

South African

Missionary

VOL. I.

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No. 11

The Closing Year

The closing days of the year are upon us. For all the blessings of the year we praise God; and His blessings come to the trusting soul in everything. To all our readers, and to all who have laboured to extend the light of the gospel in South Africa, we send greeting. We may not all have worked in the same lines, but we are all "workers together with God." He gives us thanks, and we praise Him for the privilege of having even the smallest part in His work.

While there has not been the advancement of the message and growth in numbers that we may have desired, there are signs of better days for the truth in this land. Peculiar difficulties have beset the work of the Lord in times past. Many labourers have worked hard and have sacrificed not a little, but their efforts have been counteracted, weakened, and nullified by a wrong spirit that has pervaded so many of us. Sharp and unfriendly criticism has been indulged in; some have withheld their support, while a few have withdrawn altogether from the truth, apparently for the reason that the work was not conducted according to some individual minds. But, brethren, who is at the head of this work? Is not Christ the Head of the body? It may be that some members do not perform their functions to the entire satisfaction of every other member, but why should the body be disfigured and the Head dishonoured by these self-inflicted amputations, when all these matters could be made right by consulting the Head?

We are glad that many of the difficulties

that have been in our midst in the past are fading away one by one. Our people are beginning to understand each other better, and with the better understanding comes a willingness to work together for the advancement of the cause. We are confident that the Lord is leading in this work, therefore we are of good courage. His message is yet of power to save to the uttermost every one who will believe it. We believe that the Lord has brought us to the close of this year in a position where we can by His help make advance moves. Then why, in the fruitful year that lies before us, should not every true, loyal soldier of Christ gird on his armour anew and go forth with new courage and hope to glorious, eternal victory.

The MISSIONARY desires to be, during the coming year, the carrier of messages of peace and good-will, of cheer and hope, from one to another of our workers, and from our labourers in the field to the home of every Sabbath-keeping family. To this end we ask you first to send us reports that its pages may be filled with good things. Then we ask you to help us to extend the circulation of this paper. The subscription price is only half-a-crown a year. If you are not already taking the paper, send us your name and the amount. We know you want to keep in touch with the progress of the message, and this is the paper that will bring the reports to you. The MISSIONARY wants to join hands with every one whose heart is in the work, and whose face is set toward Zion. May the new year see more of the fruit of the good seed sown in the past. May it be a glorious year for the work of the Master. O. O. F.

Our Printing Plant

Some five years ago the Cape Conference decided that it would be for the advancement of the work of the office to own a small printing press. Accordingly, one was ordered. Before it arrived Professor Shaw decided that the College should start the printing work as an industry for the students, and urged us to turn our press and type over to them when it arrived. We did so, and the College has continued the printing work up to the present, and from time to time has added facilities to the plant till it has become able to print our papers and do some commercial work besides.

When the Union Conference was organised, the burden of printing the *Sentinel*, the *Journal of Health*, the MISSIONARY, and also native literature, became its portion. Formerly this work had been done by the International Tract Society; but, very properly, this burden was shifted to the Union Conference. It was not long before some of the brethren began to realise that to print our papers and the native books and tracts would cost a lot of money, and urged that we would plan to do our own printing.

At the meeting of the S. A. U. C. Committee held at Maritzburg recently it was voted that we take steps to establish a plant, and that we purchase the College plant if possible as we could not expect to maintain two printing offices. Accordingly, the College agreed to this, and a committee was appointed to set a value upon it. The price set upon the machinery, etc. was £180, and the stock to be valued January 1, 1904, when it is to be turned over to the Union Conference.*

In order that we may be able to print small books and perform the work needed, we find that we must add to the facilities. We need an oil engine, type, and several other things. Our brethren are all agreed that we should at once get these things and put the plant in good working order. But a difficulty was encountered at this point. The Union Conference, which represents all the

Seventh-day Adventists in South Africa, has no funds in its treasury for this work. So the brethren decided that it was best to lay the whole situation before our people and give them the opportunity to assist in purchasing this plant and adding to it the necessary things.

This is the first time we have made a general appeal to our people to assist in building up an institution for this field since I came to Africa, over five and one-half years ago. In other fields there have been many calls made of this nature to our people, and they have responded liberally. We feel sure our people in South Africa are just as willing and are glad of the privilege to assist in this good work. The message must be given, and the press is one of the most powerful agencies by which it is to go to the world.

We have several native books and pamphlets to print, and these must be gotten out as cheaply as possible. Therefore we ask our people to unite with us in making offerings for this good work. We need £250 to lift the debt and put the office in good working order. It will remain at the College as formerly, as they have kindly granted us free use of the building. The amounts donated will appear in this paper from month to month. All money or pledges should be sent to O. O. Fortner, 56 (formerly 28a) Roeland Street, Cape Town. The following are the amounts already received:—

J. J. Wessels,	£20 0 0
Mrs. A. E. Wessels,	5 0 0
W. S. Hyatt,	5 0 0
O. O. Fortner,	5 0 0
Fred Visser,	5 0 0
J. A. Chaney,	5 0 0
Friends in America	20 0 0
Total	- 65 0 0

We thank the Lord for this gift.

W. S. HYATT.

There are a few Sabbath-keepers in the district of Harrismith, O. R. C., and on the 14th of November Brother S. W. de Lange organised them into a Sabbath School. Brother H. J. Woolman is their superintendent, and Sister Annie Koster is the Secretary.

Our Papers

The sale of the Christmas number of the *Sentinel* was much greater than we expected. We printed 6,000 copies, and all were soon sold. During the past week orders have come in for several hundred more, but we were not able to supply them. We are thankful for the good work done by our people with that issue, and hope the work will not now stop. Every paper is full of "present truth," and we need your assistance that it may be placed before the people. I assure you that your editors will do their best to make the *Sentinel* just what it ought to be. We will try to keep out of the papers every objectionable thing in the advertisements or matter. We will do our best and hope to have your hearty support.

I must not forget the *Journal of Health*. Our brethren have urged us to enlarge this paper, and we have decided to do so. In the future it will contain twenty-four pages, instead of sixteen as formerly, but the price remains the same. We shall endeavour to make this paper fill the place for which it was intended. But once again I must call your attention to the fact that we need your united help in this good work. Brethren and sisters, first of all let me ask you to read these papers, and then you will know what good things they contain for others.

I am glad to see the interest manifested by old and young in selling the Christmas number of the *Sentinel*, and now we hope your zeal will not drop, but that 1904 will see more and better work done than ever before.

W. S. HYATT.

Training School for Workers

My interest in the progress of truth in this land has not abated during my brief absence. War has been declared; the battle is on. We are not to simply stand on the defensive, wearing the Christian armour, but we are to do aggressive warfare, taking as our only

weapon "the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God."

The enemy is marshalling his forces for the final conflict. Our Captain is also calling for volunteers, with the assurance that we are well able to go up and possess the land of promise.

Where are our young men and our young women? Surely they have heard the call to service. Maybe some are not prepared, not qualified to go. To such let me say that we are planning for a training school in the near future, where we may study together how to use the Word effectually. I have been looking over the field, and have counted thirty persons who ought to enlist at once for training. Are you bound by business ties? or do peculiar circumstances make it seem impossible for you to enter the Lord's work? Consider how men act who enlist in national strife. They leave home ties, business interests,—everything,—for the glory of war, for the service of their country. Compare the Lord's cause with their cause; compare our reward with their reward; then calmly and consistently decide whether we are not warranted in enlisting at any cost in the service of our Master. God has given us the light that we might bear it to others. Are we choosing our own ease and pleasure, stifling our convictions of duty to our fellow-men? or are we saying in answer to the still small voice, "Here am I, send me"?

Are there not men of talent among us? Why import men to carry this message to South Africa, when we have men here who can do it? Do we not know the truth? and can we not tell it to others? If not, why not? True, some may need to know it better, and may also need to study how to best tell it to others. We hope to meet this requirement in our training school. I shall hope to hear at once from every person in South Africa who has any desire to enter such a school for six months with the definite purpose of qualifying for some branch of the Lord's work. Very sincerely,

I. J. HANKINS.

The Natal-Cransvaal Conference

As reported in the last MISSIONARY, it was our privilege to attend the annual meeting of the N.-T. Conference. Quite a large number of our people came together at Maritzburg, and the brethren and sisters very hospitably opened their homes and gave them a hearty welcome. We must remember that the church at that place is largely composed of new brethren who have accepted the message during the past season's tent effort. We feel that they did nobly, and believe that this is just as the Lord would have us do.

The meetings of the Conference passed off pleasantly, a spirit of unity and harmony prevailing. Elder Edmed was chosen as the president of the conference, and Brother J. H. Camp was elected secretary and treasurer of the Conference and Tract Society. He has some assistance in the office which will enable him to spend some time in looking after the canvassing work also.

The Tract Society has purchased the Echo Office at Durban, and it is to be located in a very convenient place in Printing Office Street, Maritzburg. They have a good stock of books, also a supply of health foods. The outlook for both of these lines of work is good. They have several good canvassers, some of whom are from our midst. Among them I found Brother H. Schmidt, Sister Howard, Brother E. Howard, Brother and Sister Stapleford, Brother and Sister Ernst, and others. We thank the Lord for the good work they have done in placing our books in the hands of the people.

The prospects for the health foods are very good. There is a great interest in Natal on the subject of healthful living. Sister Webster has been doing good work among the people of Maritzburg, and the blessing of the Lord has attended her labours in a wonderful manner and many sufferers have been relieved. They hope to have a doctor soon, to take charge of the medical work.

As we viewed the work we saw many encouraging omens, and the prospects are good

before this little Conference. On my return I visited Johannesburg for the first time. Here is a great field for labour, one that needs a strong force to enter. The Conference voted to use a large number of our papers. This is as it should be; for there is no other way by which so many people can be reached by the truth as through our periodicals. Thousands of our papers should be placed in the hands of the people in such centres as Cape Town, Johannesburg, and Durban, that the light may be scattered everywhere. There is no way that so much can be done to spread the light by the same effort as through this means.

W. S. HYATT.

A Great Day for the Maritzburg Church

November 15 will long be remembered by the Maritzburg church as Baptismal Day. On the preceding day Elder Hyatt preached a sermon on baptism at the Sabbath morning service. After emphasising the importance of baptism, showing that it must accompany a profession of faith, he explained that it not only showed our faith in the burial and resurrection,—death to sin and life in Christ,—but that it is also a symbol of marriage between Christ and His redeemed. As the speaker earnestly pointed out the responsibilities assumed by those who take upon them the name of Christ, and the purity and holiness that must characterise all who enter that sacred relation with Him, the hearts of all present were touched, and solemn consecrations were made.

On Sunday afternoon we all went out to the Umsindusi River, just outside the city. Besides the believers a large number of people from the city came out to witness the scene. After a service of song, Elder Hyatt addressed the company for a short time. As that large company gathered about the banks of the river, listening to the earnest exhortation and call to repentance, we were reminded of the multitudes who went out to the banks of the River Jordan to hear the message from

the prophet John: "Repent ye; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

There were twenty-five candidates for baptism. As Elder Edmed had been the humble instrument in leading these dear souls into the light of the truth, so it was his privilege to lead them into the water and administer the sacred rite. Many and anxious were the days of labour bestowed by Brother Edmed and his associate workers, and precious were these jewels that had been searched out and tried and polished by the word of truth. The baptismal scene was the most impressive we have seen for a long time. The countenances of both young and old, as they rose from the water, gave evidence that they had not only been baptised by water, but that the Lord Himself had baptised them with His Spirit.

We trust that the church at Maritzburg may continue to enjoy the Lord's richest blessings, and that while it grows in numbers it may also increase in power. O. O. F.

Committee Work

The Union Conference Committee held some meetings in Natal recently, and the Cape Conference Committee and College Board have held a few meetings during the past few days. We give below a few of the points that have been decided upon, selected from the minutes of the various meetings, that will be of interest to all.

EXTRACTS FROM MINUTES:

Resolved, That the Natal-Transvaal Tract Society take over the stock of the Durban branch of the Echo Publishing Company on January 1, 1904, and operate the book work in that field.

That a publishing department of the Union Conference be organised to take control of the importation and publication of all books, tracts, papers, and other literature used by the South African fields.

That the Union Conference purchase the Union College printing plant and take over the management of the same on January 1.

That Elders Hyatt, Edmed, and Hankins constitute an editorial committee for the *South African Sentinel*, and that Brother O. O. Fortner be the managing editor.

That the *Journal of Health* be enlarged to twenty four pages.

That "Christ Our Saviour" be translated and published in the Zulu language.

That Brother Fortner be relieved from the work of the Cape Tract Society, that he may give more of his time to the work of the Union Conference.

That Brother T. J. Gibson take the secretaryship of the Cape Tract Society.

That steps be taken to secure a uniformity in the Sabbath School lessons for the different divisions.

That the Sabbath School offerings for the last quarter of 1903 and the first quarter of 1904 be appropriated to aid in equipping the Union Conference printing plant.

That Elder I. J. Hankins take the presidency of the Cape Conference.

That provision be made for a training school for workers, and that Elder Hankins take charge of the same during the coming year, if it can be started.

That Elder Hyatt be invited to begin a tent effort in the Cape Conference as soon as possible.

That Brother William Haupt be invited to connect with the tent effort under direction of Elder Hyatt.

That Brother W. C. Walston be appointed business manager and treasurer of Union College, and Sister Walston as matron.

O. O. F.

Cape Colony Canvassing Report for November

Mr. Chas. Haupt, Cape Town, "Daniel and Revelation," 104 hours, 44 orders, 26 miscellaneous. Total 70 orders. Value, £33-16-6. Delivered 53, value, £22-10-6.

Mr. A. Tickton, Kimberley, Miscellaneous, 61 hours, 76 orders. Value, £19-7-0. Delivered 48. Value, £14-8-0.

Educational.

The Closing Exercises of Union College School

The closing exercises of the twelfth school year of Union College were held in the Claremont church on the evening of December 7. The church was crowded with the friends and patrons of the school who came to participate in the enjoyment to be derived from the pleasing programme, and to witness some of the fruits of the pupils' work as exhibited in the various rooms. Brother E. A. Ingle was the chairman of the evening, being supported on the platform by Elders Hyatt and Hankins. There was not a dull or tedious item on the programme, but all were full of life, interesting, edifying, and inspiring. Nearly all of the pupils had a part to act, and all deserve credit for their meritorious efforts to make the occasion a success. Elder Hankins delivered a short address on education which was also appreciated.

There was no distribution of prizes as is customary with other schools at such times, for our school does not believe in the principle of contests, with meaningless examinations and the attendant evils of cramming. But after the conclusion of the entertainment everybody proceeded to the school rooms, where a tastefully-arranged exhibition of school work gave eloquent testimony to the honest and faithful work of both teachers and pupils. The drawings, maps, essays, and other classes of work showed a high degree of precision and excellence. The training of the hand as well as the mind was evidenced by the display of fine needlework which seemed to be the pride of those who had acquired this useful art.

This report would be incomplete without mentioning the physical culture drill which took place on Thursday evening, December 3. The young ladies of the school had been under the training of Miss Burrill for some time, and were well prepared. The method-

ical movements and fancy manœuvres were executed very gracefully and with pleasing effect. At the request of those present, this exercise was repeated on the following Saturday evening.

The students are now enjoying their vacation at home. We hope to see them all back, with many others, when school opens again on Wednesday, February 3. O. O. F.

College Notes

The College teachers take this means of thanking their kind friends for the many season's greetings sent them, and in return wish all a profitable and restful time during the holidays.

Some changes have been made in the College workers for the coming year. Brother and Sister W. C. Walston, who have lately arrived from Australia, have been invited to connect with the school. He is to act as business manager, and Sister Walston to act as matron.

The teaching staff will comprise the following: Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Hayton, Miss Ellen I. Burrill and Miss Helen Hyatt. Mr. A. Commin has been asked to connect with the office in Cape Town, and Mr. William Haupt to enter the ministerial field of labour.

We have found it necessary in behalf of the many applicants, to open a coloured school in connection with the College work. Plans have been laid to begin this work at the opening of the new school year, Feb. 3, 1904. Let our coloured brethren respond to support this new feature of the educational work in South Africa.

The prospects look bright for a full school the coming year. Many inquiries have been made by new prospective students for information concerning the Union College School. Let all our friends do their best to place before their friends the great need and inestimable value of a thorough Christian education.

C. H. H.

Week of Prayer

This season is now in the past with our brethren in America. We have the readings that were prepared, but they did not arrive in time so we could have our week of prayer at the same time. As Elder Hankins is to visit all the churches and spend some days with each, it has been thought best by the Cape brethren that he hold this special season while he is with them. This will give no one week for all, but will provide help for each church. The meetings can be held during the month of January.

Readings will be sent to Natal, and the Natal-Transvaal Conference will appoint a suitable time. While this lacks the idea of all uniting at the same time, we hope that it may accomplish more than it otherwise would. We earnestly hope that the visits of Elder Hankins to the churches may be seasons of rich blessings to all, and that the converting power of God may be present. All will welcome him back into their midst, and so we ask that they will at once begin to plan accordingly. May a wave of rich blessing sweep over all our churches in South Africa.

The plan for our people to make offerings for God's work will still be carried out. The native work in Africa appeals to us. Our funds are low, and all that is said in the readings about the work in general is to our people, and the needs in this field.

W. S. HYATT.

Bloemfontein

We wish to thank all the kind friends who have contributed by sending papers and Bibles, also the one brother at Plumstead who has sent some money toward paying for our Sunday School tent in Bloemfontein. We are very glad that God has blessed our work so much here. We wish to inform our friends that we have good attendance on Sundays, and we take fresh courage when we see the interest manifested by those who attend. They are indeed grateful to have the Bible

taught them in the light of present truth. It was a pleasant work for Sister Court and myself to collect the money with which the tent was paid for. We now owe nothing on it, but have a little over which we wish to spend in buying Bibles for our pupils. Please remember us in your prayers.

MRS. H. WOCKE.

NOTICE

The old, familiar number of our Cape Town office has been changed by the Municipality from 28a to 56 Roeland Street. Let everybody note this fact and address all communications hereafter to 56 Roeland Street, Cape Town.

O. O. F.

NOTICE

The address of the Natal-Transvaal Conference and the N.-T. branch of the International Tract Society is Norwich Chambers, Printing Office Street, Maritzburg, Natal. The telegraphic address is "Watchman," Maritzburg. The officers are: President, Elder Herbert J. Edmed; Secretary and Treasurer, J. H. Camp.

H. J. EDMED.

NOTICE

All our readers in Cape Colony will please take notice that in the future all correspondence pertaining to the International Tract Society, Cape Town, should be addressed to the Society or to Brother T. J. Gibson, who has just received the appointment as secretary.

I wish to say a few words about remittances to the office. All remittances for books, tracts, papers, or other Tract Society supplies should be sent to Brother Gibson or banked in the Standard Bank to the credit of the International Tract Society. All tithes, weekly offerings, S. S. offerings, and other funds intended for the Conference should be sent to O. O. Fortner, the Conference treasurer, or banked to the credit of the Cape Colony Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. If all will take note of this, it will save time and useless transfers.

O. O. F.

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Editor: - - - - O. O. FORTNER.

—A "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" to all our readers.

—All will be interested in the extracts from the Committee proceedings found on another page.

—This issue of the MISSIONARY has been delayed so as to include some matters under consideration by the Committees.

—Our 6,000 December *Sentinels* went like hot cakes. We are glad to know how easy it is to use a large number of papers when we are really in earnest.

—Sister Cora M. Blodgett is spending her vacation at the Cape. She will return to Uitenhage next month to resume her work in the school at that place.

—According to a letter just received from London, Elder Altman sailed on the 19th inst from England for South Africa. He is bound for the Natal-Transvaal Conference.

—Our people in England are printing special holiday numbers of their health paper and the *Present Truth*, and expect to circulate 60,000 copies of the former and 100,000 of the latter.

—Sister Hyatt writes that she is enjoying her teaching work at the Somabula Mission. The Sabbath afternoon meetings with the natives near that mission are proving quite a success, as many of the natives show a desire for the gospel.

—If any of our people have any outgrown or cast-off clothing and would be willing to donate the same for use at our missions, we would be pleased to give instructions as to where such articles can be sent to be used to good advantage.

—Sister Webster writes from Maritzburg that she gave 286 treatments during the

month of November, and that after all expenses for the month were paid there was a balance of £25 to turn over to the Conference. She had even a greater number of patients during the previous month.

—We beg the indulgences of our friends who have suffered the inconvenience of having the attention to their correspondence delayed. Having been absent from the office for some weeks, and having on our return to attend committee meetings, we have had the opportunity to attend to only such matters as were very urgent.

—On our return trip from Natal, Brother Ingle and the writer visited Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, and the Basuto Mission. It was a great privilege to meet the brethren at these places, and the knowledge gained of the circumstances and local conditions at each place will be of good service in dealing with the work in those fields.

—Elder Hyatt wishes us to say in this column that he has lost a copy of "Special Testimonies to Ministers," bound in red leather. It was loaned to somebody some time ago, but Elder Hyatt has lost track of it. The little book can not be replaced, and it was highly prized. He will be glad to receive any information as to its whereabouts.

—A sufficient number of this issue of the MISSIONARY are being sent out to each church for distribution to each Sabbath-keeping family, whether they are subscribers or not. We are also sending a copy to each isolated member. If this paper appeals to the interest of any who are not subscribers, we ask you to send us half-a-crown, and you will receive the paper for one year.

—We deeply regret having to announce the death of Brother J. H. Cammell, who died of consumption at North Fitzroy, Victoria, Australia, on November 8. Brother Cammell was with us two years, having had charge of the College printing plant; but returned to Australia on account of failing health. The MISSIONARY expresses the sympathy felt by their South African friends for Sister Cammell.