and we hope they will soon be ready for active service in the field. Elder Vuilleumier is now at the head of this department, which was formerly under the care of Miss H. L. Roth. Miss Roth is working on our French literature.

Progress of the Work

Eight years ago, when the writer was called to this country to take charge of the French work, there were about 160 French Seventh-day Adventists in this country. Now, as far as we can ascertain, there are about 325. These members pay annually an average of \$8,500 in tithes and offerings, or \$26 per capita.

With only two French workers and no Bible workers, we cannot carry on active work as we should like to do. But while unable to supply the living messengers, our silent messengers have traveled throughout the country and abroad. In response to notices published in our papers, the writer has received a large number of addresses, to which our French literature is being sent regularly. Besides supplying Haiti with

French literature, requests have come from Guadeloupe, Algeria, Singapore, and other distant places.

During these last five years 65,000 French magazines have been sold or given away, and 470,000 pages of tracts distributed. What the result of this silent work will be, we shall know only when we reach the other shore.

The French work is developing slowly. Comparing this work with that among other nationalities, and judging from appearances, we might say that the French people are not responsive to our message. It is true that the results obtained are insignificant compared with the strenuous efforts put forth. But we know this is a part of the Lord's work, and we are confident that our labor has not been in vain in his sight. We are sowing the seed with the assurance that the Lord will water it and bring forth the fruit in his own time.

Our Needs

Our needs are so great that we can scarcely find words to express them.

1. We realize that the essential requisite is a special measure of God's Holy Spirit and wisdom, that we may stand before the devil's assaults and finish this tremendous work.

2. We need workers who have studied the situation and are resolved to stand by the work in the face of difficulties. We feel that persons of this character who are able to work among the French should be encouraged to do so, and be kept in that work by union and local conferences.

3. Whenever a conference having a large French field in its territory is unable to pay the salary of a French worker, there should be a special financial arrangement with the division, whereby the French worker could be secured and kept in the field.

4. We ask all union and local conference presidents who have a French field in their territory to urge our English-speaking brethren to circulate our French literature; our working force is so small we need their co-operation.

G. G. ROTH, Supt.

Appointments and Notices

CAMP-MEETINGS FOR 1918

Atlantic Union Conference

Southern New England	June 13-23
Massachusetts	June 20-30
Eastern New York, Pulaski	June 27 to July 7
Maine	Aug. 15-25
Western New York	Aug. 15-25
Northern New England	Aug. 22 to Sept. 1

Central Union Conference

Colorado, Denver	June 20-30
Wyoming	June 27 to July 7
Kansas	Aug. 15-25
Nebraska	Aug. 23-31
Missouri	Aug. 29 to Sept. 8

Columbia Union Conference

Virginia, Richmond	May 24 to June 2
West Virginia, Sistersville	June 6-16
Eastern Pennsylvania, Emmanuel Grove, near Allentown	June 13-23
West Pennsylvania	June 20-30
New Jersey	June 27 to July 7
Ohio	Aug. 15-25
Chesapeake	Sept. 6-16
District of Columbia	Sept. 13-21

Eastern Canadian Union Conference

Maritime, Oxford, Nova Scotia	June 13-23
Ontario	June 20-30
Quebec	July 4-14
Newfoundland	Sept. 27 to Oct. 6

Lake Union Conference

East Michigan, Holly	June 6-16
West Michigan, Allegan	June 13-23
South Wisconsin	June 13-23
Northern Illinois	June 20-30
North Wisconsin, Spooner	June 20-30
Indiana	Aug. 15-25
Southern Illinois	Aug. 22 to Sept. 1
North Michigan	Aug. 29 to Sept. 9

Northern Union Conference

South Dakota, Mitchell	May 30 to June 9
Minnesota, Anoka	June 6-16
North Dakota, Harvey	June 13-23

North Pacific Union Conference

Southern Idaho, Baker, Oreg.	June 27 to July 7
Southern Oregon, Roseburg	May 23 to June 2
Upper Columbia, Clarkston, Wash.	June 6-16
Western Oregon, Portland	May 23 to June 9
Western Washington, Tacoma	June 13-23
Montana, Billings	June 20-30
Southern Idaho, Pocatello	Sept. 5-15

Pacific Union Conference

Central California, Fresno	May 30 to June 9
Nevada	June 13-18
Northern California	June 20-30
California and Northwestern California	July 4-14
Inter-Mountain, Salt Lake City, Utah	July 13-28
Southern California	Aug. 1-11
Southeastern California	Aug. 15-25
Arizona	Oct. 31 to Nov. 10

Southern Union Conference

Louisiana	July 25 to Aug. 4
Louisiana (colored)	July 25 to Aug. 4
Tennessee (colored)	Aug. 15-25
Kentucky	Aug. 29 to Sept. 8
Kentucky (colored)	Aug. 29 to Sept. 8
Tennessee	Sept. 5-15
Alabama	Sept. 12-22
Mississippi	Sept. 19-29
Mississippi (colored)	Sept. 19-29

Southeastern Union Conference

Georgia	Aug. 8-18
Cumberland	Aug. 22 to Sept. 1
North Carolina	Sept. 5-15
South Carolina	Sept. 19-29

Southwestern Union Conference

South Texas	July 12-21
Arkansas	July 18-28
Texico	Aug. 1-11
North Texas	Aug. 8-18
Oklahoma	Aug. 22 to Sept. 1

Western Canadian Conference

British Columbia, Penticton	June 6-16
Manitoba, Winnipeg	June 20-30
Saskatchewan, Moose Jaw	July 4-14
Alberta	July 11-21

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

The Central California Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists will hold its sixth annual meeting in connection with the camp-meeting at Recreation Park, Fresno, Cal., May 30 to June 9, 1918, for the election of a board of trustees and the transaction of such other business as may come before the conference. The first meeting of the association is called for June 3, at 10 A. M.

N. P. Neilsen, President.
G. A. Wheeler, Secretary.

MINNESOTA CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the Minnesota Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in connection with its camp-meeting and conference, at Anoka, Minn., June 6-16, 1918, for the purpose of electing officers and transacting such business as may properly come before the association. The first meeting will be held at 9 a. m., June 12.

G. W. Wells, President.
Mary D. Hopkins, Secretary.

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

Notice is hereby given that the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and the Pennsylvania Tract and Missionary Society, Inc., will hold their business sessions in connection with the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference camp-meeting, June 13 to 23, 1918, at Emmanuel Grove, near Allentown, Pa. The first business session of the Pennsylvania Tract and Missionary Society will be held at 9:30 a. m., Monday, June 17.

D. A. Parsons, President.
W. B. Mohr, Secretary.

WESTERN OREGON CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

The Western Oregon Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, a legal organization, will hold its sixteenth annual session, the Lord willing, in Portland, Ore., in connection with the conference and camp-meeting, May 28 to June 9, 1918, inclusive, to elect a board of trustees, and to transact such other business as the constituency may elect. The first meeting is hereby called to be held Friday, May 31, 1918, at 10 A. M.

H. W. Cottrell, President.
C. E. Olcott, Secretary.

WEST MICHIGAN CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

The fifteenth annual session of the West Michigan Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at Allegan, Mich., at the time of the conference camp-meeting, June 13-23, 1918. The first meeting of the session is called for Tuesday, June 18. The regular delegates to the conference are the constituency of the legal body, and are entitled to a voice in the election of the board of trustees, and the transaction of such other business as may come before the body.

William Guthrie, President.
David K. Royer, Secretary.

WEST MICHIGAN CONFERENCE

The first biennial (sixteenth) session of the West Michigan Conference will be held in connection with the camp-meeting at Allegan, Mich., June 13-23, 1918, for the election of officers and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the conference. According to the constitution, each church is entitled to one delegate for its organization, and one additional delegate for each fifteen members and fraction thereof. The first meeting will be called promptly at 10 a. m., June 14, 1918.

E. K. Slade, President.
D. K. Royer, Secretary.

MARITIME CONFERENCE

Notice is hereby given that the fifteenth session (first biennial) of the Maritime Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at Oxford, Nova Scotia, June 13-23, in connection with the camp-meeting. The first meeting will be held at 9:30 a. m., Friday, June 14. Election of officers and other matters of interest will come before the conference at this time. The elder of each church is a delegate for the church organization, and one additional delegate should be appointed for every fifteen members.

J. L. Wilson, President.
Amy Frank, Secretary.

NEW YORK CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

The thirteenth session of the New York Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists (a legal corporation) will be held in connection with the fifty-seventh session of the Eastern New York Conference at Pulaski, N. Y., on the camp-ground on Port Street. The first meeting will be called at 5 p. m., Tuesday, July 2. This meeting is called for the election of officers, and for the transaction of such other business as should come before the constituency. All accredited delegates to the conference compose the constituency of the Association.

H. C. Hartwell, President.
H. A. May, Secretary.

NORTH WISCONSIN CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

The first session of the North Wisconsin Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in connection with the conference and camp-meeting at Spooner, Wis., June 20-30, 1918. The first meeting will be held at 10 a. m., Friday, June 21. At this meeting officers for the coming two years will be elected, and such other business transacted as may properly come before the meeting. The delegates to the Association are the regularly accredited delegates to the North Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

J. J. Irwin, President.
H. W. Johnson, Secretary.

WEST VIRGINIA BOOK SOCIETY

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Seventh-day Adventist Book Society will convene on the camp-ground in Sistersville, W. Va., at 10 A. M., June 11, 1918. At this meeting all such necessary business will be transacted as can properly come before an annual meeting.

T. B. Westbrook, President.
Jennie Burdick, Secretary.

SPECIAL SESSION OF THE SOUTHERN OREGON CONFERENCE

Notice is hereby given that a special session of the Southern Oregon Conference is called to meet in connection with the annual camp-meeting at Roseburg, Ore., May 23 to June 2. At this meeting plans will be considered for the establishment of a conference twelve-grade school, and any other business that may properly come up at this time will be transacted.

J. A. Rippey, President.
E. C. Stiles, Secretary.

MISSIONARY NURSES' TRAINING COURSE, MADISON (WIS.) SANITARIUM

The next class of the Madison Sanitarium Nurses' Training Course will begin July 10, 1918. There is opportunity for about twenty young women and five young men to enter the course. Only consecrated, mature young people are desired. We ask all who are interested to make application early. Information and application blanks will be sent upon request.

Emma F. Dinesen, R. N., Supt. of Nurses.

MANITOBA CONFERENCE

The fourteenth session (first biennial) of the Manitoba Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held June 20-30 at Winnipeg, Manitoba. The conference officers for the ensuing term will be elected, and such other business will be transacted as may properly come before this body. Each church is entitled to one delegate, without regard to numbers, and to one additional delegate for every seven members. The first meeting will be held June 21, at 9:30 a. m.
Geo. H. Skinner, President.
G. R. Soper, Secretary.

NORTH WISCONSIN CONFERENCE

The first biennial session of the North Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in connection with the camp-meeting at Spooner, Wis., June 20-30. The first meeting will be at 9 a. m., Friday, June 21, 1918. Officers for the coming two years will be elected, and such other business transacted as may lawfully come before the conference. Each church is entitled to one delegate for its organization and one for each fifteen members or major fraction thereof.

J. J. Irwin, President.
H. W. Johnson, Secretary.

EASTERN NEW YORK CONFERENCE

The fifty-seventh session of the Eastern New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held June 27 to July 7, 1918, in connection with the Eastern New York camp-meeting, on Port Street, Pulaski, N. Y., for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing biennial term, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the delegates. Each organized church is entitled to one delegate for the organization, and one additional delegate for each ten members. The first meeting of the session will be held at 10 a. m., Friday, June 28.

H. C. Hartwell, President.
H. A. May, Secretary.

ADDRESSES WANTED

Mrs. J. E. Hobbs, Sunnyside, Wash., desires the addresses of Bible workers in Detroit, Mich., and Concord, N. H.

Information concerning the whereabouts of Beulah Adams is desired by her mother, Mrs. Altina Adams, Edenville, Midland Co., Mich.

Mrs. Lois Fairchild, R. F. D. No. 2, Ney, Ohio, clerk of the Hicksville (Ohio) church, desires information concerning the whereabouts of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Cole.

Elder J. C. Stevens, 604 East 17th St., Brooklyn, N. Y., desires information concerning the whereabouts of William Harvey, a member of the Brooklyn Seventh-day Adventist church, who left his home Feb. 24, 1917, and has not been heard from since.

PUBLICATIONS WANTED

The persons named below desire late, clean copies of our publications, sent postpaid, for use in missionary work. In sending publications care should be exercised to select only such as are free from soil and disfigurement. We have been credibly informed that some who oppose this movement and the truths which it represents, answer these requests for literature, and are sending to our brethren and sisters in various parts of the country tracts and papers representing their opposition. Our workers should be careful not to confound this literature with our denominational publications, and thus unwittingly become agents in sending out matter not printed in the interests of the cause of truth.

L. A. Robinson, R. F. D. No. 4, Box 147, Claremont, N. C.

Mrs. W. C. Ayers, Box 318, Dolores, Colo. Continuous supply of Watchman, Signs, weekly and monthly, and also tracts.

The Young People's Missionary Volunteer Society of the Cleveland (Ohio) church desires to obtain the names of interested persons for use in their Literature and Correspondence Band. Address J. C. Hannum, 1451 Newman Ave., Lakewood, Ohio.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

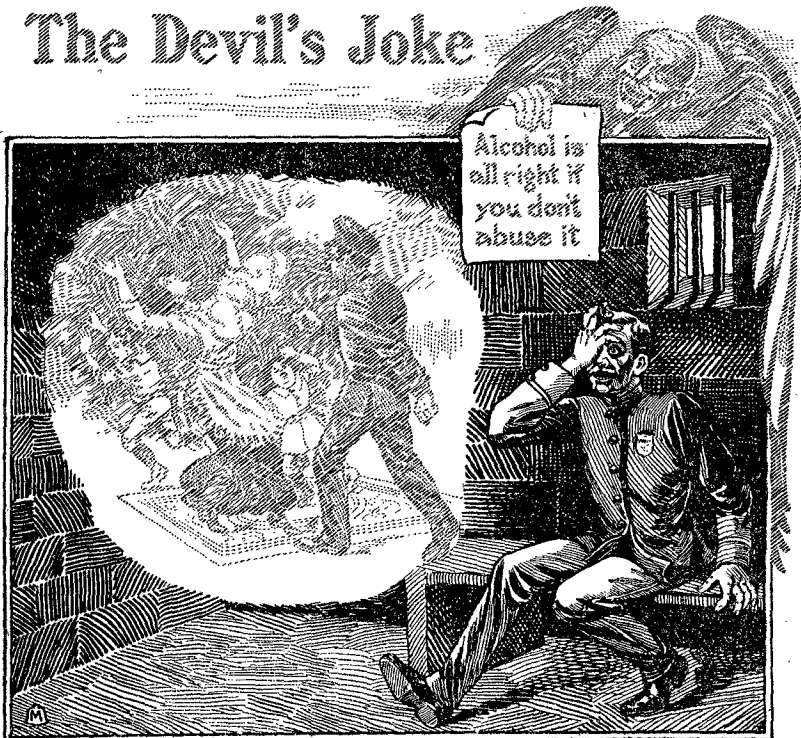
Though widely separated from one another, the followers of our Lord and Master can meet in spirit daily at the throne of grace. In our devotions let us remember our brethren and sisters who are in affliction. Says the apostle: "Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body." We ourselves shall share in the blessings we seek for others. "The Lord turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends." We suggest the noon hour as an appropriate time for remembering these special requests.

A sister in Kentucky asks prayer for healing. An anxious mother in the far West asks prayer for the conversion of her son, who is serving in France.

"Will you not join me in praying for the restoration of my husband to health, and especially that his mind may be strengthened?" writes a sister from Colorado.

"Please pray that I may be healed of rheumatism, and that my husband and sons may be converted to this truth," is the request of a New York sister.

The Devil's Joke



No More Alcoholic Jokes After 1918

if the temperance people in all States put forth their best efforts in the interest of prohibition. In all States holding fall elections, the Instructor Temperance Annual should be placed in the homes of all voters. This can be done through the sale of single copies in accessible places, and in all other places temperance people will subscribe to a general fund for the purchasing of enough of the Temperance Instructors to supply all demands.

In every place not worked through sales, good solicitors should be sent with sample copies to let the people solicited see the nature of the temperance literature for which they are asked to pay, for free distribution in their community. Ample means can be secured in this way to supply every home with the Instructor Temperance Annual, and the presence of these papers in the homes will insure votes favorable to the cause of temperance because it is a most

Effective Temperance Educator

PRICES

Single copy	\$.10
Five to forty copies, one order, one address, each05
Fifty or more copies, one order, one address, each04

Send all orders through the conference tract societies.

The Instructor Temperance Annual

Impresses the fact that "the devil's jokes" mean sorrow and death to humanity. It hangs up the sign, "Alcohol is all right if you don't use it."



WASHINGTON, D. C., MAY 23, 1918

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ALL communications relating to the EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT, and all manuscripts submitted for publication, should be addressed to EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT, Review and Herald, Takoma Park Station, Washington, D. C.

BROTHER E. R. JOHNSON, who has been engaged in educational and evangelistic work in Cuba, has answered the call of the Pacific Press Publishing Association to connect with the Panama Branch, and sailed with his family last week from Cuba for the Canal Zone.

ELDER J. R. CAMPBELL writes from Sanitarium, Cal., of a mistake in the report of the General Conference proceedings in the REVIEW of May 9. On page seven, the first column, Brother Campbell is reported as saying: "The heathen who lived about came down from Sabbath to Sabbath to hear what we had to say." He says this should have read: "The heathen who lived about came down from Sabbath to Sabbath to hear what the missionaries had to say." Brother Campbell says that at the time this incident occurred he was not connected with the mission, but joined the mission family later in their experience.

BROTHER W. H. WILLIAMS, writing of the work in South America, says: "While we are not doing all that we should like to do, or accomplishing all that we should like to accomplish, yet we are glad to report that there has been an increase of nearly five hundred members in our division during the year 1917. During this period the fields report baptisms as follows: Austral Union, 214; Brazilian Union, 236; Inca Union, 431, making a total of 881. This is an increase of baptisms as reported for 1916 of 148 souls. There have also been large sales of literature. The Austral Union has more than doubled its sales for 1916."

KHAKI "STEPS TO CHRIST"

WE are very sorry to announce that the Army and Navy edition of "Steps to Christ" is entirely exhausted, and that the orders now being received cannot be filled. The Missionary Volunteer Department ordered a second edition just as soon as assurances were received that we would be able to pay for it. This new edition is now on the press, and we fully expect to be able to fill all orders by June 1.

The primary purpose in publishing this book was to supply our union Missionary Volunteer secretaries and camp workers for their work with the soldiers. However, many of our people desire the book for personal missionary effort, and we have arranged for its distribution to such through the regular channels. Price, 25 cents.

M. E. KERN.

A WORTHY CAUSE

An Appeal for Red Cross Funds

ON the front page of this number of the REVIEW appears the proclamation of President Wilson concerning the American Red Cross, setting apart the week beginning May 20 for a special campaign in behalf of this association.

Surely the needs of the American Red Cross should appeal to the heart of every Seventh-day Adventist. Its humanitarian work ought to be especially noted. It has established institutions for the care of convalescents abroad, among the troops, and institutions for the re-education of maimed men; has provided millions of canteens where food and hot drinks are served, not only to soldiers, but also to needy civilians who have become refugees on account of the war.

At home, the Red Cross has supplied millions of woolen sweaters, mufflers, socks, and other comforts to the men in the camps. It has conducted sanitation work around the cantonments, and helped and given advice to dependents of soldiers and sailors. Every Seventh-day Adventist who has young men relatives or friends in the army, or who will have in the future, should be willing and glad to contribute what he can to this noble work.

Enormous demands have lately been made on the organization for increased facilities. Refugees—old men, women, and children—driven from their homes in France and Italy, have added thousands to those who must be fed, clothed, and nursed back to health and re-established. The fight to overcome tuberculosis in France must be sustained and increased. The campaign to save babies and children must be extended. It is estimated that one hundred million dollars is needed at once. The Red Cross dollar will go far in allaying pain, restoring happiness, and re-creating usefulness for our fellow human beings who have suffered on account of the war. Twenty-two million Americans have already joined the Red Cross, but more are wanted. Will not our brethren and sisters carefully consider its needs, and show in a practical manner their appreciation of its work? W. T. KNOX.

CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

THIS year a large number of our State conferences will hold their legal association meetings. On account of the growing pressure upon our columns from week to week in consequence of our enlarging work, we shall print these notices only once in the columns of the REVIEW, unless otherwise instructed. Will conference officers kindly inform us when sending such notices as to whether or not their by-laws require the insertion of the notices more than once? If such is the case, we will comply with the necessary requirements. We would suggest, however, that it might be well for such by-laws to be amended so that only one insertion will be required in the REVIEW AND HERALD. It seems quite unnecessary to advertise these local meetings in three or four consecutive issues when one publication would meet the requirements of the law if it were so provided in the by-laws.

GENERAL CONFERENCE REPORTS

OUR next number will complete the reports from the General Conference, and in the issue succeeding we shall resume our regular departments. This number is largely made up of reports from union conference presidents. Two of the longest of these reports, but among the best, namely, from the Lake and Pacific Unions, we were obliged to throw over until next week for lack of space. In our next number we shall also take pleasure in presenting the photographs of our union conference presidents, so far as we have their photographs on file from which to make plates. The publication of the General Conference reports has necessitated the laying over of many interesting reports from the field. We have also a large number of obituary notices awaiting publication, which we shall print as soon as possible.

PREACH THE WORD

(Continued from page 2)

"Jesus did not suppress one word of truth, but he uttered it always in love. He exercised the greatest tact, and thoughtful, kind attention, in his intercourse with the people. He was never rude, never needlessly spoke a severe word, never gave needless pain to a sensitive soul. He did not censure human weakness. He spoke the truth, but always in love. He denounced hypocrisy, unbelief, and iniquity; but tears were in his voice as he uttered his scathing rebukes. He wept over Jerusalem, the city he loved, which refused to receive him, the way, the truth, and the life."—"Steps to Christ," p. 13.

Presenting the truth in this way does not mean compromise. The loud cry of the gospel message will not consist in giving the message in railing accusation against any combination of error. It will be the speaking of the truth in love, and in the power and demonstration of the Spirit. It is not by worldly wisdom, or skill, or genius, not by logic or oratory, not by commercial methods or agencies, that the work is to be accomplished, but by the power of righteousness in the possession of the Holy Spirit by the message bearers.

F. M. W.

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