

The South African MISSIONARY

VOL. IV.

CAPE TOWN, FEBRUARY, 1906.

2 ON

The Week of Prayer

"Thrice in a year shall all thy males appear before the Lord thy God . . . and they shall not appear before the Lord empty." Deut. 16: 16. The Sabbath was given to God's people that they might drop all worldly cares and have time for communion and worship. But this was not enough. The people needed more time in which to draw near to God. Accordingly, three annual feasts were appointed, each extending over a week. These periods, when given up to worship, were seasons of great blessing to the people.

In this time of whirl and bustle, when many are struggling to maintain an existence, we are apt to forget God's claims upon us. Some feel that they can scarcely take time for family worship, but we need it as much as any people who ever lived. That we may have time to seek God, our brethren have appointed the annual week of prayer, and we hope it may be a blessing to all.

We must take time to care for the soul. The Saviour saw our need when He said, "take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your heart be overcharged with . . . cares of this life." Luke 21: 34. It matters little if the outward man perish, but everything depends upon the inner man. We cannot afford to neglect this inner life. We must seek God with all the heart, and allow nothing to hinder us.

The prophet Zephaniah saw this time, and uttered these solemn words, "Seek ye the Lord, all ye week of the earth, which have wrought his judgment: seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be

ye shall be hid in the day of the Lord's anger." Zeph. 2:3.

The Lord by the prophet Hosea sends us this message: "It is time to seek the Lord, till he come and reign righteousness upon you." Hos. 10: 12. We most sincerely hope this week of prayer may be a time when we may seek and find Him.

This is the time when Jesus says we should stand with our "loins girded about and lights burning; and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their Lord." My brethren, have you exchanged the "filthy garments" of self for His robes of righteousness? Have you on the wedding robe, and your loins girded, ready to go at a moment's notice? If so, then your light is burning brightly to lead others to the truth. Oh, that we may make this season one of the best we ever enjoyed!

The Lord told his people anciently not to appear before Him empty. We have received many blessings during the past year, and ought to return Him a thank offering. Thankfulness opens the heart for greater blessings. Every one, children included, ought to bring an offering, though it may be small. Old and young should recognise the blessings of God and show thankfulness in return. Last year several whole churches gave the Lord nothing. I wonder how much benefit they received from that season of prayer. Surely it is high time that we awake out of sleep before we sleep the sleep of death. If our friends were poisoned, we would put forth every effort to keep them awake. May God help us to work while the day lasts.

W. S. HYATT.

The Conference

The twelfth session of the Cape Colony Conference is now in the past. The ministers and most of the canvassers were present, and gave encouraging reports of their labours. Four new churches were received into the Conference with an aggregate membership of ninety, viz., Heisterbach-Bethlehem, O. R. C., Bonnie Vale, East London, and East London Location. Nearly all the churches have received a few additional members during the year, making the total membership in the Conference 419.

The Sabbath-school work has grown, and the offerings for the year were £107-16-9. There has been a fair increase in tithes and offerings, amounting in full to nearly £4 per capita. The Treasurer's report showed a gain for the Conference of £240, and for the Tract Society of over £400, during the year. The Kimberley Baths showed a fair profit, after spending about £200 in a lot and necessary improvements. The Cape Sanitarium also showed a good financial standing and an increasing patronage. To provide necessary bath rooms and other improvements, the Sanitarium is investing about £1,000 in an addition to the main building; this includes equipments.

Resolutions were passed expressing gratitude for the degree of blessing and success attending the year's work; expressing the desire to still push the work into new fields; to ask the committee to provide health literature in the Dutch language; urging our young people to prepare for church school work by taking the teachers'

course at our school; also encouraging our workers to prepare to teach our health principles; and that the Medical Missionary Board consider the taking over of the health food business.

Papers were read on the Sabbath-school, medical missionary, educational, and Conference work, which were all interesting and profitable, as they made our Conference business meetings *instruction* meetings. Good spiritual seasons were enjoyed in the early morning services, and also in the evening preaching services.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—

President, W. S. Hyatt; Secretary and Treasurer of Conference and Tract Society, T. J. Gibson; Secretary of Sabbath-school Department, Mrs. I. J. Hankins; Auditor, A. H. Mason.

Conference Committee, W. S. Hyatt, I. J. Hankins, J. M. Freeman, E. A. Ingle, J. J. Wessels, A. H. Mason, Dr. Thomason.

Medical Missionary Board, Dr. Thomason, W. S. Hyatt, I. J. Hankins, J. V. Willson, E. A. Ingle, W. C. Walston, J. J. Wessels.

On Monday, after the Conference closed, the committees and delegates were invited to a Sanitarium dinner, and to inspect the new building,—an enjoyable and profitable occasion.

While we are thankful for the blessings of the past year, we are conscious of our need of greater blessings as the conflict deepens. May our faith grasp them, and give us victory day by day.

I. J. HANKINS.

Union Conference Financial Report

In this MISSIONARY will be found a large number of figures, and, as a rule, people do not care much about these things, while to others they are exceedingly interesting. Let me assure my brethren and sisters that financial reports tell the amount of zeal and fervour we possess, as truly as the pulse does the temperature of the body. Our interest in the message,

and confidence and love for its Author are shown by these tokens; hence I hope that all will carefully examine these reports.

The Union Conference has been organised for three years, and the amount of tithes received each year has varied less than ten pounds.

There has been a greater difference in the annual offerings. Last year they were the least that they have been in several years. This is not right. Our gifts and voluntary offerings ought to increase as we near the end. A sacrifice does not increase, but rather decreases. Let us not forget that God charges us with robbery not only in tithes, but also in offerings.

There has been a marked decrease in our Weekly Offerings, for which we are very sorry. The fact that the tithe remains the same shows that our income has remained the same on the aggregate; then why should our offerings be less? Echo answers, Why? Truly we are near the day of the Lord, and God's cause demands more from us. We are told that "a moment of respite has been given us of God" in which "the warning message is to be sounded in all parts of the world." How long this "respite" is to continue I know not, but I do know that we ought to improve the God-given time while it lasts.

We are thankful for the amount received from all sources which totals the sum of £860-1-3. Many of our people are faithful in their dealing with God's cause. Surely it is time, yes, "high time" that every one be loyal and true, and live, and labour, and sacrifice for our God. Father says, "Gather My saints together unto Me; those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice."

W. S. HYATT.

Cape Colony Conference Financial Report for 1905

We are thankful to be able to report that there has been a good, healthy increase of the tithes during the year. The study of the Sabbath-

school lessons and the articles written by Elder Hankins had the effect of quickening the consciences of many brethren. It is a terribly dangerous thing to blunt and sear our consciences by living in violation of any known duty. May God inspire every Sabbath-keeper to be true and faithful.

I am sure that all will agree with me that it is sad to see that but six of our churches gave any annual offering last year, and that over half of the amount was donated by one church. The Cape Town church is not a wealthy church, but all its members do what they can.

Brethren, this is the Spirit that is needed in all our churches. It is not the large amounts given by the few, but it is the small sums donated by all that swells the amount. Our children ought to be taught from childhood to pay tithes and make offerings; then they will not forget it when older.

The weekly offerings are quite good, but it is evident that many of our people have not adopted the six-pence per week plan. These offerings go directly to the native work. We hope that all the churches will keep a supply of the envelopes in which the weekly offerings are made, and give them to the members each week. If you do not have them, please order from your Tract Society, as they are furnished without cost.

We most sincerely hope that 1906 may be a year of advance along every line. Every one should be determined to be faithful, that we may hear the blessed words "Well done, good and faithful servant."

W. S. HYATT.

Sabbath-school Offerings

We began the year 1905 with the expectation that our Sabbath-schools would donate £200 toward the opening of the Kafir Mission. Our report shows £193-7-3, but if all our Sabbath-schools had reported promptly, we would be able to report the full amount. There has been a commendable interest shown in many of our-

Sabbath-schools by the teachers and officers to increase these gifts. It is with deep gratitude in my heart that I pen these few lines.

I notice that the few schools in the Natal-Transvaal Conference donated £77-9-0. This is very good when we consider the membership which can be found in another column.

Our native schools are also taking an interest in this work. By examining the Sabbath-school Secretary's report, it will be seen that the mission school offerings compare very favourably with many of our best churches. The Union Conference Committee has decided that our Sabbath-school offerings for 1906 are still to go toward the opening of the Kafir Mission. We are thankful to report that from all sources we now have over £300 with which to start this mission. We are now ready to begin this work without delay. We still crave your prayers that God may give wisdom and guide in selecting a location.

W. S. HYATT.

—If you know of any one of our people who does not receive the MISSIONARY, please send us the name.

Sabbath-school Recommendations

At the close of Mrs. Hankins' paper on Sabbath-school work, she submitted the following recommendations, which were adopted by vote:—

1. That we endeavour to make our Sabbath-schools effective in preparing their members for gospel work.
2. That only such officers be chosen as "exert an influence in accordance with the holy character of the truth which we profess."
3. That we cooperate with the plan of organisation as presented by the General Conference, and urge our people everywhere to become active members of the Sabbath-school department, either as members of regular schools and family schools, or as members of the home department, and that all study the regular lessons and report to the Secretary quarterly.
4. That the donations as far as possible be given to the mission work.
5. That Sabbath-school officers so arrange the time of their business

meetings that the secretaries can post their reports immediately after the last Sabbath in each quarter.

6. That all Sabbath-school members provide themselves with the Sabbath-school helps as far as possible.

7. That we express to our people throughout the Conference our appreciation of their efforts to advance the Sabbath-school work during the past year.

The most important papers presented at the Conference will be sent to church elders to be read in their respective churches.

I. J. HANKINS.

Remember that the MISSIONARY is sent to all of our people free of charge, but we hope that those who read it will send us something toward the cost of publication and postage.

SABBATH-SCHOOL REPORT

FOR QUARTER ENDING 30TH DEC., 1905.

CAPE COLONY CONFERENCE

NAME	No. of Schools	Membership	Av. Attendance	No in Senior Div	Donations	Expenses	Donations to Missions
REGULAR SCHOOLS.							
Cape Town	72	40	42	5	4 0		5 4 0
Claremont	96	68	13	7	8 7 3	2 17 0	7 8 7 1/2
East London	18	10	13	2	13 5	1 6 10	1 6 7
Port Elizabeth	24	22	15	2	3 8	1 0 3	1 3 5
Rokeby Park	35	27	9	2	8 7	5 6	2 2 1
Uitenhage	39	29	20	4	11 4 1/2		4 11 4 1/2
Mooihock	15	10	4	1	14 5 1/2		14 6
Klipdam	21	16	10	2	12 3		2 12 3
Retreat	16	16	5		8 0		
Fauresmith	15	10			10 0		10 9
Parow	15	12	6	1	1 0 1/2	8 9	12 3 1/2
Caledon	8	5			12 9		12 9
E. L. Location							
Beaconsfield							10 0
Grahamstown	7	5	7		13 2		
Heisterback	23	17	12	2	0 0 1/2		1 15 10
FAMILY SCHOOLS							
P. A. Venter	7	6	7		16 6		16 6
G. W. Shone	2	2	2		6 6		6 6
HOME DEPARTMENT							
I. B. Burton	1	1	1		1 9		1 9
T. J. Francis	1	1	1		10 0		10 0
TOTAL	18	415	297	167	34 16 1 1/2	5 19 4	30 18 6

SOUTH AFRICAN UNION CONFERENCE

Cape Col. Conference	18	415	297	167	34	16 1 1/2	5	19 4	30	18 6
Natal-Trans. do.	4	129	94	41			1	12 9	20	16 1
MISSIONS.										
Mkupavula						19 3				19 3
Solusi		87	72	87		2 10 0				2 10 0
Kolo			23			7 0				7 0
Somabula		112	83	99		2 9 9		2 9		2 7 0
Plainfield		105	84			1 0 0				1 0 0
TOTAL	22	893	680	394	42	2 1 1/2	7	14 10	58	17 10

Report of Tithes and Offerings received during 1905.

CAPE COL. CONFERENCE	Tithe	Annual Offerings	Weekly Offerings	Sabb.-School Offerings	TOTAL
Beaconsfield	107 13 5		3 4 0	11 2 7	122 0 0
Cape Town	276 9 1	21 9 6	12 15 6	13 10 10	324 4 11
Claremont	599 3 0	5 17 8	27 3 5	16 9 6	648 13 7
East London	166 17 7	2 11 6	8 1 6	17 14 0	135 4 7
Heisterbach	157 11 4		9 13 0	6 16 7	174 0 11
Port Elizabeth	211 16 1	3 0 0	6 0 6	6 7 7	227 4 2
Rokeby Park	126 10 0	2 13 9	13 16 3	10 13 7	153 13 7
Uitenhage	70 12 2	1 6 0	5 9 4	9 17 7	86 19 1
Klipdam	86 8 0		4 17 0	7 19 0	99 4 0
Blikwater	20 19 5			1 14 8	22 14 1
Catheart	42 1 0		1 0 0	1 5 0	44 6 0
King W's Town	26 8 9		2 7 6	1 16 0	30 12 3
Warmwater	16 2 0		1 16 6		17 18 6
Isolated	65 19 5		1 2 0	2 9 10	69 11 3
TOTAL	1914 11 3	36 12 5	97 6 6	107 16 9	2156 6 11
NATAL-TRANSVAAL CONF.					
Johannesburg	275 6 7		20 4 6	20 1 9 1/2	315 12 10 1/2
Maritzburg	402 12 2		24 17 6	29 18 4 1/2	457 8 0 1/2
Durban	57 8 2		7 9 3	12 17 5	77 14 10
Vryheid	17 17 9			6 2 11	24 0 8
Pretoria				8 8 6	8 8 6
Sweetwaters					
TOTALS	753 4 8		52 11 3	77 9 0	883 4 11
UNION CONFERENCE					
Cape Colony Conference	191 2 11	36 2 5	97 16 6	106 16 9	431 18 7
Natal-Transvaal Conf.	95 6 11	13 14 9	52 11 3	77 9 0	239 1 11
Solusi Mission	18 6 0	3 0 3	2 0 0	4 4 3	27 10 6
Basuto	27 9 9			2 8 0	29 17 9
Somobulo Mission	13 2 6	2 0 0		1 15 9	16 18 3
Nyossaland	31 1 1				31 1 1
Mkupavula	32 0 0			13 6	32 13 6
Individuals	50 19 8				50 19 8
TOTALS	450 8 10	54 17 5	152 7 9	193 7 3	860 1 3

South African Missionary

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE
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Kenilworth Cape.

—THE WEEK of prayer has been appointed for February 10-17, inclusive. The special readings will be found in the *Review* of Nov. 23.

—ELDER AND Sister Hankins have started the mission work at Cape Town. The public meetings have not begun yet, but they are working privately among the people. The evening classes are progressing nicely, and those in attendance are well pleased with them.

—BROTHER BAREND and John de Beer, with their wives, will join the mission work at Cape Town in a few days. They will canvass part of the time to pay expenses.

—SISTER WALSTON is in care of the efficient staff of workers at the Sanitarium. She is slowly improving.

—ELDER EDMED left Maritzburg on Monday, the 29th January, for Pretoria, where he will erect a tent and begin a series of public meetings. Brother W. H. Haupt will assist him in the work. They will also have others, including Brother and Sister D. Sparrow, who will join the company in order to take the course of Bible studies and gain experience in gospel work.

—BROTHER MCPHERSON, who has had charge of our printing works for over two years, left us about the first of the year for America. He left very hurriedly in response to a cable, and we were very much embarrassed to know what plans to make for the printing works. It was finally decided to ask Brother Earl Walston, Brother W. C. Walston's son, to try his hand at running the press and

look after the details of the work. Brother Josiah Sutherland is setting the type for the papers. The boys have had a hard time during the first month trying to "get on" to the notional ways of the old press and engine, and just as they had these under complete control, they had a break down with the job press and paper cutter. Under these circumstances, we hope our paper workers will pardon us for sending out the February *Sentinel* several days late.

—THE JOHANNESBURG church has ordered 600 extra copies of the February *Sentinel* in order to circulate the article by Elder Hankins in reply to the Zionist preacher of that city.

—ELDER ARMITAGE writes that they have prospects for a good crop at the Somabula Mission this year. Their mealies and monkey-nuts are coming on nicely, and they have melons, marrows, pumpkins, tomatoes, etc., in abundance.

BROTHER ANDERSON has the work at the new Barotseland Mission nicely started, and is full of courage for the future. The school, especially, is making good progress. Their school family now numbers thirty, most of whom are grown young men. They expect to have forty by the 1st of April. Twelve of the boys have expressed a desire to serve the Lord, and are living consistent Christian lives. Brother Anderson writes that the natives there have the spirit of working, and he has had to take the unusual course of cautioning them against the danger of over-working. He is planning to build a wagon shed, grain shed, tool house, twelve huts, a church and school house, and a bath house, all of which will be built of poles and roofed with grass. The new railway has been built passed the mission, and is being pushed rapidly north. The nearest station to the mission is only about ten miles away.

—WE WILL be very grateful if those who make out financial reports will leave out the ha'pennies. We do not enter ha'pennies in our books, and they are a source of trouble when we tabulate these reports in the paper. If you have an odd ha'penny at the end of the quarter, leave it over till you have another to match it.

Parow and Salt River

The readers of the MISSIONARY will remember that it was recently stated that the membership of the Cape Town church was scattered, and that the church had in contemplation the starting of local Sabbath-schools and meetings at Salt River and Parrow.

A few weeks ago brother Theunissen succeeded in raising a sufficient amount to erect at Parrow a small wood and iron building on the property of Brother May, and a Sabbath-school and company were organised. This company consists of three families, and as others are interested, it is hoped that their numbers will soon be increased.

As we have not yet been able to arrange for a permanent meeting house in Salt River, a good sized room has been secured in Brother Fisher's house for temporary use. Last Sabbath, February 3, we held a meeting with the Salt River brethren and sisters, and organised a Sabbath-school and company. There were twenty-three adult people present, and thirteen children. Brother Theunissen was elected leader of the company, Brother Fisher, assistant leader, and Brother Watlington, superintendent of the Sabbath-school.

After the Sabbath-school, Elder Freeman preached the opening sermon, and a deep impression was made, nearly all present taking part in an enjoyable testimony meeting which followed. The prospects for this company are most encouraging. We ask all to pray for these companies, that they may be as lights set upon a hill that cannot be hid.