

The Advent **REVIEW** AND **HERALD** Sabbath

GENERAL CHURCH PAPER OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

INTO ALL THE WORLD



A Preview of the Session

By LORA E. CLEMENT

TO GIVE you a clear picture of the gathering of this forty-fifth session of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, I must take you back to ten o'clock on the morning of the 11th day of last March. It was then that President J. L. McElhany and his fellow officers, faced with certain startling and stern realities, called to order an emergency meeting of the Minority Committee and the union conference presidents for North America.

For more than four years definite plans had been made for holding this next session in St. Louis, Missouri. Only last-minute arrangements, as it were, remained to be completed. Now word had come that rooming facilities available in that great, overcrowded city were entirely unequal to the needs of a General Conference. The hotels regretted that they could not guarantee housing for the close to 900 delegates expected, let alone the thousands of visitors who were sure to attend. A house-to-house canvass proved that few additional rooms in private homes were obtainable, and that tourist cabins for at least twenty miles beyond the city limits were occupied by permanent residents.

Earnest prayer for divine guidance was followed by a serious discussion of possibilities, some of which involved changing the time of the session. By midafternoon a unanimous decision was reached. The conference would be held June 5-15; and it would be held in Takoma Park, a suburb of Washington, D.C., where are located our denominational headquarters and a number of Seventh-day Adventist institutions. It was thought that with careful planning, plus the facilities afforded by the Columbia Union and Potomac conferences, Washington Missionary College, Washington Sanitarium and Hospital, the Theological Seminary, and the Review and Herald Publishing Association, added to the co-operation of our church members and friends in the area, sufficient sleeping and eating and meeting space *could be managed* for the accredited delegates and as many of their wives as might accompany them.

There was one provision in this unanimous vote that everyone who had to do with the final decision regretted—the necessity of most cordially inviting the general denominational public to stay at home. This meeting, if it was to be held at all, must be regarded as a strictly delegated session. For Washington is a war-worker-crowded city, too!

This word has been sent broadcast to all parts of the United States, and many who had planned to attend are not among those who are gathering for the opening meeting. But even so, if you doubt that room is at a premium, consider that in many of the private homes of our believers, basements, halls, porches, and attics are all in use as sleeping quarters; the Potomac Con-

ference camp-meeting tents are pitched on the college campus and are full to overflowing, as are a large percentage of dormitory rooms. Also hotels in jam-packed Washington are doing their best for us to the extent of a few hundred rooms. How the Locating Committee will ever accomplish their herculean task we do not know, but we have all faith in their abilities. However, if anyone not in the delegate group has come without a pre-arranged place to stay, it is going to be just too bad!

This will be a different General Conference—yes, very different from any which has been held within our memory. It will not be as large as usual; but without doubt it will be the most important general meeting ever yet to convene in the history of the remnant church, for many important and perplexing problems of world-wide concern must be considered and solved; perhaps it will be the last General Conference—who knows? Time is short; soon Jesus will come. And does not the Lord's inspired messenger tell us that "the final movements" in earth's history "will be rapid ones"? Also this will be an air-minded meeting,

OPENING HYMN AT FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE

Hymn No. 233 of *Hymns for Those Who Keep the Commandments of God, and the Faith of Jesus* was used to open the first Conference session of Seventh-day Adventists at Battle Creek, Michigan, May 20, 1863, at 6 P.M. This hymn was written by Annie R. Smith, under the title of "The Scattered Flock." It now appears as "Long Upon the Mountains" on page 664 of our new *Church Hymnal* and is sung to a different air from that used by our pioneer believers.

for most of the delegates from overseas have come either all or part of the way by plane. Just five short years ago, when the last Conference was held in San Francisco, no one even thought of traveling to the session by air!

For the last two months delegates have been coming in to Washington from the far corners of the earth, since they were obliged to make the journey when they could secure transportation. Many of them stayed only a very short while, then traveled on to visit different parts of the United States and observe our work, meet our workers, and acquaint themselves with the various institutions in action here in the homeland of the second advent movement.

Among the early arrivals were E. B. Rudge, W. G. Turner, W. L. Pasco, and G. E. Adair of Australia, that pleasant land "down under." It was a real joy to welcome Pastor Turner back to the

United States, where he served so ably as vice-president for North America for a number of years. I remarked to Pastor Rudge, president of the Australasian Union Mission, that "really, the world isn't very large any more," and he agreed with a smile, adding: "I was airsick over Ireland yesterday morning, and this morning I am here in the United States!"

Among the "very-firsters," too, were a group of sturdy Norsemen who are "so happy" that the strenuous war years are in the past, and that once more they can have "letters and our good papers and magazines and books from America." Among these was P. G. Nelson, president of the West Nordic Union Conference, who, in telling some of the many providences that he and his fellow believers in the advent hope experienced during the German occupation, added: "God has been very good to His people. We have all courage in Him to press on with you and finish His work here in the earth so that Jesus may come quickly." And with him was Paul Olsen, courageous manager of our denominational publishing house in Oslo, Norway, who told the Gestapo men when they arrested him and took him to headquarters for questioning: "You must understand one thing: I am not the least bit afraid of you!"

We also enjoyed meeting Elias Bjaanaes, who is a veteran colporteur and who has trained over two thousand bookmen for work in the Scandinavian countries. The record under his leadership is that in Norway and Denmark there is not a family that does not have at least one *Seventh-day Adventist book*, "and much more often you find twelve books in a single home in place of one." In spite of prohibitions he sold books under the very eyes of the Gestapo in Norway, and his colporteurs, inspired by his example, "went forward afraid of nothing" and rolled up a marvelous total of sales.

As time for the opening of the Conference has drawn nearer and nearer, our guides here in the Review and Herald Publishing Association building have been kept busier and busier day by day. Delegates from parts of the world field long cut off by war—E. D. Dick, secretary of the General Conference tells me that all the countries except Germany and Russia will be represented—go to the General Conference office first, of course. But after they have met folks there, and actually seen in motion the wheels which run the denominational machinery for our world-wide work, the very next place they are eager to see is our oldest, largest publishing house, which is on the same campus. What a happy privilege all of us at headquarters count it to act as hosts to this great company!

A. F. Tarr of India pauses to pass the time o' day, and leave an appeal for mission recruits which he has prepared for the *Youth's Instructor*. He is accompanied by his seventeen-year-old son, who is seeing America for the first time. Pastor Tarr remarks that he made a trip into Burma just before leaving India, and takes time to tell

us how faithful the advent believers were during the terrible time of Japanese occupation. The Karen Christians were terribly persecuted, and one of our native pastors lost his life; but notwithstanding all, they bore faithful witness for God and His truth.

We are glad to meet Bachir Hasso, a member of the Middle East Union committee, who has just come in by plane from Cairo. The journey took only two days! He has a son graduating from Emmanuel Missionary College, and is hastening on to be with him for commencement. But he will be back for the Conference—his first!

Pastor and Mrs. W. McClements are really homesick for their home in Ibadan, Nigeria, and their many friends in the African West Coast Union Mission, but they are glad to be here, and are making the most of their time to get acquainted. They have been in West Africa for eight years. After the Conference they will "go home to England for a bit of furlough, then back to Africa!" They say it with a smile and just that emphasis.

F. M. Wilcox comes in to make brief calls on old friends, and walk once more in familiar places. Really, he seems to belong! For was he not editor of our church paper, the REVIEW AND HERALD, for thirty-three years!

I glance out of my office window, and see a group of new arrivals standing on the steps of the General Conference office building. One of them proves to be Doctor J. Nussbaum, who has just flown in from Paris. He is medical and religious liberty secretary for the Southern European Division, and has been fearless and tireless in carrying on his work, even during the war years. The doctor "has a way" that takes him into forbidden places when he feels that duty calls him there, and opens closed doors before him. Professionally and religiously he serves royalty! With him are F. J. and P. Voorthuis from Holland, and H. Eelsing, who is in charge of our work in that brave little country which has suffered so much so courageously.

And here is W. I. Harding, a native West African, who has been superintendent of the Liberian Mission for some years. Now he has turned the work over to his successor and is retiring to his homeland following the close of the Conference. "What do you think of the United States?" I ask. His black face beams as he answers: "Very interesting! Very interesting! But too busy—too much of a whirl! In Africa we go slower."

As I step into our editorial library I meet R. O. Walean, of Soerabaja, Java. His English is limited and my Javanese is nil, but we manage to have quite a visit. The Netherlands East Indies knows all about the iron hand of an oppressor. Pastor Walean spent altogether over three months in a vile prison following two arrests. The first nine days he was held without food or water. The Japanese thought he was a spy for the Allies, and he feels that the torture he suffered at their hands might best be forgotten. He is grateful that God

spared his life and that he was finally set free to go about his work and look after the churches. For months he was the only ordained minister in Java of any Christian faith, and he tried to be "all things to all men." In 1945 he was again imprisoned because he absolutely refused to take any part in emperor or shrine worship. However, God again delivered him. Not one of our Seventh-day Adventist churches in his field was closed or damaged in the war, and the Japanese surrender found more believers on the

DESCRIPTION OF FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1863

On Friday the Michigan tent was erected on the green a few rods from the office, as it was evident that the numbers who would be present on Sabbath and first day could not even find standing room in our house of worship. Six discourses were delivered, and two social meetings were held in the tent. A tent nearly full of Sabbath-keepers on the Sabbath, intently absorbed in listening to the proclamation of the great truths of our present position, was a cheering sight. Evenings, and on first day, a good attendance of friends from the immediate neighborhood furnished as large a congregation as could be comfortably entertained in the tent. There were in all eight stirring and instructive discourses delivered, one each by Brethren White, Sanborn, Snook, and Loughborough, and two each by Brethren Andrews and Hull. At the close of the forenoon discourse on first day, we had an interesting season of baptism, in which eight signified their faith in the burial and resurrection of their Lord.—Uriah Smith in *Review and Herald*, May 26, 1863.

island than had been there at the declaration of war.

With Pastor Walean is K. Tilstra, a Dutch missionary, and acting superintendent of the Netherlands East Indies Union Mission. He spent the war years alone in a concentration camp. His two sons, both teenagers, were placed in two different camps, and his wife and baby in still another camp. His wife died, but he did not hear of it until six months later when he was liberated at the close of the war. Now he has brought his three boys to America, and will leave them with relatives on the West Coast when he returns to his field.

This party from Java came all the way by air and spent *five days*, actual flying time, on the journey to the United States. They flew via Soerabaja, Batavia, Singapore, Bangkok, Calcutta, Karachi, Bosra, Cairo, Naples, Amsterdam, Ireland, Newfoundland, and New York. How the world has shrunk in size! And how travel has speeded up! V. T. Armstrong has just underlined my observation by telling me that *fifty-four hours* after his ship took the air in Manila he landed in San Francisco!

Time marches on. It is Monday, June 3, and moving day for the General Conference personnel who are on the actual working staff for the Conference. Weeks ago H. R. Dixon of the treasury force was appointed to go through the offices and select and label by number articles to be moved. This morning trucks stand outside the service entrance to the building and the furniture is being gathered and loaded under his watchful eye. Agitated stenographers are rushing about gathering up the "last little things" they will need when they set up shop in temporary quarters assigned them in the spacious basement and back-balcony rooms of the Sligo Church, which is located just off the Washington Missionary College campus, about a mile away from the headquarters building. Frankly they voice the hope that a magic *somebody* will be able to bring order out of seeming chaos.

It is lunch time! In front of the Review and Herald cafeteria, which stands just behind the plant, S. Thomas and Munshi Ram, come to represent their native India, and dressed in picturesque native style, are being photographed by Ferdinand Poeschl and L. Schneebauer of Vienna, Austria. We follow them into the second floor dining room of the cafeteria building, which has been attractively fitted up for this special occasion. It is well filled with delegates, and I stop to speak to the Misses Bessie Mount and Abbie Dunn, both veterans from China, and both hoping to return as soon as conditions permit.

The feeding of this General Conference delegation has been cleverly arranged, and we hope that those who are enjoying the delicious, well-served food will take time to give a bow of appreciation to those who have toiled so diligently to make this comfort possible. The delegates are being accommodated in the college, sanitarium, and Review and Herald cafeterias. Each delegate as he registers is given a yellow, blue, or pink card, indicating whether his choice of a boarding place is the college, sanitarium, or Review. This admits him to the dining room, and in the interest of the conservation of space and the conservation of food he is asked to take all his meals there in so far as is possible.

Afternoon! The Sligo Church lawn is *literally full* of desks, tables, typewriters, chairs, boxes, cupboards, and filing cases. Each one is packed full of supplies, and the trucks are bringing more. Claude Conard, statistical secretary of the General Conference, and business manager of this General Conference, stands in the middle of all the confusion, coat off, hat pushed back, paper and pencil in hand. He is checking everything by number, and directing a dozen perspiring young men where to take each item.

As we take a look-see inside, we discover office space assigned to the officers of the General Conference, to stenographers, reporters, publicity service, the cashier, the editorial staff of the REVIEW AND HERALD, which paper will publish the daily proceedings of

the Conference, the official photographer, small but well-appointed rest rooms, a writing room, and other services too numerous to mention but all essential to the smooth working of this great international gathering.

Tuesday morning, June 4. The session begins tomorrow evening. Delegates are arriving in a constant stream: We doubt if anybody could be busier than J. F. Cummins and his locating committee, C. P. Sorensen, J. D. Haynes, and J. E. Edwards of the Columbia Union and Potomac conferences. They have transferred their headquarters from the General Conference office to the Columbia Union Conference building just next door to Sligo Church. Miss Ruth Conard, borrowed from the Inter-American Division for this special work, is handling the registrations at a long table in the reception room, and seeing that each delegate receives the proper credentials, cafeteria card, and badge. Then rooms are assigned, and a row of cars stands ready to speed each newcomer to his stopping place, while the chauffeur does everything possible to make him feel at home and comfortable and happy.

The confusion in the temporary offices at the church is being brought into proper order as capable secretaries and handy men see that everything is properly placed and ready for business. A Conference post office has been set up in the women's dormitory of the college, just across Flower Avenue. Preparations are being made in the home economics department to serve light lunches to such attendants at the meeting who favor sandwiches and a drink to a regular meal at noon and evening. They will find a comfortable place to eat in a large tent pitched on the college tennis court, where tables and chairs are provided.

For the past two weeks the officers of the General Conference have been meeting in special committee in the chapel of the Theological Seminary, which stands just at the rear of the main headquarters building. It has been five long years since the leaders of overseas divisions and the home officers have had the privilege of counsel together. Many perplexing problems and policies which concern the conduct and unity of our world-wide work have been earnestly and prayerfully considered. This pre-Conference council adjourned last evening, and this afternoon the last meeting of the General Conference Committee, as presently constituted, is being held.

There are delegates and more delegates everywhere! Not only are the General Conference lobby and halls crowded, but the Review and Herald lobby and book department likewise echo the greetings of old and new friends, come from the far corners of earth, speaking many languages and dialects.

Wednesday, June 5. *This is the day!* Delegates are literally pouring in.

There are some visitors, too, and those who have not been provident to arrange for a place to stay before arrival are discovering that Takoma Park really is full to the seam-bursting point—just as they have been warned it would be!

Newcomers find the General Conference departmental offices doing business about as usual, but the center of activity has shifted to the Sligo Church. It is fortunate that extra busses are running, for a mile is a long walk on a sunny, humid day.

Things are humming here in the Review and Herald offices and factory.

BELIEVERS AT FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE

The believers attending the first General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, held in Battle Creek in May of 1863, are described as follows by one present at the meeting:

"The majority of those present from any considerable distance were the delegates from the different churches in this State, and from abroad, and were consequently those whose hearts were all aglow with love for the glorious present truth. Their happy and hopeful countenances, and cordial greetings, as they arrived from their various, and in many instances far-distant, localities, are among the pleasant scenes which it is not for the pen to attempt to portray. The pilgrim heart enjoys them intensely here, and through them faith points forward to the greater, more glorious, and eternal meeting in the kingdom of God, of which these are but a faint emblem."—*Review and Herald*, May 26, 1863.

for we are getting all set to publish a daily issue of the church paper which will cover the proceedings of the session. Editor in Chief F. D. Nichol and his able staff are moving out Sligo Church way, and essential desks, chairs, and tables are being loaded on the publishing house truck for transfer. We are always busy here, but it is not usually an all-day-all-night program. However, we are enlisted for "the duration," and are girding for the fray.

It is midmorning. I am sure that the Columbia Union office reception room never has been—and never will be—more crowded. But the Locating Committee is a valiant, efficient group, and they are doing a great work with right good cheer and a minimum of confusion.

The improvised executive and other offices in the Sligo Church are all in proper running order now, and stenographers are at their desks. We marvel that careful planning and organization has brought such perfect order out of day-before-yesterday's perfect chaos.

It is late afternoon. Tables for editors, reporters, and secretaries are being placed just below the rostrum in

the church auditorium where the main meetings will be held. Filled to capacity it seats 2,500. The entire first floor is being reserved for delegates; visitors will occupy the spacious gallery, the well-appointed chapel in the basement, and the chapel in Columbia Hall, administration building of Washington Missionary College. Each of these overflow meetings will be in the charge of a competent leader, and will be properly opened and closed to synchronize with proceedings in the main auditorium.

It is seven-fifteen. Evening shadows are falling. The crowd is beginning to gather. Harold Doering, of the college music faculty, takes his place at the organ in the choir loft, and the lovely strains of "The Choral and Prayer," from the *Suite Gothique* by Böellmann, still the softly lighted, rapidly filling auditorium.

It is seven-thirty. Mrs. E. W. Dunbar, pianist for the Conference takes her place at the grand piano just under the pulpit, and Paul Wickman, secretary of the Voice of Prophecy, stands before the microphone. "Let us sing No. 520, 'Lift Him Up, the Risen Saviour,' to start our song service," he suggests, as he opens the new *Church Hymnal*.

It is seven-forty-five. The organ and piano join in the stately opening chords of the theme song of the Conference, "Nearer, My God to Thee," as the ministers take their places. There is a moment of quiet. President J. L. McElhany steps to the desk and announces as the opening hymn the same one that was sung in 1863, to open the very first General Conference ever held—No. 664:

"Long upon the mountains weary,
Have the scattered flock been torn;
Dark the desert paths, and dreary;
Grievous trials have they borne.
Now the gathering call is sounding,
Solemn in its warning voice;
Union, faith, and love abounding,
Bid the little flock rejoice."

The forty-fifth session of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is open for business.

REPRESENT Jesus by your example of Christian piety, that the grace of Christ may appear as it is,—beautiful, attractive, harmonious, and always consistent.—*General Conference Bulletin*, p. 765, 1895.

THE COVER PICTURE

The cover picture was specially painted for this issue by Harry Anderson, whose beautiful pictures are becoming familiar to our people through various of our books and journals. The primary task of the Advent Movement is impressively presented in this view of our Lord pointing to the world field. Ours is a message to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people.

The President's Address

By J. L. McELHANY

TO the delegates of the forty-fifth session of the General Conference: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

"Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;

"Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.

"There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.

"God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.

"The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: He uttered His voice, the earth melted.

"The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

"Come, behold the works of the Lord, what desolations He hath made in the earth.

"He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; He breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; He burneth the chariot in the fire.

"Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

"The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah." Psalm 46.

With these inspired words as a background for this occasion, I extend to you all my personal greetings, and also the greetings of my fellow workers of the General Conference.

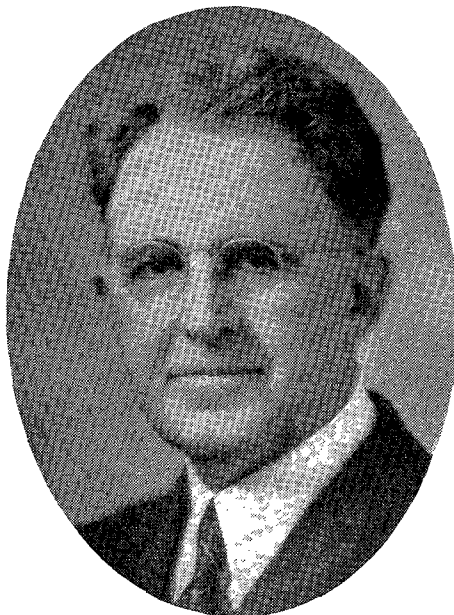
Through this body of delegates assembled for this session I extend also to all the advent churches and believers our fervent greetings and Christian affection. It would indeed be a joy to extend greetings to every advent believer in all the world in a personal way if that were possible.

This gathering tonight marks the opening of the forty-fifth session of the General Conference. The circumstances under which we meet on this occasion are, to say the least, extraordinary. We had hoped to hold a large gathering which might have been attended by many of our workers and members. Arrangements for such a meeting had been made, a large and beautiful auditorium was reserved for our use, and we had been assured of 2,500 hotel rooms to accommodate those who would attend. But for reasons you all know so well this plan could not be carried out. Consequently, we meet here with the attendance limited practically to the delegates. We regret that we have not been able to provide more convenient rooming arrangements for the accommodation of all the delegates and those who must be present here. The session was postponed in the hope that conditions would greatly improve by this time.

But the improvement has been far less rapid than we had hoped.

War Conditions

In my opening address delivered to the last session of the General Conference, five years ago, I traced the very serious trend of world conditions that had a direct bearing upon our own work. It is interesting to note that during the ten-year period covered by the last two General Conference terms each one of these years has seen open war raging in some part of the world, and thus precipitating a crisis in our own work. This condition became more and more widespread. A few months after the 1941 General Conference session these war conditions became world wide, and



J. L. McElhany

most of the nations of earth were drawn into the most terrible conflict this world has ever witnessed. It would be impossible for me to attempt to sum up the results of all this in its bearing upon our own work. We stand appalled at the ruin and wreckage of entire countries, and at what all this means to the cause of God.

Effects Upon Our Own Work

The administration that comes to a close with this opening session tonight has been in a very real way a war administration. Every normal function or sphere of the work has been hampered or interfered with. We have seen hundreds of our churches destroyed or the members scattered before the whirlwinds of war. Local and union conferences have been disorganized; whole divisional organizations have been wiped out. Many of our workers have perished or disappeared. Scores have

been thrown into internment or concentration camps, some to die of starvation or disease. In many lands our fellow believers have suffered the direct consequences of war, with its allied evils of famine and pestilence. They have lost every earthly possession. In some countries the denomination has suffered heavy losses through the damage to, or the destruction of, church buildings, schools, publishing houses, and medical institutions.

The usual channels of trade and travel have been limited, making it very difficult, and at times impossible, to send out missionaries. One of our greatest difficulties has been to send General Conference help to fields even outside actual war zones. We have been absolutely cut off from a number of fields for the duration of the war. Notwithstanding, you will observe from the secretary's report that something has been accomplished in sending out workers. The problem of supplying funds to the different fields has also been a very great one. With the emergencies created by war there have been very stringent currency regulations set up by different governments. This situation was not fully understood by some of the fields. While censorship regulations were being rigidly enforced, it was impossible to explain all our difficulties. Postal communications have been entirely cut off from some sections of the world, and have been very slow and irregular with other parts. Recently there has been some improvement in these matters, but the situation just now is far from normal. Some delegates to this session have no assurance as to when they can return to their fields.

Despite all the perils and perplexities through which this world has passed, I am fully conscious of the great and comforting fact that the God of heaven still rules in the affairs of men. Tonight, as I experience the joy and satisfaction of greeting these delegates, representing so many countries, nationalities, and languages of earth, I feel from a full heart to thank God for the marvelous protection and care He has had over His cause during these dark and sad years. He truly is "a very present help in trouble." We rejoice indeed that the Lord has opened a safe path through sea and air, and that so many of the delegates are here to engage in the serious work of this session. Again I greet you, and in the name of our divine Lord and Master I bid you welcome. I lay upon your hearts a charge that you carry back to all your fellow workers and believers in the fields whence you come, my love and affection in the Lord. Also assure them that all these sentiments are shared by the General Conference staff, as well as by the workers and believers in the North American field.

Need of Tried and Experienced Counselors

There are other brethren who were appointed as delegates to this session whom we had hoped to have present, but they have been unable to be present because of the extreme difficulties in obtaining passports, visas, and travel permits as well as because of the lack of travel accommodation. We had hoped to have C. H. Watson in attendance at this session. Elder Watson spent a number of years with us at the headquarters of our work, a part of this time as General Conference president. He has not been able, because of health conditions, to meet with us since he returned to Australia in 1936. We regret that we cannot have his counsel on this occasion.

We are thankful for the presence in our midst of W. A. Spicer. As you all know, Elder Spicer has served this cause in various capacities for many years. He was president of the General Conference for a number of years. We greatly cherish his counsel. His unflinching courage is always an inspiration that cheers the brethren on.

These two brethren are the only men now living who have in the past borne the responsibilities of General Conference leadership. We are also thankful that the Lord has spared to meet with us on this occasion F. M. Wilcox, who for so many years served this cause as editor of the REVIEW AND HERALD. There are others here whose names are associated with the earlier days of our work, to whom we especially extend a welcome.

In these days of increasing perplexities and the grave perils surrounding us, we learn to value the counsel of such men. In this modern age of the world it is quite customary to esteem lightly the counsel and help of men of experience. But in the cause of God this should never be so. Regardless of the line of work or the place of service any one of us may be called to fill, we need the counsel of men of experience. As a precious gift the Lord has given to some the ability to serve the cause as wise counselors. Thank God for them! I wish with all my heart we had a larger number of them. It is with deep concern that I see the passing of older men of experience. Many of these grew up in association with the pioneers of the movement. The Lord has given us the following words of counsel regarding the dangers facing the cause:

"Those who were in our work at the beginning are passing away. Only a few of the pioneers of the cause now remain among us. Many of the heavy burdens formerly borne by men of long experience are now falling upon younger men.

"This transfer of responsibilities to laborers whose experience is more or less limited, is attended with some dangers against which we need to guard. The world is filled with strife for the supremacy. The spirit of pulling away from our fellow laborers, the spirit of disorganization, is in the very air we breathe. By some, all efforts to establish order are regarded as

dangerous,—as a restriction of personal liberty, and hence to be feared as popery. They declare that they will not take any man's say-so; that they are amenable to no man. I have been instructed that it is Satan's special effort to lead men to feel that God is pleased to have them choose their own course, independent of the counsel of their brethren.

"Herein lies a grave danger to the prosperity of our work. We must move discreetly, sensibly, in harmony with the judgment of God-fearing counselors; for in this course alone lies our safety and strength. Otherwise God cannot work with us and by us and for us."—*Testimonies to Ministers*, pp. 488, 489.

This cause today is entirely under the leadership of a younger generation of men. These words of counsel are for us. Let us heed the Lord's admonitions and earnestly seek to avoid the dangers herein pointed out.

A Tribute to Faithful Workers

During the past five years our hearts have sorrowed deeply over the passing of a number of our fellow laborers who were associated in General Conference work. Among these are I. H. Evans, O. Montgomery, W. W. Prescott, J. E. Fulton, J. F. Wright, W. E. Howell, H. Edson Rogers, and Mrs. L. Flora Plummer. These are but a few among many whose faithful service and godly lives still bear testimony in behalf of this cause. On a later occasion reference will again be made to our fellow workers who have been called to cease their labors.

I take this opportunity to pay a high tribute to those of our workers who have laid down their lives as a result of war. It is too early to compile a complete list of those who have met death—some, by torture, some by imprisonment, hunger, cold, or disease. Regardless of race or nationality, it can be said of these that "they loved not their lives unto the death." Others here with us tonight have also endured similar persecutions and trials. We thank God that they and many others who are not here, have been saved from death. We have great cause for rejoicing in the fact that our missionaries have proved themselves to be a brave and courageous army of workers for God. Despite all the dangers occasioned by war and other perilous conditions, they have done their utmost to carry on. There are no oceans too wide, no climates too unhealthful, no difficulties too great to hinder or hold them back. Having heard the call of the Master to go into all the world, they willingly press out to the very ends of the earth. The self-sacrificing endeavors of our missionaries in the past set a worthy and wholesome example for the future.

This Message Is for All the World

This message is ordained of God for all the world, for every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. To carry it on strongly and vigorously, God still calls for men and women to go. Only in this way can the work be finished.

In my opening address to our last Autumn Council of the General Conference committee I felt constrained to appeal for a new birth of interest in foreign mission work. I still feel constrained to make the same appeal. I quote the following from that address:

"At this time I wish to reiterate the great need for more workers for our overseas divisions. We need a great revival of the foreign mission spirit. We do appreciate the hearty response on the part of many to the calls that have come to them. We feel, however, that there are many more who could respond to the Macedonian pleas that are coming from many lands. Every worker who is physically and otherwise qualified for foreign service should hold himself in readiness to respond to the Lord's call. One who has consecrated himself to the Lord's service and who believes in and teaches the coming of the Lord should never decline a call to service on the ground that he is not interested in the work in a foreign field.

"As we face the opportunities of the future, let us arise in the power of our God-given message and with renewed consecration press on with every resource at our command for the finishing of the work. Let us throw into this great and holy task all that within our human resources we have to offer, and pray that with these our Lord may bestow His divine resources in the power of the Holy Spirit for the accomplishment of the great work of God, in all the world."

It may be that during this session the call to go may come to individuals who are even now within the sound of my voice; or these calls may extend out to men and women who are not present upon this occasion. Regardless of where they are or what they are doing, it may be that in the providence of God the divine call will sound. Without attempting to anticipate what may grow out of the deliberations of this session, it is possible that some in General Conference circles, leaders and workers in union conferences and in local fields, may be asked to leave their present place of service and go out under the Lord's directing hand to labor in the uttermost parts of the earth.

Dear fellow worker, whoever you are, whether a president or a leader in conference work, president or teacher in one of our schools, pastor or evangelist, doctor, nurse, or colporteur, if you possess the necessary qualifications and are endowed with good health, and the call comes to you, may the Lord help you to respond. Only by the blessing of God and the high resolve of every worker to do his or her part wherever the Lord may call, can we hope to see the realization of that which is dear to our hearts—the finishing of the work of God. We cannot consistently claim to believe this message unless we match that belief with a corresponding consecration that will make us willing to go wherever God's call may direct. Nothing will help more to deepen the spiritual experience of our

people in all our churches, and fill them with new courage and resolution in the finishing of God's work, than to see such a spirit of consecration resting upon all those who are called to devote their lives as workers to the service of God.

It is a wonderful privilege to be a messenger of the Lord God of hosts. There has been no period in the history of God's work in behalf of the human race when this privilege has been more highly prized than at this time. We need to realize with profound conviction that the responsibility for finishing God's work in the earth is the immediate, personal, and active concern of every worker, of every believer in the movement. We dare not maintain a casual or nominal attitude. Whatever may be one's profession or vocation, our first and personal responsibility is to do the very thing God requires of us in the finishing of His work.

Solid Foundation of This Message

During the year 1944 we passed the milestone marking the first century of our existence. Just a little over a century ago a few earnest men and women laid the foundations for the worldwide work represented here in this Conference session. This work began in obscurity and had for its resources only the faith of its founders and the preaching of His Word. As we look back to that humble beginning we have cause to thank God for what He has accomplished through the devotion and the sacrifices of a willing people.

In the limited time of this address it would be impossible for me adequately to describe the accomplishments and growth of the past century. The motivating power of the movement through the century of its existence has been the deep and abiding conviction that God has specially raised up this people to proclaim His last message and to finish His work in the earth. This conviction has, throughout the whole period of our existence, rested on the solid foundation of God's prophetic Word. That Word still endures. The prophecies of that Word have never been more clearly and definitely fulfilled than at the present time. The founders of this movement believed those prophecies and were led by God to develop the body of truth comprising this message. These truths are as clear, distinct, and outstanding at the present moment as they have ever been in the past.

God pity those who in this atomic age cannot read clearly and distinctly the fast-fulfilling signs of the times. Men of the world are lifting their voices in alarm as they predict the doom of this world and the extinction of the human race. Today we look out on a world writhing in catastrophic ruin. With millions of dead on the battlefields of earth, more millions dead in concentration camps and human slaughterhouses, and yet more millions dying of famine and pestilence, we have a perfect fulfillment of the words of Jesus. He placed all

these things in the list of those signs that foretell His coming. When we look out on all these things we, too, can say, "We have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 1:16.

No Compromise of the Truth

I lift my voice today in solemn warning against any attempt from whatsoever source to set aside, to modify, or to compromise these great principles of truth that have made this movement what it is. We must not allow these truths to become the casualties of war. We are living amid the perils of the last days. God's people in the past have been brought into deep and perplexing troubles. Down through the ages men and women called of God have stood out and above the multitude, often at the sacrifice of life itself, in the defense of His Word. Many of the members of the apostolic church gladly chose martyrdom rather than to waver or to compromise the truth of God, which was so dear to them. Be the emergencies of war ever so great or the perils of this world ever so abounding, this people must stand as one the world around in defense of the great outstanding principles of this message. I feel that I cannot speak too emphatically when I earnestly appeal to every representative of this message the world around to be loyal, true, and forthright in his advocacy of, and obedience to, the truth.

The Coming of Christ

During the centennial year of 1944 I stood one day by the grave of William Miller, who is referred to by the messenger of the Lord as "the man specially chosen of God to lead out in the proclamation of Christ's second coming."—*The Great Controversy*, p. 317. While I stood there, over the radio pealed forth the theme song of the Voice of Prophecy: "Lift up the trumpet, and loud let it ring: Jesus is coming again!" What a thrilling moment it was! It seemed as if the past were linked to the present in the one great objective of proclaiming the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. And so it must ever be. It is this very truth that we have been divinely called to preach.

To Proclaim the Sabbath a Part of Our Message

Let us also ever remember that to proclaim the observance of the Sabbath of the Lord our God is a very part of the work of this movement. To preach the third angel's message is to raise up a people of whom the Lord Himself says, "Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Rev. 14:12. As long as the Creator exists, the Sabbath is the memorial of His creative, redeeming, and sanctifying power. We should remember that "the keeping of the Sabbath is a sign of loyalty to the true God, 'Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea,

and the fountains of waters.'"—*Ibid.* p. 438.

Let us beware of any change of emphasis regarding the manner or importance of Sabbath observance. As unyielding as the Rock of Ages let us stand in the face of every tempest, true and loyal to the command of God, and "remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." By all the divine energy and power at our disposal let us maintain the unity of the faith as well as the integrity and unity of this message in all its fullness.

Gift of the Spirit of Prophecy

As leaders and workers in the cause of God we should be ever mindful of the immeasurable blessing God has bestowed upon us in the gift to this movement of the Spirit of prophecy. It is our duty and responsibility to pass on to the younger workers and believers in this movement the meaning and significance of this gift to the remnant church. The messenger of the Lord has in these solemn words warned us of efforts of the great deceiver to nullify the blessings of this gift: "The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God. 'Where there is no vision, the people perish.' Satan will work ingeniously, in different ways and through different agencies, to unsettle the confidence of God's remnant people in the true testimony."—E. G. WHITE, letter 12, 1890.

As I have studied and seen the wonderful place the counsel and instruction of the Spirit of prophecy has had in the growth and development of our work throughout the world, the firmer and deeper has grown my faith in the divine origin of this blessed gift to the church. Let us give no place to those who, through the development of philosophical theories and sophistries, attempt to carry out the deceptive work of the evil one in his undertaking to rob the church of the blessings of this gift.

The cohesive and unifying power in this world-wide movement arises from the inspired counsel given to the remnant church through the Spirit of prophecy. Without this gift this movement would not have taken shape. The form of organization that has been such a strength to the cause has developed under this counsel. We have been protected from radical and fanatical elements by the warnings sounded by the messengers of the Lord. Our educational, medical, and publishing institutions have come into being and have grown to a large and important place under the guidance of the Spirit of prophecy. The development of our extensive literature in many languages and the world-wide emphasis on soul-winning evangelism are the outgrowth of the instruction the Lord has given to us.

Any failure to recognize these fundamental facts arises from a misunderstanding of the history of this movement. "We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and

His teaching in our past history."
—*Life Sketches*, p. 196.

What the world needs today is the witness of simple, truehearted men and women who make the Word of God the foundation of their faith and whose lives are guided and inspired by the counsels that have come to the church. In the light of present-day developments we see this instruction marvelously fulfilled, establishing beyond all doubt the divine origin of this counsel. I call upon every one of you here, and upon those whom you represent as delegates to this session, to take your stand with me unequivocally upon the fundamental principles of this message, and to unite with me in praying that the future leadership of this cause in all the world may always be committed to men who in their belief and practice give evidence that they stand firmly for all these fundamental principles.

Rehabilitation

With the passing of time since the close of the war we are learning more regarding the damage and devastation that has been wrought, especially in connection with our own properties. To what extent we shall be able to rehabilitate these properties and restore what has been lost through the ravages of war, we cannot, of course, foresee. We feel truly grateful to the Lord that He has enabled us to make some provision for meeting this loss by the setting up of a Rehabilitation Fund. Large as this sum may seem to be, it is, in my judgment, altogether inadequate to meet the needs. We believe that one of the primary concerns of the administration you will elect at this time will be to carry forward this work of rehabilitation. This work of restoration must be carried forward in harmony with principles of equity. A competent body of counselors, in giving

study to the needs of various parts of the world, must decide to what extent the work of rehabilitation can be carried forward with the resources that are available. Some sections of the world field have suffered heavier damage than others. There have been complete losses in many cases. In some instances where institutions have been destroyed, there must be careful study as to the type, cost, and location in replacing them.

With the work of rehabilitating material facilities should go the even more important work of spiritual rehabilitation. Where the ravages of war have brought depression and discouragement, bitterness and alienation, all these things must be healed and wiped away. Only by the grace of our blessed Lord and Saviour can these things be eliminated from the hearts and souls of men. One of the postwar problems that will face the people of all nations is the spirit of extreme nationalism which is perhaps one of the consequences of a world war. But with the people of God, scattered throughout all the nations of earth, there must be continually a spirit of unity. The hearts of men of all nations and races must be drawn together in a common love for one another and in a united purpose to maintain the unity of the faith. This will come through the power of the Holy Spirit's working in the lives of men everywhere.

The aftermath of the war brings forcibly to our attention the fact that a change of plans and methods must be worked out for the administration of our work in many lands, especially in Europe. Territorial adjustments growing out of the war make this necessary. There has not been a sufficient lapse of time, however, to make clear just what these changes should be. The General Conference Executive Committee should be authorized to

meet this situation as conditions make it possible. In carrying out such a program, it may be necessary to change divisional, union, and local territories, in order to cope with changed conditions.

The war has brought to light one very encouraging fact, and that is the noble accomplishments of our national workers in many lands. Finding themselves without help and guidance of older and perhaps more experienced workers who had to be evacuated because of the presence of hostile armies, our national workers took over the responsibility of directing and carrying on the work. How thankful we are for the consecrated efforts of these brethren. The Lord has greatly blessed them as they have carried on through the hard experiences of the war years. We take occasion here again to emphasize the importance of training and developing our national workers. We know not how soon political developments in parts of the world may again compel our foreign workers to withdraw from some countries. What a blessing it will be to leave in such fields a well-trained, consecrated group of workers that can carry on the work of the cause of God in a strong and courageous manner!

It is not my purpose to present in this address an array of figures. We shall have the opportunity of hearing from our General Conference secretary and treasurer and our departmental leaders. We shall also hear from our division leaders. Their reports will bring to us much in the way of interesting and illustrative material concerning the progress of the work. Our statistical secretary will also present to us some figures of great interest as they reveal certain trends. The artificial war prosperity of recent years has greatly increased the flow of funds into the cause. Otherwise we could



The Headquarters of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

not have met the added cost of financing the work. We must not, however, take finances as the principal factor in judging the progress we are making. Nor should we be unmindful of the fact that all wars are followed by financial depression. In many countries our evangelistic endeavors have been greatly restricted and in some cases forbidden during the war. In other cases some of our ministers were thrown into prison. These disturbed conditions are no doubt reflected in our world-wide membership gains. It is most encouraging to note that in some countries, even under bitter war conditions, large numbers of souls have been won to the Lord.

I desire to emphasize what I have endeavored on many occasions to emphasize and what I believe to be the great outstanding need and objective of this cause today, that is, to evangelize, to win souls for the kingdom. We must never forget that the great commission was given to us by our leader, and that He has instructed us to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. There is and can be no substitute for the winning of souls by the preaching of the Word. That is fundamental to every other purpose or plan or objective. We must constantly be on our guard against overemphasis on institutionalizing our work. While institutions are proper and necessary, they should always be made to serve the one great purpose of evangelization. They should not consume means or man power to the place where evangelization will be overshadowed and caused to occupy a secondary place.

Winning Souls—Our Objective

To win souls for the kingdom of God must ever be our objective. It is your responsibility as delegates to carry back to the fields from which you come, to all the workers and the members in your fields, a deepened sense of obligation quickly to carry the message to all the world. In order to strengthen the true advent spirit, every believer in this cause must be encouraged to do his or her part in carrying forward the work to a successful conclusion.

The time has certainly come when the church should be called into universal action. In every country, in all the languages in which this message is represented, soul-winning evangelism must be lifted to a new and higher plane. A new note of courage and progress must be sounded. Let those who say this cannot be done give place to those who will hold aloft the flaming torch of evangelism.

Let us solemnly beware of spending all our resources on maintaining what we now have. Always, everywhere, a large portion of our resources must be devoted to pushing on and out into new soul-winning endeavors. This does not and should not mean any neglect of the Lord's flock. The spirit of the Good Shepherd should underlie the church's dealing with all its members.

Let us remember that in successfully

carrying out the great task of finishing God's work in all the world we must have a continual outpouring of the Holy Spirit's power upon a spiritual ministry, backed up by a spiritually converted people. Money, men, activities, institutions, can never be successfully substituted for the endowment of divine power through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the church and upon individuals. We are bidden to pray for rain in the time of the latter rain. Let us heed this divine exhortation. Let us, during this session, make this the burden of much of our praying. Let us humble our hearts before God and, putting away all sin and worldliness, seek for that divine illumination and guidance that will bring the latter rain in its abundant power upon this movement. Thus we shall prepare the way for that quick work which the Lord Himself will do upon the earth.

We are not here merely to listen to reports, elect officers, and adopt resolutions. Five years have elapsed since we last met. During this time we have been cut off from one another. We have missed the association of brethren from the different fields. Again we meet and renew these contacts. Our hearts must be refreshed as we mingle, plan, and pray together. Our zeal and courage must be deepened and inspired anew as we hear recounted the evidences of God's providential care for His cause. With new vision and insight of the world's need we must learn even while here to consecrate ourselves to our supreme responsibility.

Seizing what may be my last opportunity, I feel constrained to say, ere I bring this address to a close, that in addition to those things mentioned above we stand, as it were, at the parting of the ways. What we have done, what we have seen, what we are, will in no degree suffice for the future. If we continue as we are, in complacently resting upon past achievements, we shall fail completely.

We as leaders need something. Our ministry needs something. Our churches need something. Unless we discover what that need is and learn to possess it, we are lost. Our vocabularies need to be changed. Instead of preening ourselves over our financial successes and living on the husks of human achievements, we need to realize that we stand on the brink of eternity, with a doomed and dying world about us. We should learn to talk of those things that really matter. We need to explore the realms of spiritual power, to draw on the resources of omnipotence. We need so constantly to live in the presence of God that we shall be endued with His mighty power. Seventh-day Adventists should be a rebuke to the world. Instead of living like the world and finding our joys in the world, we should set an example to the world in godly living.

"Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed

hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." Titus 2:12, 13.

Let such a work start with us here. Let us seek God truly and earnestly, that the work He wants to do for His people shall begin here with us. Delegates, brethren, go back to your divisions, unions, conferences, churches, and institutions with souls illuminated and on fire for God, and start a work that will prepare God's people for the finishing of the work and for the coming of Christ.

During the days we are here together let us spend more time in prayer than in visiting and in casual talk. It matters but little where men may be called or placed, or how positions are filled, provided only that God has His own way in all these matters. Thus when we leave this place a few days hence we can have the blessed assurance that our divine Leader is going before His people, His cause, everywhere, into all the world for the finishing of His work. Let us pray that when the time comes to leave here, we may go with God's great blessing and mighty power resting upon us, and that we may be truly spiritual men, fully converted, wholly consecrated, sanctified, and made ready for the Master's use.

May the blessing of God in abundant measure rest upon this body of delegates as you now take over the responsibility of planning for the future of this cause. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

Stewards of God's Means

MONEY is not to be furnished for the carrying out of the work of the gospel in some mysterious way, and through unseen, mysterious agencies. God will not shower money from the windows of heaven to do His appointed work, to spread the truth in our world, and to save souls unto eternal life. He has made His people stewards of His means to be used for His glory in blessing humanity. He says, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in Mine house, and prove Me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." God will not pour out gold and silver from the windows of heaven, but that which is of infinitely greater value. He says, "I will pour out My Spirit upon you." The Holy Spirit of God will bless those who are faithful in the discharge of their duty. The Lord continues, "And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed; for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of hosts."—MRS. E. G. WHIRE in *The Home Missionary*, April, 1895.

Delegates to the General Conference

North America

Atlantic Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—M. L. Rice.

Regular Delegates.—T. R. Gardner, R. L. Hubbs, R. J. Christian, S. L. Clark, C. M. Bunker, W. A. Fagal, A. E. Holst, O. T. Garner, A. S. Anderson, G. A. Coon, L. H. Bland, A. W. Clarke, A. E. Webb, R. W. Moore, F. R. Aldridge, V. A. Anderson, T. Carcich, H. E. Rice, S. B. Olney, C. E. Guenther, J. A. Toop, G. E. Jones, C. E. Parrish, M. D.

Canadian Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—H. L. Rudy.

Regular Delegates.—H. A. Shepard, W. A. Clemenson, C. W. Degering, S. G. White, A. E. Millner, R. W. Numbers, C. C. Weis, R. G. Campbell, E. A. Crane, H. D. Henrickson, C. W. Shankel, E. E. Bietz, C. G. Maracle, R. B. Thurber, H. A. Munson, A. LeCoutre, H. J. Perkins, C. M. Crawford.

Central Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—N. C. Wilson.

Regular Delegates.—W. B. Mohr, C. G. Cross, G. R. Fattie, D. E. Reiner, R. E. Bowles, H. A. Young, J. C. Shull, T. M. Rowe, N. C. Petersen, M. H. Schuster, A. L. Moon, M.D., J. H. Roth, W. B. Johnson, P. W. Ochs, G. E. Hutches, Leon Robbins, D. C. Butherus, D. E. Venden, L. R. Alexander, E. H. Oswald, R. M. Whitsett, B. L. Schlottbauer, J. A. Buckwalter.

Columbia Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—F. H. Robbins.

Regular Delegates.—H. J. Detwiler, W. M. Robbins, C. V. Leach, W. B. Hill, M. E. Loewen, M. G. Conger, D. A. Ochs, J. H. Wagner, C. H. Kelly, G. S. Rapp, Martin Kemmerer, J. P. Neff, C. P. Sorensen, J. C. Holland, J. F. Kent, R. L. Boothby, W. H. Hackett, J. L. Moran, W. L. Cheatham, J. H. Laurence, C. B. Newmyer, W. C. Moffett, O. S. Hershberger, J. L. Neal, Walter Gibson, J. P. Laurence, T. M. McCoy, Merle Mills, E. F. Willett, W. H. Jones, N. S. Ashton, C. J. Coon, W. C. Hannah, C. C. Morris, J. R. Johnson, Miss Mary Walsh.

Lake Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—Jay J. Nethery.

Regular Delegates.—H. P. Bloum, H. F. Brown, R. M. Harrison, W. A. Higgins, T. E. Lucas, G. M. Mathews, L. E. Lenheim, E. L. Green, Glenn Millard, W. P. Ortner, S. E. Wight, Elton Dessain, DeWitt S. Osgood, W. A. Nelson, J. G. Dasent, F. N. Crowe, H. W. Kibble, T. G. Bunch, A. E. Mobley, N. R. Dower, T. S. Hill, E. L. Pingenot, H. P. Evens, T. E. Unruh, R. G. Burchfield, C. W. Guenther, H. K. Halladay, A. W. Johnson, V. P. Lovell, L. N. Holm, T. R. Lukens, B. C. Marshall, R. K. Krick.

Northern Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—M. V. Campbell.

Regular Delegates.—K. L. Gant, P. D. Gerrard, G. H. Rustad, A. R.

Smouse, W. C. Day, J. D. Smith, W. S. Lawrence, Cree Sandefur, C. V. Anderson, E. R. Colson, J. V. Peters, C. S. Wiest, F. W. Schnepper, A. W. Bauer, H. R. Brodersen, W. A. Dessain, G. L. Sather, Floyd Gilbert.

North Pacific Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—V. G. Anderson.

Regular Delegates.—W. E. Abernathy, C. S. Joyce, J. T. Porter, L. A. Skinner, M. V. Tucker, C. C. Kott, J. J. Reiswig, F. A. Mote, C. A. Scriven, D. H. Spillman, E. E. Jensen, M. E. Hagen, Andrew Roedel, E. S. Humann, M. G. Dealy, R. T. Emery, R. W. Nelson, G. W. Bowers, F. W. Peterson, D. N. Reiner, W. L. Schoepflin, G. E. Lindquist, G. W. Chambers, R. H. Nightingale, A. J. Olson, J. W. Osborn, G. T. Dickinson, F. G. Roper, R. J. Winders, M. N. Skadsheim, V. C. Becraft, R. G. Schaffner, B. Peterson, B. L. Hassenpflug.

Pacific Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—W. B. Ochs.

Regular Delegates.—R. R. Breitigam, Eric B. Hare, A. C. Nelson, H. H. Hicks, G. R. West, L. R. Rasmussen, E. Toral Seat, Scott Donaldson, J. O. Hanson, K. F. Ambs, W. M. Adams, Jr., Carl Becker, J. L. Tucker, G. K. Abbott, M.D., D. E. Dirksen, W. G. Wirth, C. L. Bauer, G. T. Chapman, W. J. Harris, Walter A. Nelson, C. E. Andross, Owen Troy, P. W. Christian, R. G. Lewis, E. A. Schmidt, W. B. Clark, A. C. Lien, J. E. Cox, B. A. Reile, H. B. Thomas, L. E. Niermeyer, Alger J. Johns, F. G. Ashbaugh, E. M. Fishell, James Howarth, David Voth, R. C. Baker, E. L. Place, Horace Hall, M.D., W. C. Loveless, C. J. Nagele, J. O. Emmerson, W. R. French, R. A. Smithwick, M. R. Bailey, W. L. Hyatt, Varner J. Johns, L. B. Schick, L. E. Folkenberg, W. W. Ruble.

Southern Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—E. F. Hackman.

Regular Delegates.—H. J. Capman, I. M. Evans, L. C. Evans, H. R. Murphy, T. L. Oswald, F. O. Sanders, H. D. Singleton, B. M. Preston, C. H. Lauda, B. E. Wagner, M. E. Chapman, C. O. Franz, H. C. Klement, R. S. Blackburn, A. P. McDow, H. E. Schneider, W. J. Keith, S. M. Schleifer, K. A. Wright, F. S. Keitts, J. G. Thomas, A. C. Larson, H. R. Beckner, H. B. Taylor, W. E. Strickland, J. M. Howell, C. F. Graves, J. G. Gjording, C. A. Wilhelm, L. S. Follette, W. O. Reynolds.

Southwestern Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—J. W. Turner.

Regular Delegates.—J. C. Kozel, W. W. Fordham, Emanuel Remsen, W. A. Howe, E. A. Manry, F. D. Wells, L. L. McKinley, J. L. McConaughy, R. R. Bietz, W. H. Shephard, J. B. Ross, G. T. Burgess, O. J. Bell, F. W. Detamore, C. R. Kinney, R. E. Spangle, W. J. Hackett, L. C. Lee, H. H. Hamilton.

Australasia

Delegate at Large.—E. B. Rudge.

Regular Delegates.—R. E. Hare, W.

G. Turner, W. L. Pascoe, E. L. Minchin, H. G. Moulds, E. E. Roenfelt, W. E. Battye, E. J. Johanson, A. W. Dawson, R. H. Adair, G. Burnside, W. A. Westerman.

Central Europe

Because of unsettled international conditions, no delegates have been able to attend from this division.

China

Division

Delegates at Large.—E. L. Longway, Y. H. Chu, G. J. Appel, Herbert Liu, M.D., S. J. Lee, David Lin, Miss Bessie Mount.

Regular Delegates.—Samuel Phang, M.D., C. E. Winter, C. E. Wittschiebe, W. H. Wood, Andrew Robbins, John Oss, C. L. Dale, M.D., Raymond Hill, Rachel Landrum, S. H. Lindt, B. L. Anderson, E. H. James, C. B. Miller, Milton Lee, C. B. Green.

Central China Union Mission

Regular Delegates.—J. E. Christensen, O. G. Erich.

East China Union Mission

Regular Delegate.—R. H. Dinsbier.

North China Union Mission

Regular Delegate.—Wolfe Ismond.

Northwest China Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—M. C. Warren.
Regular Delegate.—N. O. Dahlsten.

South China Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—C. H. Davis.
Regular Delegates.—B. F. Gregory, M.D., T. M. Lei, C. F. Larsen.

West China Union Mission

Regular Delegate.—Miss Abbie Dunn.

Far East

Division

Delegates at Large.—V. T. Armstrong, W. P. Bradley.

Regular Delegate.—E. L. Becker.

Chosen Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—R. S. Watts.
Regular Delegates.—R. S. Lee, George Rue, M.D., Mrs. Theodora Wangerin, James Lee.

Japan Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—F. R. Millard.
Regular Delegate.—P. H. Eldridge.

Malayan Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—J. M. Nerness.
Regular Delegates.—K. T. Kong, J. E. Gardner, M.D., R. L. Hammill, W. W. R. Lake, Pleng Vitiamyalaksana, Mrs. L. F. Bohner, R. H. Wentland.

Netherlands East Indies Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—K. Tilstra.
Regular Delegates.—R. O. Walean, D. S. Kime, I. C. Schmidt.

Philippine Union Mission

Delegates at Large.—O. A. Blake, L. C. Wilcox.
Regular Delegates.—P. R. Diaz, T. A. Pilar, E. Bahr, E. M. Adams, A. N.

Nelson, J. W. Rowland, F. A. Pratt, J. A. Leland, Carl Jones, L. M. Stump, W. B. Riffl, A. N. Anderson, C. W. Lee, E. J. Urquhart, W. J. Blacker, J. H. Lawhead, W. C. Williams, Mrs. H. L. Dyer.

Inter-America
Division

Delegates at Large.—Glenn Calkins, C. L. Torrey, E. R. Sanders, Wesley Amundsen, A. H. Roth, D. A. McAdams, R. B. Caldwell, A. V. Larson, C. R. Anderson, M.D.

Antillian Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—H. B. Lundquist.
Regular Delegates.—V. E. Berry, F. S. Thompson, M. D. Howard, M. Carballal, A. O. Dunn, A. R. Sherman.

British West Indies Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—R. H. Pierson.
Regular Delegates.—M. G. Nembhard, J. N. Williams, F. M. Larsen, W. L. Barclay.

Caribbean Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—S. T. Borg.
Regular Delegates.—F. E. Hills, J. T. Carrington.

Central American Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—J. L. Brown.
Regular Delegates.—D. J. Thomann, M. W. Sickler, David Garcia, R. E. Delafield, H. L. Nielsen, C. E. Westphal, Peter Nygaard.

Colombia-Venezuela Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—W. A. Bergherm.
Regular Delegates.—W. E. Baxter, Jr., G. W. Chapman, A. P. Christiansen, Vicente Moreno, Gilberto Bustamante, Mrs. Castro, P. F. Richardson.

Mexican Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—W. E. Murray.
Regular Delegates.—H. C. Brown, Max Fuss, A. G. Parfitt, C. L. Dinius, Emiliano Ponce, H. E. Butka, M.D., C. E. Moon, W. R. Mulholland.

Northern Europe

British Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—H. W. Lowe.
Regular Delegates.—R. S. Joyce, G. D. King, W. G. C. Murdoch, J. Rigby, J. C. Craven, J. M. Howard, Mrs. N. H. Knight.

East Nordic Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—G. A. Lindsay.
Regular Delegates.—A. Anderson, C. Gidlund, A. Rintala, A. Blomstedt, Mrs. A. Blomstedt, I. Unhall, Y. Miettinen, T. Ketola, A. Kahlstrom, Mrs. A. Kahlstrom, Mrs. G. A. Lindsay.

Netherlands Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—H. Eelsing.
Regular Delegates.—Pieter Voorhuis, Frederick Johannes Voorhuis, W. G. J. Kouwer.

West Nordic Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—P. G. Nelson.
Regular Delegates.—Axel Varmer, H. Munderspach, H. Uggedahl, H. Westerlund, L. Saeboe-Larssen, Elias Bjaanaes, Ole Jordahl, O. Frenning, O. J. Olsen, Paul J. Olsen, L. P. Stene, S. A. Rasmussen, Toni Nergaard, S. A. Broberg, L. Tobiassen, Dr. C. T. Scott.

South America

Division

Delegates at Large.—R. R. Figuhr, F. L. Harrison, H. O. Olson, N. W. Dunn, S. Schmidt, L. H. Lindbeck, J. C. Culpepper, W. E. Nelson, H. E. Walker.
Regular Delegate.—Roberto Rabello.

Austral Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—A. Aeschlimann.
Regular Delegates.—W. Schubert, E. Brooks, J. Riffl, S. Weber, O. Vyhmeister, C. E. Westphal, M.D.

East Brazil Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—C. E. Lambeth.
Regular Delegates.—C. C. Schneider, M.D., K. Tulaszewski, O. Pinho, E. Zorub, A. C. Harder, J. M. Zeroth.

Inca Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—E. N. Lugenbeal.
Regular Delegates.—L. D. Minner, M. Huayllara, A. Manrique, A. M. Tillman, J. C. Ruskjer, M. F. Pérez, C. R. Potts, M.D., O. Krause, C. E. Filliman.

North Brazil Union Mission

Regular Delegates.—R. Wilcox, J. Baerg, F. C. Pritchard.

South Brazil Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—R. Belz.
Regular Delegates.—M. Soares, R. Oberg, G. Streithorst, J. R. Passos, G. G. Ritter.

Southern Africa

Division

Delegates at Large.—C. W. Bozarth, Milton Robison, J. M. Hnatyshyn, A. W. Staples.
Regular Delegates.—W. H. Anderson, C. F. Clarke.

Angola Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—P. Stevenson.

Congo Union Mission

Regular Delegates.—K. F. Ambs, H. J. Weber, M.D., Miss Fannie Spillman.

East African Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—H. M. Sparrow.
Regular Delegates.—C. J. Hyde, Miss Mary Sachs.

South African Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—G. F. Clifford.
Regular Delegates.—E. D. Hanson, E. L. Cardey, W. Cowper.

Southeast African Union Mission

Regular Delegates.—Virgil Robinson, E. B. Jewell, Miss Ruth Foote, E. L. Morel, M.D., S. Kotz, M.D., E. P. Mansell, W. B. Higgins.

Zambesi Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—G. R. Nash.
Regular Delegates.—Miss H. Furber, W. R. Vail, J. G. Foster, M.D., P. B. Fairchild, C. E. Wheeler, C. P. Bringle, M.D.

Southern Asia

Division

Delegates at Large.—A. L. Ham, A. F. Tarr, E. M. Meleen, L. C. Shepard, H. C. Menkel, M.D., L. G. Mookerjee, E. W. Pohlman.

Regular Delegates.—H. G. Woodward, A. E. Rawson, J. F. Ashlock, J. O. Wilson, Charles Thomas.

Northeast India Union Mission

Regular Delegates.—Arthur E. Nelson, C. J. Jensen, W. B. Votaw.

Northwest India Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—O. O. Mattison.
Regular Delegates.—Munshi Ram, C. H. Hamel.

South India Union Mission

Regular Delegates.—J. Johanson, S. Thomas.

Western India Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—F. E. Spiess.

Southern Europe

Division

Delegates at Large.—A. V. Olson, W. R. Beach, F. Brennwald, R. Gerber, H. Struve, F. Charpiot, J. Nussbaum, M.D.
Regular Delegates.—A. Richli, Mrs. A. V. Olson, Mrs. W. R. Beach, Miss Hazel Olson.

Franco-Belgian Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—J. C. Guenin.
Regular Delegates.—A. Mathy, F. Jochmans, Georges Haberey, J. A. de Caenel, Maurice Tieche.

Czechoslovakian Union Conference

Regular Delegates.—Dr. Peter Zidek, J. Cepl.

Indian Ocean Union Mission

Regular Delegate.—R. Guenin.

Italian Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—L. Beer.
Regular Delegate.—G. Cupertino.

North African Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—Henri Pichot.

Portuguese Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—A. D. Gomes.
Regular Delegate.—E. V. Hermanson.

Swiss Union Conference

Delegate at Large.—A. Meyer.
Regular Delegates.—F. Lavanchy, J. Fehr.

Detached Missions

Austrian Field:

Regular Delegates.—L. Schneebauer, Ferdinand Poeschl.

Grecian Field:

Regular Delegates.—C. A. Christoforides, Miss M. Kalfa.

General Conference Missions
Division

Ethiopian Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—
Regular Delegates.—Herbert Hanson, N. B. Neilsen, V. E. Toppenberg.

Middle East Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—E. L. Branson.
Regular Delegates.—C. H. Mackett, Arthur Keough, B. Hasso, Alger Johns.

West African Union Mission

Delegate at Large.—William McClements.

Regular Delegates.—M. Duploux, I. W. Harding, J. Clifford, R. H. Bergstrom, M. Fridlin.

General

Delegates at Large.—J. L. McElhany, W. H. Branson, L. H. Christian, E. D. Dick, A. W. Cormack, H. T. Elliott, T. J. Michael, J. I. Robison, W. E. Nelson, W. H. Williams, H. H. Cobban, J. F. Cummins, Roger Altman, W. A. Spicer, M. L. Andreasen, N. F. Brewer, F. C. Gilbert, Frederick Griggs, M. E. Kern, Meade MacGuire, R. Ruhling, W. E. Phillips, H. W. Barrows, Claude Conard, L. Halswick, G. E. Nord, S. Kaplan, H. D. Casebeer, H. A. Morrison, W. H. Teesdale, J. E. Weaver, W. A. Butler, W. A. Scharffenberg, H. M. Walton, M.D., G. A. Roberts, Miss D. Lois Burnett, Miss M. Winifred McCormack, L. E. Froom, R. A. Anderson, Miss Louise C. Kleuser, G. E. Peters, H. M. Blunden, J. J. Strahle, E. E. Franklin, George A. Huse, H. H. Votaw, C. S. Longacre, Paul Wickman, J. A. Stevens, S. A. Wellman, W. K. Ising, L. L. Moffitt, A. W. Peterson, C. Lester Bond, E. W. Dunbar, L. K. Dickson, E. E. Andross, H. G. Childs, W. P. Elliott, J. R. Ferren, C. B. Haynes, J. J. Ireland, H. C. Kephart, W. E. Macpherson, M.D., F. D. Nichol, W. E. Read, W. A. Ruble, M.D., M. C. Taft, G. W. Wells, F. M. Wilcox, B. G. Wilkinson, H. W. Vollmer, M.D., D. E. Rebok, M. E. Cady, L. F. Passebois, J. W. MacNeil, W. I. Smith.

General and Mission and Interunion Institutional Delegates

D. H. Kress, M.D., C. T. Everson, M. E. Olsen, W. A. Benjamin, N. P. Neilsen, M. N. Campbell, H. M. Johnson, Otto Schuberth, H. F. Halenz, E. R. Thiele, F. O. Rittenhouse, S. W. Tymeson, G. T. Anderson, L. H. Hartin, Daniel Walther, F. B. Jensen, C. E. Weniger, L. L. Caviness, J. C. Haussler, K. J. Reynolds, H. M. S. Richards, J. B. Johnson, H. G. Stoehr, Arthur Delafield, E. A. Sutherland, M.D., T. W. Steen, E. Ney, George Keough, A. G. Roth, C. A. Haysmer, M.D., Paul Starr, M.D., R. T. Smith, M.D., M. C. Lysinger, A. A. Jaspersen, E. C. Waller, J. B. Penner, A. T. Okohira, R. C. Calderone, B. L. Grundset, M. S. Krietzky, T. T. Babienco, G. C. Hoskin, S. L. Frost, D. D. Rees, J. L. Shuler, L. H. Wood, B. P. Hoffman, A. L. White, D. E. Robinson, R. L. Odom, R. E. Crawford, C. L. Paddock, L. B. Reynolds, L. W. Graham, Frederick Lee, J. D. Snider, M. E. Dawson, M. R. Thurber, C. E. Palmer, I. J. Woodman, E. W. Everest, A. S. Maxwell, M. L. Neff, R. P. Rowe, E. N. Dick, R. W. Woods, F. L. Peterson, C. E. Moseley, L. E. Ford, O. B. Edwards, J. M. Cox, M.D., H. D. Dobbins, G. S. Luther, L. E. Biggs, O. A. Hudson, Harold Shryock, M.D., W. F. Norwood, O. B. Pratt, M.D., A. D. Butterfield, M.D., E. E. Cossentine, J. Wayne McFarland, M.D., Miss Lora E. Clement, R. M. Davidson, V. E. Hender-shot, G. E. Shankel, R. L. Benton, R. A. Hare, M.D., J. H. Nies, J. F. Brown-berger, M.D., L. V. Finster, J. S. Washburn, A. L. Bietz, W. H. Bergherm, H. K. Christman, E. Magi, J. W. Westphal, C. E. Weaks, T. E. Bowen, E. C. Wood,

H. G. Hadley, M.D., G. M. Krick, H. G. Rutherford, G. Gudmunson, B. Faernstroem, M. G. Champion, Miss Emma Binder, Miss Beatrice Gore, H. H.

Mattison, Mrs. Nora Mattison, L. A. Hansen, A. W. Truman, M.D., Mrs. M. J. Sorenson, H. F. Benson, Dr. A. Andersen.

Proceedings of the General Conference

Forty-fifth Session, June 5-15, 1946

First Meeting

Convened in Sligo Church, Takoma Park, Maryland.

7:45 p.m., June 5, 1946.

J. L. MCELHANY: The hour has come for opening the Forty-fifth Session of the General Conference. We will open this service tonight by singing the same song, I am told, that was used as the opening song for the first session of the General Conference, in 1863, Hymn No. 664. Following the singing of this hymn we will be led in prayer by W. A. Spicer, one of the former Presidents of the General Conference, and who for many years has been connected with the General Conference work.

W. A. SPICER: Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. What are we, O Lord, sinners upon the earth, to come into Thy presence tonight, excepting that Thy hands stretch forth the scepter from the throne of grace. But, Lord, we do come in the name of Jesus, who hath loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood. We do thank Thee, our Father, for the gift of Jesus; that Thou didst so love the world that Thou didst give Thine only-begotten Son to give His life for the children of men who are lost. And, dear Lord, we were lost, and we do thank Thee that in the ages when we knew Thee not and were wandering from Thee, Thou didst call us, everyone of us. And, Lord, tonight every brother and every sister gathered here gives thanks and praise for Thy grace and for Christ's redeeming love.

Now wash us here together, O Lord. May the Holy Spirit come upon this great assembly tonight, bringing the power of God that cleanses from all sin. Burn it out of our hearts and lives, O Lord, and set every soul free.

We pray tonight, dear Lord, for everyone. We pray for these brethren and sisters who have come from the ends of the earth to another General Conference. Lord, it is all of Thy mercy. Thou hast carried Thy cause once again through a great world crisis and still we know that the living God is leading the advent people in Thy work. Lord, we thank Thee for the message of truth which Thou hast sent abroad to the world in these last days. We thank Thee for the advent message, for its power that saves sinners, its power to transform lives. And we have seen it transforming peoples in every corner of the earth. We thank Thee, dear Lord, that never yet has the message gone to any field to be defeated, but everywhere we are finding souls accepting the truth of God, believing in Jesus, and their lives

are witnessing for Thee in every land. Lord, it is all Thy work.

We thank Thee for the workers. We know they are giving glory to Thee for everything tonight, and we pray that as we listen from day to day in this Conference to the stories of the power of God that is indeed saving sinners everywhere. O quicken our own hearts, Lord. Fit this congregation of workers, dear Lord, to go forth from this Conference with a new power.

To this end we all consecrate ourselves to Thee. Dear, Lord, accept us in the beloved. Touch us, we pray Thee, by Thy Spirit, and baptize anew for service in this Conference. We pray, Lord, for our brethren and sisters who are not here, the thousands in the home circle whose thoughts are with us tonight. For the thousands out in the eastern lands, in the west, in the north, in the south, O God, and for the brethren and sisters in all the home divisions. We thank Thee that Thou hast so greatly blessed them during the great storm and whirlwind of war. We thank Thee for the message of courage that comes from every land. O, continue Thy loving care, Lord, upon Thy people, and bless them where they are, and keep open the doors, Lord, for service in reaching sinners who have not yet heard.

We pray, Lord, especially for our brethren and sisters in lands where there still are troubles and privations to be endured. Lord, we pray for our brethren and sisters in lands where there is a shortage of food. O God, help them, we pray, through these times, and help our brethren who are seeking to reach them with help and succor.

Dear Lord, we pray for Thy blessing upon these conference men upon whom comes a special responsibility. Bless these brethren and sisters of the conferences, of the unions, of the General Conference. Keep them, O Lord, in this session, as servants of Thine, working for Thee, with the solemnity of the times upon their hearts. Give them wisdom from on high to guide them in all decisions and business that may be undertaken. Bless Brother McElhany as he leads us into the Conference. Bless all his associates. Bless, we pray Thee, the workers who have prepared for this great gathering, who have been working for days and weeks to plan so that this place may be a place of order and system. We thank Thee for their services.

And, dear Lord, we pray for our country here where we are meeting. We pray for the President, for his counselors and advisers. We do thank Thee, Lord, for this continent that has

been kept free in a great measure from the destructive forces of war, so that we have a place for a quiet meeting in which to plan for Thy work. Bless, we pray, this land and every land. Hold back, we pray, the forces of evil. We pray that the angels of God at the four corners of the earth still may be commissioned to hold the winds of strife until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads.

Lord, lead us all till the glad day when Thou shalt gather Thy people home. Keep us, Lord, by Thine own power. Keep us from sin. Keep us from evil. Prepare our hearts for the great day that is just before us. We ask it all in Jesus' name. Amen.

The A Cappella Choir of Washington Missionary College, under the leadership of Minnie Iverson Wood, sang "Holy Lord God."

J. L. McELHANY: The first matter of business to come before the session is the seating of the delegates. We have the regular delegates from the various divisions of the world field. And then we have delegates at large. In addition to these, according to the constitutional provisions, the session is privileged to seat up to 25 per cent of the regular delegation. First of all we will call for the reading of the lists of delegates that are sent in by the divisions—the regular delegates and the delegates at large—and after these have been seated, they will have presented to them the recommendations of the Executive Committee regarding the seating of the additional delegates that are recommended to them. We will now ask the secretary to present these lists.

E. D. Dick: Mr. Chairman, it gives me pleasure, in behalf of the organizations represented at this session, to present 614 regular delegates and delegates at large from these organizations. The organizations are represented as follows:

The North American Unions	295
Australasia	13
China	33
Inter-America	49
Northern Europe (including Netherlands)	41
Far East	42
South America	43
Provisional Division	14
Southern Africa	31
Southern Asia	21
Southern Europe	32
Total	614

Besides these, we have 73 members of the General Conference Committee who are not members of the divisions, making a total of 687.

J. L. McELHANY: These delegates have come with their credentials authorizing them to serve as delegates to this session, and as this part of the work as a preliminary feature has already been attended to, we hereby declare these delegates seated and qualified to do the business that shall come before them. We now shall ask the secretary to present the list of names that are recommended by the Executive Committee as delegates at

large, in addition to those already seated.

E. D. Dick: Mr. Chairman, The Executive Committee recommend for ratification by the session the following 117 to serve as delegates at large: [The delegate list, including delegates at large, is found on page 10.]

Recommendation duly voted.

E. D. Dick: Mr. Chairman, the Executive Committee recommend that the Nominating Committee be constituted as follows:

"That the Nominating Committee be constituted on the basis of one member for each ten thousand members or major fraction thereof on the basis of the membership at the close of 1945, it being understood that no division be represented by less than two members, the members of the Nominating Committee to be chosen by the division delegations. Delegates-at-large will please answer the call of the division to which they are attached as workers." A little later we will make some announcement with respect to the time and place of meeting for the different groups to carry out this part of the work.

Recommendation duly voted.

In addition to the Nominating Committee the following standing committees were voted:

Plans Committee

H. A. MORRISON, *Chairman*
W. G. TURNER, *Secretary*

R. Altman, G. J. Appel, V. T. Armstrong, W. R. Beach, H. M. Blunden, C. W. Bozarth, W. P. Bradley, W. H. Branson, F. Brennwald, N. F. Brewer, W. A. Butler, Glenn Calkins, L. H. Christian, H. H. Cobban, A. W. Cormack, J. F. Cummins, E. D. Dick, L. K. Dickson, H. T. Elliott, J. R. Ferren, R. R. Figuhr, L. E. Froom, L. Halswick, A. L. Ham, R. E. Hare, F. L. Harrison, C. B. Haynes, E. L. Longway, J. L. McElhany, T. J. Michael, W. E. Nelson, G. E. Nord, A. V. Olson, H. O. Olson, W. L. Pascoe, G. E. Peters, A. W. Peterson, J. I. Robison, Milton Robison, E. B. Rudge, J. A. Stevens, A. F. Tarr, C. L. Torrey, H. H. Votaw, H. M. Walton, M.D., W. H. Williams, Representative From White Trustees.

Division Department Heads: 10 members from North America; 3 members from each of the other divisions, these to be chosen by the delegates from each division.

Finance Committee

W. E. NELSON, *Chairman*
R. ALTMAN, *Secretary*

W. E. Abernathy, R. Adair, G. J. Appel, V. T. Armstrong, H. W. Barrows, C. L. Bauer, W. R. Beach, L. Beer, R. Belz, L. E. Biggs, H. M. Blunden, C. W. Bozarth, W. P. Bradley, E. L. Branson, W. H. Branson, F. Brennwald, N. F. Brewer, W. A. Butler, Glenn Calkins, H. G. Childs, L. H. Christian, F. G. Clifford, H. H. Cobban, Claude Conard, A. W. Cormack, E. E. Cossentine, J. F. Cummins, E. D. Dick, L. K. Dickson, H. Eising, H. T. Elliott, R. R. Figuhr, J. C. Guenin, E. F. Hackman, A. L. Ham, Herbert Hanson, F. L. Harrison, C. H. Kelly, S. J. Lee,

G. A. Lindsay, E. L. Longway, H. W. Lowe, C. H. Mackett, O. O. Mattison, Wm. McClements, J. L. McConaughy, J. L. McElhany, T. J. Michael, F. R. Millard, C. B. Miller, L. G. Mookerjee, H. A. Morrison, W. E. Murray, P. G. Nelson, W. A. Nelson, J. J. Nethery, D. A. Ochs, A. V. Olson, H. O. Olson, W. L. Pascoe, W. E. Phillips, R. H. Pierson, M. L. Rice, M. P. Robison, J. I. Robison, E. B. Rudge, W. Schubert, H. M. Sparrow, J. A. Stevens, A. F. Tarr, C. L. Torrey, J. W. Turner, W. G. Turner, A. Varmer, Dr. H. M. Walton, R. S. Watts, W. H. Williams, N. C. Wilson.

Distribution of Labor

W. H. BRANSON, *Chairman*
H. T. ELLIOTT, *Secretary*

Roger Altman, R. A. Anderson, G. J. Appel, V. T. Armstrong, W. R. Beach, C. L. Bond, C. W. Bozarth, W. P. Bradley, F. Brennwald, N. F. Brewer, Glenn Calkins, L. H. Christian, H. H. Cobban, A. W. Cormack, J. F. Cummins, E. D. Dick, L. K. Dickson, R. R. Figuhr, A. L. Ham, R. E. Hare, F. L. Harrison, G. A. Lindsay, C. S. Longacre, E. L. Longway, H. W. Lowe, J. L. McElhany, T. J. Michael, W. E. Nelson, A. V. Olson, H. O. Olson, W. L. Pascoe, G. E. Peters, J. I. Robison, Milton Robison, E. B. Rudge, W. A. Scharffenberg, J. J. Strahle, A. F. Tarr, W. H. Teesdale, C. L. Torrey, H. M. Walton, M.D., S. A. Wellman, W. H. Williams.

Each division, including North America, to appoint three additional members.

Credentials and Licenses

L. K. DICKSON, *Chairman*
M. E. KERN, *Secretary*

W. P. Bradley, M. V. Campbell, L. H. Christian, A. W. Cormack, R. R. Figuhr, F. H. Robbins, H. L. Rudy.

Constitution and By-Laws

E. D. DICK, *Chairman*
C. CONARD, *Secretary*

R. Altman, V. T. Armstrong, C. W. Bozarth, W. H. Branson, N. F. Brewer, Glenn Calkins, L. H. Christian, H. H. Cobban, A. W. Cormack, J. F. Cummins, L. K. Dickson, H. T. Elliott, R. R. Figuhr, A. L. Ham, G. A. Lindsay, E. L. Longway, H. W. Lowe, J. L. McElhany, T. J. Michael, W. E. Nelson, A. V. Olson, J. I. Robison, E. B. Rudge, M. C. Taft, W. H. Williams.

Seating of Delegates

E. D. DICK, *Chairman*
W. H. WILLIAMS, T. J. MICHAEL

E. D. Dick: Mr. Chairman, there is a further recommendation with respect to the leadership for the Northern European Division for organizational purposes. It will be understood, I believe, that this division is not functioning as a division at the present time, and the Executive Committee therefore recommends, (1) That for the purposes of the session the representatives from Holland be grouped with Northern Europe; (2) that the Northern European delegates be called together by E. D. Dick, and that he act as temporary chairman.

Recommendation duly voted.

J. L. McELHANY: It would be well to announce that the divisional groups who are to select those who will constitute the Nominating Committee and other committees where members are to be appointed, should meet immediately upon the adjournment of this session. When these groups have met and selected those who are to serve on these committees, the names should be passed as soon as possible to the secretary. These names will be announced at the session tomorrow forenoon.

We suggest that these divisional groups meet where you are seated in the auditorium. The divisional leaders, who are seated here on the platform, will join all these groups and take in hand the business to be carried out. An exception to this, however, will be the delegates from North America. They constitute a large group, and consequently we have arranged for them to meet in the auditorium immediately below.

All these groups will meet immediately upon the adjournment of this session. [The president then read his address, which appears on page 5.]

E. D. DICK: Brother Chairman, it is very evident from the cables and letters which have come to my hands that the eyes of our brethren from the far ends of the earth are upon this meeting tonight. I have a number of messages here which I feel I should share with you, and I have chosen to place at the head of the list the greet-

DELEGATES TO FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE

Delegates to the first session of the General Conference held at Battle Creek, Michigan, 1863:

New York: J. N. Andrews, N. Fuller, C. O. Taylor, and J. M. Aldrich.

Ohio: I. N. Van Gorder.

Michigan: James White, Joseph Bates, J. H. Waggoner, John Byington, J. N. Loughborough, Moses Hull, M. E. Cornell, R. J. Lawrence, and laymen James Harvey and William S. Higley.

Wisconsin: Isaac Sanborn.

Iowa: B. F. Snook, W. H. Brinkerhoof.

Minnesota: Washington Morse.

ing which comes to us from C. H. Watson. It reads:

"Deeply regret inability to attend but present in spirit. May God grant you great blessing in Conference and abundant power in work everywhere."

I wish also to share with you the greetings which have come in from our brethren from our Central European Division. It is a very keen disappointment to us that we do not have representatives from that division here tonight. They greatly desired to come, and we desired that they should be with us. We made every attempt that we knew how to plead in their behalf with the military authorities for their release to enable them to come

forward. I might just share with you a letter which has come from the Senior Specialist of Evangelical Affairs, written from Berlin. This Dr. Hoiberg writes from the Office of Military Government in Germany. He says:

"This is to advise you that the request of the Gemeinschaft der Siebenten—Tags-Adventisten for permission to send a delegation to attend the General Conference session at Takoma Park has been denied. The request was given very careful consideration, but the practical difficulties involved in the travel of German nationals to the United States are still so great that such permission cannot be granted at the present time."

But the brethren from the Central European division have written to us, and I desire to bring to you their greetings, which are signed by A. Minck:

"To the Assembly of the General Conference Session:

"To the co-workers and fellow believers assembled at the General Conference session at Washington, D.C., I send in the name of the Central European Division hearty greetings and words of blessings. We greet you with Philippians 1:6, and assure you that we feel heartily united with all our brethren and sisters throughout the world in the love of Christ, and in the advent message.

"May the Holy Spirit guide and influence this large and important meeting, and may the then taken resolu-



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tions operate to the glory of the Lord and as blessings for the cause.

"The Lord bless thee, and keep thee; the Lord make His face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee; the Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace." Num. 6:24-26."

Following are greetings from our leaders in our Russian Division:

"The Allunion Committee of Seventh-day Adventists and all our brethren in the USSR are with you in their sentiments in this great work. We are praying and rejoicing with you in the progress of your labors in God's work.

"Your brethren, GRIGORIEFF, *President of the Allunion Committee of S.D.A.* GALLADSCHEFF, *Secretary of the Allunion Committee of S.D.A.* MELNIK, *Treasurer of the Allunion Committee of S.D.A.*"

I might say that just a few days ago, before the receipt of this cable, I received a letter from Brother Grigorieff, in which he wrote us, "It is obvious that God has blessed our work in our country, especially this year, although a considerable number of our churches and members cannot be accounted for." He says further: "We have already registered 253 churches with 12,560 members. As such they now live in complete peace and well-being. As to the General Conference session which is to be held in the United States at the time you state, would say that in view of the organizational work in the Federative Unions of S.D.A., we cannot attend this meeting. We are wishing you in this great and sacred work God's blessing and help."

Then I wish to bring to you greetings from eleven of our missionaries who are in an internment camp, have been in an internment camp for almost seven years. These are our brethren, missionaries who were serving in the Dutch East Indies and were interned by the Dutch government when the German armies invaded Holland and Belgium. When the Japanese armies swept on to the South, these missionaries were taken to India and they have been in a place called Dehra Dun, at the foot of the Himalaya Mountains not far from Mussoorie.

"On behalf of all our missionaries of the Netherland East Indies in this camp, I should like to ask you to kindly extend our greetings.

"In sending sincerest Christian greetings to the General Conference in session, praying that the Lord may so bless the meetings, that they will become a source of richest blessings to the advent people throughout the world, hastening the happy day when Jesus will come to gather His own and take them home to everlasting joy and peace."

This is signed by P. Drinhaus.

I wish also to share with you the greetings which have come in from the Southern African Division, signed by E. A. Moon, the treasurer of the division. He says:

"Workers and believers in South Africa praying for success of Conference."

Also a further word of greeting from our Zambesi Union, sent from Bulawayo and signed by the Zambesi Union Mission:

"Greetings from all workers in our union. May you experience God's guidance and richest blessing throughout the session."

A further cable also from S. G. Maxwell, superintendent of the Southeast African Union in Nyasaland:

"Southeast African Union workers send hearty greetings to General Conference, praying for rich blessings on His work."

Another cable from E. R. Osmunson,

UNITY AT FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE

Writing of the business transacted at the first session of the General Conference, held in Battle Creek, Michigan, May, 1863, Uriah Smith says:

"In all the important steps taken at this Conference, in the organization of a General Conference, and the further perfecting of State conferences, defining the authority of each, and the important duties belonging to their various officers, there was not a dissenting voice, and we may reasonably doubt if there was even a dissenting thought. Such union, on such points, affords the strongest grounds of hope for the immediate advancement of the cause, and its future glorious prosperity and triumph."—*Review and Herald*, May 26, 1863.

the superintendent of the South India Union, sent from Bangalore, India:

"Pray divine guidance Conference proceedings."

Another cable from Burma, signed by M. O. Manley, superintendent of the Burma Union, and Pein Gyi, secretary-treasurer:

"Burma sends its greetings of love and loyalty to the General Conference assembled with an expression of deep gratitude to God for being reunited with the world field and wishes to express appreciation for aid given in the time of its great need."

Another cablegram comes to us from M. J. Sorenson, who expected to be in attendance at this meeting but because of a depleted staff has remained by his work. He is the superintendent of our work in Ethiopia:

"Ethiopia waiting for workers. Greetings with Colossians 2:5 from workers and believers."

Colossians 2:5 reads: "For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ."

Another cable comes to us from R. H. Hartwell, who is away back in the heart of China:

"Central China greets delegates. Appreciates constant flow loving assistance."

Brother Chairman, as these cables began to come into our office, the General Conference officers, both home and foreign, felt that it would be well for some response to be made to our be-

lievers throughout the world field, and there was prepared a statement of greetings to our believers throughout the world field. It was proposed by the officers that this greeting be presented to the first meeting of this session, for adoption, to be sent out to our believers throughout the whole world field.

J. L. McELHANY: Now it is literally true that the eyes of our believers in all the world are on this place. These messages are an indication of that fact. And how appropriate it would be for us here tonight, in this opening session, to cast our eyes out upon all the world and to send such a message to all our fellow believers. What is your pleasure?

[The statement of greetings was duly voted. The text appears on page 16.]

Hymn number 255, "How Firm a Foundation," was sung in conclusion.

F. M. WILCOX: O Lord, we thank Thee for this great meeting tonight, for the message that has come to us, a message that we believe has been indited by Thy Holy Spirit. O Lord, bless us now as we separate and go to our rest, and bless in all the succeeding meetings of this Conference. We ask this in Jesus' name.

J. L. McELHANY, *Chairman*.
T. J. MICHAEL, *Secretary*.

THE power which stirred the people so mightily in the 1844 movement will again be revealed. The third angel's message will go forth, not in whispered tones, but with a loud voice.—*Testimonies*, vol. 5, p. 252.

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Greetings From the General Conference

IN THIS, the first meeting of the forty-fifth session of the General Conference, we send to our dear brethren and sisters in all lands our cordial and heartfelt greetings. Our prayers ascend in your behalf as we know you are remembering in your daily devotions this important meeting, that Heaven will guide in the discussion of every question and in the making of every decision.

We want you to know how greatly we appreciate your faithfulness and loyalty during the trying period through which we have been passing. Many of you have suffered for life's necessities. Some have endured persecution and imprisonment. Some have been called to mourn the death of sons, fathers, husbands, and other loved ones. In spite of these and other untoward and naturally disheartening experiences, God has given you grace and fortitude to prove true to Him. For this we are exceedingly thankful, and we commend you for your love and loyalty to our blessed Lord.

We have reached a solemn and significant hour for the church of Christ. This is the hour of God's judgment. Before the heavenly tribunal are passing in review the records of the lives of the human family.

It is also a solemn and significant hour in the affairs of this world. A great devastating global war has barely come to an end. Famine and pestilence followed in the wake of war, and the agonizing cry for bread is rising from starving millions in Europe and the Orient.

These events in heaven above and the earth beneath indicate the nearness of Christ's coming. In conditions in the world around us we see what we have long expected. The multiplied signs of the Lord's return confirm our faith and brighten our hope. Soon He who shall come, will come and will not tarry. We are standing on the very threshold of the final movements.

This eventful and auspicious time makes this session of the General Conference one of supreme and unusual importance. From the four corners of the earth delegates have assembled to recount the blessings of God which have attended His work during the eventful years since the session of 1941, and to lay broad and world-encompassing plans for the speedy carrying of the advent message to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people, in fulfillment of the gospel commission.

With man this would be an impossible task. But with God all things are possible. His purposes will be carried out, and the gospel commission be accomplished, not by might, nor by power, but by the Spirit of the Lord. (Zech. 4:6.)

This is the promise of Christ: "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Matt. 28:20. In this blessed ministry and fellowship we may have a part.

We who are here in conference dedicate ourselves anew to the finishing

of the work. And we appeal to our believers in every land to unite with us in a deeper consecration to Christ and to His service. In this crucial hour, the hour of God's judgment, we need to heed anew Christ's admonition: "Be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Matt. 24:44. More than ever we should be diligent students of the Word. Received in faith, its gracious promises will impart to us the divine nature. (2 Peter 1:4.) We should earnestly pray for the reviving power of the Holy Spirit in our hearts and lives.

Heaven has great and abundant blessings in store for us. The Holy Spirit awaits our demands and reception. God is more willing to give than we are anxious to receive. Let us earnestly seek for a deeper experience, a more ardent zeal, a greater love for Christ and for those whom He died to save.

May the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the enabling power of the Holy Spirit keep you, our dear brethren and sisters, faithful until Jesus comes.

GENERAL CONFERENCE IN SESSION.

J. L. McELHANY, *Chairman*.

E. D. DICK, *Secretary*.

Reporting the Conference

IT IS the traditional practice of the denomination to publish full reports of the proceedings of the General Conference session. These published reports have generally been known

under the name of the General Conference Bulletin. In more recent years the reports have been published as a series of extra issues of the REVIEW AND HERALD. In this way it has been possible for the regular subscribers to secure a full story of the session. This is in harmony with the policy of our church paper, which seeks to keep our people informed of everything important that takes place in connection with the Advent Movement. Beginning with the issue of June 6, a number of the REVIEW will be published daily during the session, except for Sabbaths. Several General Conference issues will also be published in the days immediately following the session.

In order to carry through efficiently and expeditiously this daily schedule of publication, the regular editorial staff of the REVIEW is augmented by two editors, M. R. Thurber, book editor, and H. M. Tippett, associate book editor, of the Review and Herald Publishing Association. There will also be four special writers who will cover the events of each day: C. B. Haynes, A. W. Spalding, R. B. Thurber, and C. E. Weniger.

Our church paper is happy that again it can render a service to our people in bringing to them this full and inspiring report of a world conference of the Advent Movement.

THE time has come when the message of Christ's soon coming is to sound throughout the world.—*Testimonies*, vol. 9, p. 24.

GENERAL CONFERENCE AT BATTLE CREEK

[Under the above title the following notice appeared in the Review of October 29, 1857. The meeting called is described as a General Conference. However, the technical use of the term to describe regularly recurring sessions, such as is being held in Takoma Park this June, is not employed in denominational histories until after the creation of a conference organization in May, 1863. The first regular General Conference session opened May 20, 1863.—EDITORS.]

Providence permitting, there will be a General Conference at Battle Creek, to commence Nov. 6th [1857], in the evening, and hold Sabbath, first day, and as much longer as shall be thought best. Those who come to this Conference are requested to remain and attend the meetings of business on second day.

We hope to see Brn. Andrews, Loughborough, and Everts from the West at this meeting. Let there be a general rally from all parts of this State, and as many from other States, and from Canada as can see duty to come. We will feed with hay as many horses as we can put in our barns. We will lodge as many as we can provide beds for, then give up our floors, and barn chambers to those brethren who can best endure such lodgings. Those who can, will do well to bring provisions, buffalo robes, or bed clothes, so that they can lodge in the old meetinghouse. Come along, brethren and sisters. Bring what you can, and we will do what we can for you.

This Conference will be at the opening of our new place of worship. I have put at least \$300 of borrowed money into this house for the church of God in this State, which I shall expect to receive at this Conference. These are hard times, brethren, but come prepared to do something as the Lord hath prospered. We will take gold, silver, good bills, wheat, corn, oats, butter, cheese, deerskins, or good promises of help soon. You who felt badly over our scanty invitation to come to Conference last spring on account of the small size of our place of worship, come and meet with us. And you who fear we are building too large, come and assemble in the house of prayer with us if there is room for you all.

Special Notice

Those who have but little else than an idle curiosity to gratify may as well stay at home. If any still have a disposition to watch for others' faults, and report them behind their backs, such had better stay at home. Come to worship God. Come, brethren, to do your duty, and help advance the cause. We invite you all to come and enjoy this feast with us.

In behalf of the church in Battle Creek.

James White.