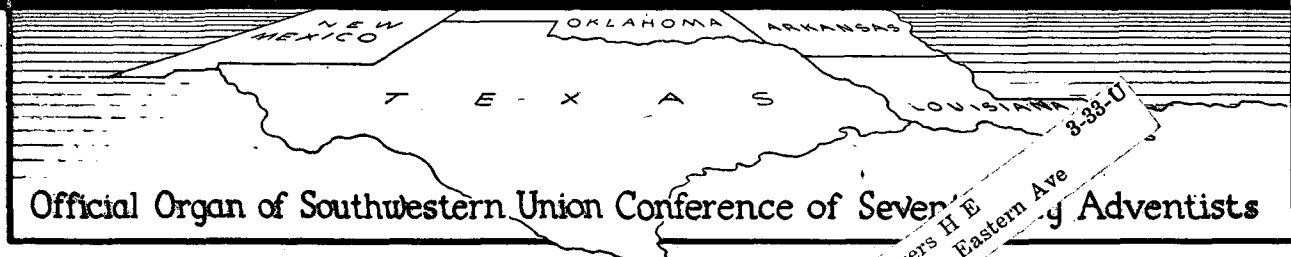


# THE RECORD



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## Proceedings of the Union Conference Session

IN ORDER that each believer within the Southwestern Union may have a full report of the proceedings of the Southwestern Union Conference Session, which has just recently been held, we are giving a detailed report in this issue of *THE RECORD*. A splendid spirit of unity was present during the nine days the workers were together, and plans were studied by the delegates, which we believe if carried out, will tell for the advancement of the work throughout the Union. The full reports of the conference presidents and the closing address by the Union Conference President will appear in later issues of *THE RECORD*.

### Opening of the Session

THE Keene, Texas, church board had given special attention to having the church in proper order for the opening of the fifth session of the Southwestern Union Conference, which was for a quinquennial period. The workers, including church school teachers, gathered for the first meeting at 7:30 P. M., February 1, and quite a large representation was present.

Elder W. G. Turner, vice-president of the General Conference, was the speaker. The message which he brought to the delegates was greatly appreciated.

He began his sermon on the completely surrendered life with the question of the lawyer to the Master, "What shall I do to inherit



ORWARD by  
AITH to  
INISH

eternal life?" as recorded in Luke 10:25. The Master's answer described the undivided service which He requires. No man who makes any reserve can be a disciple of God. He may render many kinds of service unto his followmen, but only undivided service is acceptable unto God. It is unconditional and complete surrender which He requires.

The Lord is calling for you and me to give all, just as He called upon Abraham. The sacrifice should not seem great, when we consider that when we give our all we give only polluted hearts.

Elder Turner referred to the believers in the Solomon Islands. After 20 years of missionary activity, it is impossible to find among the number who have accepted Christ and united with us three who have left the message. When they give up their vices, they give them up for all time.

In view of the nearness of Christ's coming, the plagues which will start twelve months prior, and the falling of the Holy Spirit which will precede the plagues, we were urged to set our hearts right before Him. Not until the last idol has been removed may we enjoy the sweet experience of the indwelling Christ in our hearts.

### First Meeting

ON THE morning of February 2 at 10:15 A. M., wet sleet drizzled from gray skies, while a large congregation in the Keene church sang:

"A year of precious blessing, and glorious victories won—

Of earnest work progressing, its onward course has run;

To Thee, O God, our Refuge, Whose goodness crowns our days.

Within Thy earthly temple, we lift our souls in praise."

Elder W. E. Nelson, treasurer of the General Conference, read Psalm 111, then earnestly prayed that all that might be said and done would go down to the glory of God.

One hundred thirty-six delegates from the General Conference, Southern Publishing Association, Union Conference, and local conferences were seated during the session as follows:

**DELEGATES AT LARGE:** W. E. Nelson, W. G. Turner, L. H. Christian, H. H. Votaw, J. J. Strahle, J. C. Thompson, M. E. Olson, M. E. Kern, W. H. Bergherm, F. L. Peterson, G. A. Huse, J. E. Shultz, H. K. Christman, R. L. Benton, F. L. Harrison, G. R. Fattic, B. E. Wagner, C. V. Anderson, H. H. Hamilton, F. M. Robinson, J. C. Culpepper, H. C. Hartwell, J. J. Reiswig, J. D. Smith, R. P. Montgomery.

**REGULAR DELEGATES:** *Arkansas-Louisiana Conference*—O. J. Bell, Isaac Baker, W. E. Bement, J. L. Neil, Paul E. Scoggins, M. L. Wilson, D. A. McAdams, C. E. Lambeth, R. E. Cash, Gene Dell-Anno, Martha Helen Huffhines, Louise Dunn, W. D. Pierce, J. S. Hindbaugh, Albert C. Smith, Mrs. Orval Atkins, Esther

Pitman, Mildred Baldwin, J. G. Dasent, T. H. Coopwood, I. A. Christian, F. J. Bryant, J. H. Williams, Emmalyn Washington.

**OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE**—L. R. Alexander, W. Amundsen, M. B. Butterfield, R. E. Browning, E. E. Beddoe, T. S. Copeland, George Penner, W. D. Frazee, C. D. Hein, W. L. Kinder, Rachel Landrum, I. C. Pound, S. C. Pritchard, Gladys Oakes, Helen Maxwell, Mrs. T. S. Copeland, W. N. Wittenberg, Conrad Spomer, R. A. Nesmith, Verne Kelsey, Elizabeth Lothian, Walter N. Nelson, J. A. Deapen, Mrs. George Penner, Wilma Turner, Mrs. M. N. Grosvenor, J. G. Oblander, Bernard Voth, Mrs. L. R. Alexander, Mrs. W. Amundsen, Mrs. J. J. Reiswig, H. B. Dulan, W. S. Lee.

**TEXAS CONFERENCE**—J. A. Tucker, W. H. Clark, A. E. Van Noty, A. B. Russell, J. O. Hanson, V. W. Becker, E. W. Storing, A. C. Youngberg, I. A. Crane, G. A. Schwerin, C. L. Chastain, Ben Hassenpflug, W. L. Barclay, J. A. Smith, E. E. Carman, D. U. Hale, J. I. Taylor, Nadine Harris, Lena Merzbacher, J. S. McMullen, Mrs. Emil Wollschlaeger, Clyde Bushnell, Norman Polk, C. U. Taylor, A. G. Haughey, Everett Calhoun, A. E. Hall, H. S. Miller, Harold Smith, H. B. French, H. J. Hassenpflug, Claude Grandon, D. E. McNeil, B. M. Garton, C. F. Staben, W. S. North, R. E. Loudon, S. B. Huddleston, P. W. McDaniels, E. M. Gates.

**TEXICO CONFERENCE**—T. R. Gardner, W. B. Pontynen, W. D. Kieser, C. A. Walgren, G. A. LaGrone, G. W. Casebeer, H. D. Colburn, F. W. Thorpe, Lee Carter, William Carter, B. V. Tibbets, J. S. Gillespie, Estelle Draper, Mrs. R. E. Stewart.

Upon the suggestion of Elder R. L. Benton, it was voted that J. C. Culpepper, who is in the Southwestern Union because of the war conditions in Spain, where he is Home Missionary secretary of the Spanish Mission, be seated as a delegate at large.

The secretary read the call, appearing in the issues of THE RECORD published on December 16 and 23, 1936, and the session was under way.

In harmony with Sec. 2, Article 1, of the by-laws of the Southwestern Union Conference as adopted April 10, 1914, and revised February 27, 1932, each conference delegation named three persons to act with a like number from each of the other conference delegations to become a committee to nominate the various session committees. H. C. Hartwell, O. J. Bell, and J. G. Dasent were named from Arkansas-Louisiana; I. C. Pound, Bernard Voth, and J. G. Oblander from Oklahoma; J. D. Smith, E. W. Storing, and W. S.

North from Texas; and R. P. Montgomery, G. W. Casebeer, and C. A. Walgren from Texico.

These selections were accepted by vote of the session, and it was voted that W. E. Nelson act as chairman of the committee.

### President's Report

DURING the eight biennial, the four quadrennial, and the present quinquennial periods of the Southwestern Union Conference, it has developed to where within its 1,098 miles of longitude and its 769 miles of latitude are contained the world's largest oilfield, the nation's cotton bowl, the world's largest underground cavern, and a population of 12,600,000 people, out of which has been gathered 10,628 Seventh-day Adventists, taking the form of four conferences and the Southwest Indian Mission, whose 136 delegates are assembled today to plan the work of the next quadrennium.

My first knowledge of the Southwestern Union Conference was thirty years ago, when it consisted of Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. At that time New Mexico was a part of the Colorado Conference. And I entered New Mexico as a tent master. The following winter New Mexico was transferred to the Southwestern Union Conference, was organized as a mission field, and the following year became a conference. In its earlier years there was no conference office, and not even a conference-owned typewriter. The secretary was an unpaid lay sister, the treasurer a sustentation brother, and the president operated a small farm.

Twenty-five years ago there was a division made in the Texas Conference, out of which developed the North Texas, the South Texas, and eventually the West Texas Conferences. In the late winter of 1917, the General Conference approved of the uniting of West Texas and New Mexico, creating a new conference, which was named Texico. In the year 1912 San Juan County, New Mexico, was transferred to the Central Union.

At the session five years ago Louisiana was joined with Arkansas, and hence the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference. The addition of Louisiana brought to our union 489 white and 251 Negro members.

About 1925 an adjustment was made in territorial boundaries between Texico and North Texas in which Texico ceded to North Texas about a dozen counties. In the spring of 1932, following a recommendation of the Fall Council that study be given to the advisability of uniting North and South Texas, the dividing line was removed, and once more we have in the Southwest the Texas Conference. At the time of this union Elder Perry was president of North Texas

and Elder Eichman of South Texas. Brother Eichman was made president of the new Texas Conference, and Elder Perry was called to the Bureau of Home Missions, to the Spanish Department. Other presidents moved as follows: E. T. Wilson, then president of Texico, was called to Carolina; Elder R. P. Montgomery, of Arkansas, was called to Texico; Elder W. H. Heckman, former president of the Southeastern Union, was called to be president of Arkansas-Louisiana. Less than two years later he was called to Greater New York, and Elder H. C. Hartwell, of Missouri, was called to Arkansas-Louisiana as president. In 1933 Elder Clark, who had served a number of terms in Oklahoma, was called to the Texas Conference as Home Missionary and Sabbath School secretary, and Elder J. J. Reiswig was called to the presidency of Oklahoma.

Eighty-seven workers have been moved within and out of the Southwestern Union during the past term. Ten are disconnected from conference employ, and eleven have died. The workers transferred out of the union are serving in the following capacities: chaplain of Porter Sanitarium, secretary-treasurer of British Columbia, Spanish Department of the Bureau of Home Missions, Educational and Missionary Volunteer secretary of the Atlantic Union, president of the East Pennsylvania Conference, business manager at Atlantic Union College, in charge of the Indian work in the Pacific Union Conference, honorary minister in the Pacific Union Conference, self-supporting worker in the Southern Union, Educational and Missionary Volunteer secretary of New York, minister in East Pennsylvania Conference, sustentation worker in California, honorary minister in Kansas, in the German work in Wisconsin, Educational and Missionary Volunteer secretary in Iowa, Field secretary in Kansas, Educational, Home Missionary, and Missionary Volunteer secretary in North Dakota, office secretary in Minnesota, minister in Nebraska, self-supporting work in Mississippi, in outside work, in self-supporting work in New York, in sanitarium and office work in Washington, D. C., on sustentation, going to California, in departmental work in South Dakota, president of the Atlantic Union Conference, minister in Southern California, minister in Colorado, office work and going to school in Washington Missionary College, secretary-treasurer of the South American Division, Home Missionary secretary in Southern Europe, secretary-treasurer of the Pacific Union Conference, Field and Home Missionary secretary in the Inca Union, self-supporting work in Arizona, office work in Florida, Book and Bible House work in Pennsylvania, minister in East Pennsylvania, in the Negro work in the Colorado Conference, Negro work in Ken-

tucky, Negro work in Michigan, Negro work in Kansas City, a Spanish minister in Old Mexico, and another is a self-supporting worker in Old Mexico. The most recent change is the call of Elder Eichman to the East Pennsylvania Conference, and Elder J. D. Smith was chosen to serve as president of the Texas Conference.

The term now ending opened with the depression at its worst. It was necessary to reduce expenses and lay off some workers, practically all of whom have been restored. Throughout the conferences in the union, fifty-four new workers have been taken on during this time. This includes the workers, however, coming with Louisiana.

Despite the reduction in workers and appropriations there were baptized during the term 3,925. And in the past four years, 3,360, compared with 1,863 in the previous four years. We opened our last union session with 7,635 members, and we open today with 10,628. One hundred forty-seven churches were represented in our session five years ago, and we bring the term to its close with the addition of forty-six more churches.

As an illustration of what the depression did, our Ingathering in 1929 was \$35,603.60, while in 1932, while we were in the depths of the valley of depression, the Ingathering was \$16,281.10, or less than half. The upward trend is represented in the fact that our Ingathering for 1936 was \$36,742.71, an all-high record for the union. Our tithe and missions offerings are on the upward trend, as the treasurer's report will more fully indicate.

All our conferences have been putting on strong evangelistic campaigns, notwithstanding the fact that two of the local conferences and the union itself have been struggling against debt. With the union out, and these two conferences well on the way, we are greatly encouraged with the results of this conference term. The progress of the work in the local conferences and in the departments will be more fully brought to view in the reports of the presidents and the union department secretaries.

Brother Castle, the treasurer five years ago, was in poor health. The heavy responsibilities under the peak of the depression seemed to be more than it was fair and just to ask him to continue to carry. He was temporarily retired under the benefits of the sustentation fund, and later recovered his health sufficiently to accept service in a local conference. Upon his retirement, Brother Roger Altman was called. He served faithfully until called to South America whereupon Brother Bauer was invited to fill the place. He likewise served well until called to the Pacific Union Conference, whereupon we called our present union conference secretary-treasurer and auditor, Brother Harrison, who is now serving faithfully

as secretary-treasurer No. 4 of this term. We are pleased to have had and to now have the strong leadership in this department when it means so much.

At the session five years ago when I was chosen as president, I was also serving as Home Missionary secretary, and continued to carry that work for more than a year, until we were in a position where, through the cooperation and liberality of the General Conference, it was made possible for us to call Elder H. F. Brown, who came and brought real strength and progress to the department. At the General Conference session he was called to Europe. At the same time, we invited Elder C. V. Anderson to step in to head up this work, and are pleased to have him with us today. Elder Fattic was called to the department of Education and Missionary Volunteers at our session five years ago. And the work in this department has gone steadily forward. Brother Wagner, who was serving at the time of the session five years ago, has gone through the term, to see his work pass through the depression and join in the later prosperity, which for a long time was just around the corner, and the book work now goes forward with increasing success.

Brother Young, secretary of our Negro department, who was elected at our last session, worked most earnestly at his post until the day of his death. The work grew under his direction.

Perhaps it is proper that I should stop here long enough to pay tribute to our departed workers. Elder A. F. Harrison, veteran book man of the Southwest, who was with us five years ago, passed away April 13, 1935, following the death of his faithful companion, May 19, 1934. C. N. Woodward, whose name is found among the minutes and records of the union for much over a quarter of a century, and who reported the proceedings of our last conference session through the columns of THE RECORD, passed away on the twenty-second of April, 1934. Elder O. J. Corwin, who, with his wife, did faithful Bible work for so many years, was laid to rest March 1, 1935. Elder Ezra Fillman, so long one of the faithful ministers of Oklahoma, died December 27, 1933. Elder W. A. McCutchen, one of the early workers in the Texas Conference and a prominent figure for years in the Southwest, died the twenty-fifth of March, 1932. Elder H. C. Griffin, a pioneer minister, passed away on the twenty-seventh of March, 1935. Elder V. W. Robb, another of our tried and true workers, died on the second of January, 1934. Elder M. M. Young, secretary of the Negro department, passed away en route to the General Conference, at Indio, California, May 23, 1936. Elder A. K. Watkins, one of our leading workers in the Negro department of the Oklahoma Con-

ference died on the twenty-third of April, 1935. Brother S. A. Hodge, a tried worker in the Negro department in Oklahoma, passed away April 29, 1932. Sister Hanhardt, the wife of Elder W. H. Hanhardt, a well-known worker in our territory, passed away the twenty-sixth of March, 1932.

While these laborers rest from their labors, truly their works do follow them.

While summing up these five short years, the report would be incomplete were I not to mention Southwestern Junior College and the work for the Indians in our territory. The depression cuts heavy on paid-up tuition in the college. The board of necessity must provide industrial employment, which called for an expansion of the industries, and in turn has added much work to that of the board and the union committee, and the faculty itself. It is my conviction that we have one of the best faculties anywhere, and one of the most contented, intelligent, and dependable group of students anywhere. While there are many problems yet to be worked out in detail, I believe there is a brighter prospect ahead for our college, a report of which will be brought to you by its president, H. H. Hamilton.

We have spent many years and much money in an effort to make inroads with evangelism among the Navajo Indians. About four years ago we called Elder F. M. Robinson to take charge of the Indian work. After operating for some time, it was decided and authorized by the General Conference to organize the Indian work throughout the Southwest into a mission. Elder Robinson was elected as superintendent. He now has a missionary on the original Lake Grove station, and he is opening up work among the Indians in Oklahoma. The Indian work also appears to have a brighter future. But a more complete report will be brought to you by the superintendent, Elder F. M. Robinson.

We at one time had a medical secretary who served only a short time, and was called to another field. This is one department of our work that has been neglected. We are glad, however, that a number of fine young physicians have come to us from Loma Linda, and more are, or will soon be, on the way. We greatly appreciate the help that these workers bring to our organized work in the Southwest.

In closing, I wish to make the following recommendation: That we continue to organize the work carefully along the lines of the district plan, that district directors be held largely responsible for the conduct of all lines of work in their district, that instead of keeping workers constantly looking after certain churches, that a part of the efforts of such workers be spent in new territory, raising up new churches. That we mobilize an increasingly enlarging army of col-

porteurs to carry our books into homes otherwise not reached. That we plan a strong union-wide literature program, using inexpensive, well-prepared literature, organizing our forces so as to literally sow the Southwest down with our literature like the leaves of Autumn. That advanced steps be taken in placing the health work to the forefront. That as leaders we study earnestly to bring up every department of our work on an even keel, and that in our leadership we ever set the right example in everything being open as the day.

R. L. BENTON.

At the close of the report, the Negro brethren sang, "Plenty Good Room."

### Treasurer's Report

The delegates were furnished a copy of the financial statement, and following the presentation of the comparative annual balance sheet and operating statement for the past five years, the treasurer illustrated by a number of graphs the baptisms and membership in the local fields during the period, and the tithe, Big Week, Sabbath School, Harvest Ingathering, and total mission funds. The amount of tithe received during 1936 was the largest in the history of the union, and it was encouraging to note the long line with which it was represented on the graph. The Sabbath school offerings made up almost one-half of the mission offerings. Although the Southwest did not reach its Ingathering goal this year, the 1936 line marked the peak of funds raised through this channel.

It was stated that at the end of 1935 the Union would have had to have \$87,000 to pay off the total working deficit, considering the organization as a whole. This is gradually being worked off, and the 1936 report will show some improvement.

At the close of 1935 the notes payable amounted to \$206,000. We are told that we should shun debt as we shun the leprosy, and that in counsel there is safety. So we should study together how to reduce these obligations.

Elder Benton read the auditor's certificate made by Brother Eugene Woensner of the General Conference. It was then voted by the delegates that the financial report as rendered by the treasurer be adopted.

Elder W. E. Nelson made the following remarks:

"I think that Brother Benton has given us a splendid report of the work and the progress here in the Southwestern Union Conference. His report indicates that there has been real progress in this field. When we think of the number added—3,360, that is a good percentage of gain in membership. And of course all of the work that we are doing, our educational work, our book work, our

SOUTHWESTERN UNION CONFERENCE					
Balance Sheet					
Five Years Ending December 31, 1936					
ASSETS	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Current:					
Cash and Bank	975.55	5300.73	1024.37	1388.39	453.92
Accounts Receivable	700.53	290.99	708.91	669.61	343.59
Inventories:					
Food Account	4.18				
Office Supplies	19.25	43.63	32.90	145.99	126.84
Stationery and Postage	136.58		128.33	44.80	64.39
Prepaid Insurance		11.37	11.43	29.23	19.23
Deposits, Water and Gas		15.00	25.00	25.00	15.00
Departmental Supplies				189.67	218.59
Fixed:					
Library	102.70	76.22	90.25	106.42	103.32
Furniture and Fixtures	1707.05	1209.48	2091.49	2605.57	2841.41
Spanish School Investment		184.67			
Total Assets	3645.84	7131.99	4112.68	5204.68	4186.29
LIABILITIES					
Accounts Payable	277.00	1463.26	1505.94	2060.65	1193.41
Southwestern Union Conf. Corp.	8600.00	13091.37			
Notes Payable (Sw. U. Conf. Corp.)			5500.00	4000.00	1000.00
Total Liabilities	8877.00	14554.63	7005.94	6060.65	2193.41
Net Deficit December 31, 1932	5231.16	7422.64	2893.26	855.97	
Net Present Worth					1992.88

SOUTHWESTERN UNION CONFERENCE					
Revenue and Expense Statement					
Five Years Ending December 31, 1936					
INCOME	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Appropriations, Gen. Con., White	9339.82	14111.54	12111.35	13542.24	14172.76
Appropriations, Gen. Conf., Negro	13583.58	10219.65	10602.90	9197.70	9244.70
Spanish School	934.00	790.13	1000.00		
Indian Mission	4280.76	3662.14	4069.98	4249.92	4947.62
Special Appropriations	770.00	408.79	4250.00	7500.00	4550.00
Donations	3918.44				
Tithe:					
White	11526.03	10476.83	13837.15	15023.15	16336.20
Negro	781.92	923.83	993.27	1126.92	1383.35
Spanish	187.54	207.97	296.10	255.08	314.52
Operating Comeback	2861.95	1544.20	1797.75	1308.09	3638.30
Southern Publishing Association	1087.78	985.60	1032.46	1103.12	1158.33
College Subsidy	2668.64	3063.38	4087.63	4176.10	5193.98
Miscellaneous		27.47	23.50	2.66	15.21
Mission Funds	67701.31	69393.29	79298.04	87056.73	92670.60
Totals	119641.77	115814.82	133400.13	144541.71	153625.57
EXPENDITURES					
Administrative:					
Laborers' Salary and Exp.	13080.49	10811.95	12361.79	13214.43	12914.06
Rent	625.00	400.00	180.00	180.00	180.00
Stationery, Sup., & Gen. Exp.	2338.47	2185.35	2596.72	2700.59	2685.63
Depreciation	154.88	677.04	248.19	550.09	392.01
Negro Department	14461.31	10912.21	11496.65	10180.48	10159.44
Appropriations within Field:					
Local Conf. and Institutions	22987.32	21489.48	21055.51	25199.06	28445.84
Appropriations Outside Union:					
Tithe & Sustentation to G. C.	2342.60	2136.98	2826.64	3055.74	3329.14
Mission Funds	67701.31	69393.29	79298.04	87056.73	92670.60
Totals	123691.38	118006.30	131063.54	142137.12	150776.72
Net Gain—G; Loss—L					
December 31, 1932	L4049.61	L2191.48	G3336.59	G2404.59	G2848.85

Sabbath school work, and every line of work that we are carrying on is for the one purpose, and that is for the conversion of those who are not yet Christians. It is the everlasting gospel to all the world, and especially you are concerned with the everlasting gospel to the more than twelve millions who live here in the great Southwest. So it seems that there is good progress.

"I was interested in the number of changes that have come in the Southwest. Perhaps that is a little more than we have in most of our union conferences. But I thought as Brother Benton gave this report, what would the Seventh-day Adventist denomination history be in America, yes throughout the world, if we

could duplicate all that has been done in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas, and Louisiana. It would be quite a different history, wouldn't it. The loyal sons and daughters of this great Southwest have gone to earth's remotest bounds. They are scattered over the world in the great cause of truth. I believe that it is in the providences of God that there be changes, a shifting of men and women from field to field, because we as Seventh-day Adventists are the only denomination operated throughout the world as a unit. We are one great people, I say great people, not so much in numbers as in the task that we have to perform. And we still stand as a unit, and I pray God that we may always stand as a unit, and be so standing

when the great decree goes out from the Almighty that it is finished and that we are to be gathered home. So these changes tell for unity by bringing in men from other fields and sending others off to fields beyond, who have received the inspiration that comes from laboring in the great Southwest. So I believe some changes from time to time are good.

"The treasurer brought us an encouraging report in many ways. There are some very discouraging features, but on the whole the report it seems to me is very encouraging.

"There is a good increase in tithe and offerings. And if I am not mistaken in the little observation that I made, your offerings to missions have increased about the same per cent that your tithe has increased. This is not the general condition throughout the country. The general condition throughout the country is that the tithes in most unions have increased more rapidly than have the mission offerings. Now what does that mean as far as the Southwest is concerned? To me it means that the membership in the Southwest are very loyal in the cause of missions. So I believe that that is really worthy of mention.

"The discouraging part of the report was that of debt, but even that has some encouraging things—that special attention is being given to it. I cannot understand how sensible men and women such as Christians should permit any organization to plunge into debt year by year. I believe that we should as a denomination set ourselves to the task of freeing ourselves from the bondage of debt. I believe that debt is a bondage, and that any field that can rise above the indebtedness has a greater chance or greater opportunity for progress. And I believe that we should set ourselves to the task of getting out of debt, and then determine once and for all to keep out of it.

"But so many people take the position about debt as was expressed by the American humorist, Mark Twain. He said he believed in living within his income, if he had to borrow to do it. I don't believe that is the right attitude for a Christian to take. If we have more expense than income, we ought to increase our income, but live within it. I believe God will bless this.

"The Saviour did not go and borrow a whole shipload of fishes and a cargo of loaves when He wanted to feed the five thousand. He took what He had on hand. I think the treasurer paid for that before He offered the prayer, and it was multiplied as it was passed out. I believe that He will bless you as you set your hand to free yourselves from the burden of it.

"I am glad the treasurer has brought this so vividly before us. Let us not become discouraged. I believe we will see great improvement in the next four years. I am happy to have

heard these two good reports."

In order to save the time it would take to call the roll of delegates each time, it was voted that B. E. Wagner and W. H. Clark act as a committee on the seating of the delegates during the session.

It was moved and seconded that the session adjourn until 4 P. M.

R. L. BENTON, *Chairman*,  
F. L. HARRISON, *Secretary*.

### Second Meeting

Held February 2, 1937, at 4 P. M.

The meeting opened with song, "Faith of Our Fathers," and C. A. Walgren offered prayer.

The chairman asked if the report was ready from the committee appointed to bring in recommendations on the standing committees for the session, and the report was submitted and unanimously adopted as follows:

*Nominating Committee*—W. E. Nelson, Chairman, H. H. Hamilton, H. C. Hartwell, R. P. Montgomery, Wesley Amundsen, J. D. Smith, J. J. Reiswig, R. E. Loudon, J. O. Hanson, O. J. Bell, C. A. Walgren.

*Plans Committee*—W. H. Bergherm, Chairman, C. V. Anderson, G. R. Fattie, B. E. Wagner, I. C. Pound, J. G. Dasent, G. W. Casebeer, W. H. Clark, D. A. McAdams, F. L. Harrison, W. D. Keiser, G. A. Huse, I. A. Christian, W. D. Frazee, J. C. Thompson, H. H. Hamilton, H. C. Hartwell.

*Committee on Licenses and Credentials*—R. L. Benton, Chairman, W. G. Turner, J. G. Dasent, J. D. Smith, J. J. Reiswig.

*Committee on Constitution and By-Laws*—F. L. Harrison, Chairman, J. A. Tucker, R. L. Benton.

Meeting adjourned to 10:15 A. M., February 3.

R. L. BENTON, *Chairman*,  
F. L. HARRISON, *Secretary*.

### Third Meeting

Held February 3, 1937, at 10:15 A. M.

The delegates joined in singing, "I Am Coming to the Cross."

"I am trusting, Lord, in Thee

Blessed Lamb of Calvary!

Humbly at Thy cross I bow,

Save me Jesus, save me now."

Following the prayer by W. E. Bement, the minutes of the two previous meetings were read and approved.

Two substitute delegates from the Texico Conference, Mrs. R. E. Stewart and Miss Estelle Draper, were then seated.

### Missionary Volunteer Department

IT IS a bit difficult for me to know exactly what to incorporate in this report to the conference. I am anxious that it shall convey to you such facts, and bring such information, as will be a source of encouragement to you, but I am also determined that it shall not savor of self-exaltation at the expense of facts. Also, I want you to keep in mind, during the entire report, that the work has been done in the local conferences. I am reporting largely for them, and while they comprise, taken together, a union conference, and while this report is made as a union conference report, it is merely a summary—a resume of what the men in the local fields have done. I want to stress this, because I want full credit to go to these men.

The truth of the matter is that in our Young People's department and in the department of Education, there are many things that are very encouraging, but at the same time, it is useless to deny that there are yet many unsolved problems, and many, many features of the work that are not only puzzling, but are absolutely discouraging.

Now, so far as the mechanics of the department are concerned, they have been tabulated, and will be handed out to you in tabulated form. They will speak for themselves; they reveal growth, and progress, and development, and are a source of encouragement. I am not ashamed of them; on the other hand, I have a feeling of pride in their presentation. But they should reveal growth and progress, and that is no more than you have a perfect right to expect that they would reveal.

For example, you will discover that we have increased enrollments in both our Young People's Missionary Volunteer societies and in our schools. Other statistical data show advance, and progress, but after all, in working with young people, in schools and in churches, the really important thing is not necessarily statistical growth.

Our men, for example, in the Missionary Volunteer field, are meeting with a very definite difficulty and perplexity in holding together the organization, which they sponsor and launch. It seems that in some cases, no sooner is a contact established than it is lost again. The young people move about so constantly and so fast, that a membership of our societies is a most unstable factor. And the leadership is another decidedly unstable factor in the development and care of the organization of our young people's work.

Also, it is undeniably true that the city environment of many of our boys and girls and young people is telling upon their spiritual life. Only the very strong survive the influence and environment of the average com-

munity, outside of our schools. Most of our young people who do not have the benefit, and privilege, and opportunity, of one of our educational institutions succumb to the influence of wrong in a greater or less degree, and their spiritual life is not high. In ninety per cent of the cases, they lose contact with their church altogether. I am sincerely regretful that a thing like that must be true, but it is, and I am compelled to conclude, by my constant contact with these young people, that where our young people are growing careless of their religious obligations, and that where they are apparently losing interest in their church, that the primary solution—in fact, about the only solution—lies in getting them into our schools.

This puts a very heavy responsibility on this delegation that sits before me today. It will mean you will have to do, largely, the thing—whatever it is—that will work this out, and get these young people into our institutions where they will be shielded for a time, until they have fixed their ideals, and established their purposes, and got their visions of their futures.

I will only mention the fact that our young people revolt against harsh, unsympathetic, and unconstructive criticism of their personal and group contacts. They are also sensitive to pretense on the part of people who should be established in the message and in the truth. I would like to ask you a question. It is this: If the young people in this Southwestern Union should try to find some church, or churches, to which they might go to find genuine, unadulterated samples of real Christianity, to which church would you recommend that I send them? To which church group in this Southwestern Union would I be perfectly safe in saying to this army of over 5,000 young people, "I am glad you are ready to try Christianity, and to join the Seventh-day Adventist church, provided you can see it worked out in some church center. So we will all go up to ———." Or, I might say it this way, "I am very happy in your decision to accept Christ. We have arranged to have you visit the church at ———, so that you can see what real Christians are like." Now the facts are, dear friends, that if I took them to the average church, I would not be very safe.

This is the truth of the matter, and we might as well look at the facts squarely, and we will discover that in one of these places they can't even carry on an election of officers unless the conference president, or some member of the conference official family, is there with them to referee the fight. In the next place, Brother A is constantly speaking disparagingly of Brother B, and Sister C and Sister D are at swords' points most of the time. So I cast about for somewhere else, but faultfinding, criticism, back-

biting, slander, and gossip, are spreading their filthy slime all over the place. Tell me, what can these young people do? And what can their secretaries do? What can anybody do in a case like that?

I wish you to indulge me just a moment while I explain my own chief personal problem in the work of this field. It rests in the fact that it is impossible for me to make the contacts that I want to make, and need to make, and have a right to be expected to make, during the course of the year in our churches and conferences. I am expected, and justly so, to participate in the activities of every church in this field where there are groups of young people. They have a right to claim a proportionate part of my time, and of my Sabbaths, but without missing a Sabbath for anything it would take your departmental secretary in this union three years to encompass the field. It takes your local conference men a proportionate length of time to get to their churches. It becomes a very grave problem when we cannot establish personal contacts with these young people.

I have spent on an average, I think, half and sometimes seventeen, eighteen, and nineteen nights a month on the train in the last two years particularly. But I haven't made more than fifty per cent of the appointments that I have been requested to make, and have not touched half of the needs or problems of the field that the men have a right to think I should have touched. This is a large territory in the Southwest, and with all its varied interests in schools and young people, it is not possible for a man to handle both departments, and do it so that it is done right. I hope the time will come, before too long, when you can have a man who gives his entire time to the young people of this field.

Our local conference officers are in a similar situation. The success of their societies depends largely upon the leadership of the local church, but it becomes practically impossible to get anyone to carry through one year as leader in a Missionary Volunteer society.

But in spite of all these handicaps, our membership and attendance of these young people's societies has grown from 1,400 to 2,250. Our increase is approximately 850 since the present officers assumed responsibility in this field. In 1931 the membership of the societies in the Southwestern Union was 1,110, and the report today shows a membership of 2,267. That year only 777 reported any work done, this last year there were 1,051 reporting activities in their societies. In 1931, 1,882 Bible readings were given, but last year our young people gave 4,182 Bible readings. They visited in 1931, 7,623 homes on missionary calls, last year they visited 14,331 homes. They distributed 75,550 pieces

of literature in 1931, and last year they passed out 113,228. That year 246 were taking the Morning Watch, and last year 2,572.

The work has been somewhat reorganized in this department. We are now promoting among our senior young people the Study and Service League, the League of Evangelism, and when once our young people grasp the meaning of this, the opportunity which it affords, it is proving a real inspiration to them. The League of Evangelism is a plan for progressive work somewhat after the order of the Junior plan. It covers work, accomplishments, and training, lending itself to the more mature youth. The object is to formulate in their minds, and fit them for, active service.

The report, which you will see, (referring to charts) will give you an accurate picture, and positive information, with respect to all the lines of activities sponsored by the young people's societies in the Southwestern Union.

G. R. FATTIC, *Secretary*.

#### Educational Department

NOW with respect to our schools, while we have an increased enrollment in both the elementary and secondary fields, which is encouraging, it is not as good as it ought to be. We still have half of our boys and girls and young people out in the world, being taught that there is no God, that the earth on which we live was not created by a divine Creator, but evolved through a period of some millions of years into the planet that it now is. They are being told that the Bible is a book of evil origin, mythical literature bearing the stamp of the time in which it was produced, and that the acceptance of it as more than an ordinary piece of ancient literature is for old women, and deluded, unbalanced, unscientific, religious enthusiasts.

Consequently these young people are building their future structure, and religious thoughts, on skepticism, and agnosticism, and higher criticism, as a foundation. Only time, of course, can tell what percentage of the group will survive. Past experience has demonstrated that about 94 per cent leave the truth and turn their back on all religion.

I feel, also, that those of us who are recipients of the fruit, the men upon whom the mountains will eventually fall, and those who are charged with the responsibility of leadership in this Southwestern field, ought to get right down to the issues involved, and provide the children of this field with schools where they can spend next year in a school operated by the church, and whose course of study and environment will be determined by the denominational standards, which will help them to fix their ideals, purposes, and life intentions. We ought to encourage some of our



people to move where schools are established, and we ought to help others to get together and open schools. Unless this is done, the day must come when we will pay the price for this indifference to such a vital issue, and we will see the sons and daughters of our people step off into the social whirlpool of modern youth with whom they have been associated—in them, Catholics, Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians, members of no church at all—and finally, and logically, of course, they will marry into the circle in which they have found their friendships. That will be the end of them for all time, so far as our church is concerned.

President Hamilton will report for the College, but I wish to go on record as saying that you may depend upon Southwestern Junior College as being the best possible place for the children of academic and college grades of any place in the Southwest. We are having a good school here, the work is progressing nicely, and the students are gaining in mind, and character building, every day they are here. They are finding outlets for their social instincts, and a carefully planned and directed social life, among the young people of their own faith. They are finding the friendships that will be lasting, and are being taught the finer, higher, nobler ideals of Christianity, and Christian service, and of Christian living. The great, great, pity is that there are so many young people out in our field yet, who need and are entitled to these very influences, and this very environment, who are not here. Help to get them here.

At the close of the term in 1931-32 we had, as our report will show, 48 schools in this union, and last year there were 73. We had 13 two-teacher schools, and last year there were 22. There were 66 teachers then, and now we have 98. The enrollment for that year was 1011, and for this last year 1462.

There is one thing which gives me grave concern in the analysis of the report of our work. It is the way our salary schedule has been going. If you will notice this on the report passed to you, you will see that in 1931 the average salary was \$47.27, and last year it was \$35. This is not per week, but is per month, and I feel that it is a disgraceful situation. It is deplorable to say the least, and something must be done. You will have come through the Committee on Plans some recommendations covering this question of teachers' salaries. I feel that we have a right to expect your loyal and unadulterated support of the program that was launched at the Fall Council this year, in Fort Worth, for raising our salary schedule. I shall look to you for favorable word on the problems presented, and the recommendations.

This, I think, is as much as I will

say in my report, but I will allow the figures now to speak for themselves. You have them in your possession, and at your leisure can look them over and see what they say.

There are two recommendations I will assume the responsibility for making to this conference. The first one is based upon the recommendation of the Fall Council affecting the salary schedule of our teachers. I would recommend the adoption by any or all means necessary to the full application of this recommended plan, and the full acceptance by every conference in this union even if it must be adopted as part of the operating expense of the conference and be met from the operating funds of the conference. This, however, should not be necessary only in part. The churches of the conferences not operating schools should help in creating the fund, but my point is that the teacher group of workers among us should not be discriminated against any longer. They are being called upon to make sacrifices that are both unreasonable and unnecessary—and their working conditions and security must be improved whatever it takes to do it. Their work is evaluated and its importance is definitely outlined in the Spirit of prophecy, and was given to this people as a charge when they received the Sabbath. Our record of negligence to our duty to these sacrificing workers is shameful and a disgrace to our cause. I call upon this delegation to remedy it at this session of the conference, and to make it possible for this group of workers to have salaries, and living and working conditions commensurate with the importance of their work as compared to the rest of us on the pay roll of the union and local conferences.

The second recommendation I would make is for this group to return to their respective fields and help us to dispel the feeling on the part of parents that our conferences and the college should be expected to pay for the education of the young people of the Southwest. This should not be expected, but it is. As a result too many of our young people are sent here with no funds, and too many parents expect some one else to plan for financing their children through school. You must help to change this attitude. This college is coming to the place where parents think of it as a factory instead of a school, and their interest is one of employment of, rather than education of their children. No one can help it more than this group, by helping people to plan ahead for the education of their children instead of sending them along and expecting some one else to have been planning for them before they came to the college at all.

I want you to know that I have enjoyed the five years that I have spent with you down here in this field. I have come to feel that I be-

long to you, and that I am a part of the program of the five years. I want to take this occasion to thank every one of you for every cooperation and help that you have lent to our department. I wish again to give full credit, and not assume any that does not belong to me, for the work that has gone forward in this field. We have steadily grown and advanced, and it is due to the fine cooperation that has been given, and the credit belongs not only to me, but to the men in the local conferences, who have been closest to the problems and have helped in working out the solution.

G. R. FATTIC, *Secretary.*

At the conclusion of the report, when the chairman gave the opportunity, Elder Nelson made an appeal in behalf of the school teachers, who are called to their work just as surely as others are called to the ministry, Bible work, clerical work, etc. He placed the average salary of the stenographer and Bible worker at not less than \$16 per week for 52 weeks, making a total of \$832 a year, while the average salary of the school teacher is \$35 a month for 9 months, or \$315 a year. As stated by the Spirit of prophecy, the church cannot stand clear before God until better provision is made for the children and youth, and the teacher, who is entrusted next to the parent with the training of these children, who are the most precious heritage of the church, should be provided for.

Elder Nelson plead with the delegation not to adjourn until the problem of the support of these teachers has been solved.

#### Publishing Department

NO LANGUAGE can better portray the work of our colporteur-evangelists in their house-to-house ministry than the words of Jeremiah 16:16, "Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the Lord, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks."

We have the following comment from the Spirit of prophecy: "Canvasser-evangelists are needed to hunt and fish for souls. The canvassing work should now be earnestly and decidedly taken up." *Colporteur Evangelist*, p. 31.

God foresaw that the great masses of humanity would not be reached by the spoken word alone. Our text indicates that a most thorough search is to be made for souls who have not heard this message.

In *Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 229, we read, "The Lord desires that His word of grace shall be brought home to every soul. To a great degree this must be accomplished by personal labor. . . . We are not to wait for souls to come to us. We must seek them out where they are. . . . There are multitudes who will never be reached by the gospel unless it is carried to them."

Again we read from the pen of God's servant, "Many who are hungry for the bread of life have not the privilege of hearing the word from God's delegated preachers. For this reason, it is essential that our publications be widely circulated. Thus the message will go where the living preacher cannot go."

#### OUR REPORT

Since our last union conference session, twelve Sabbath schools and four churches have been raised up as a result of the literature ministry. More than 225 souls are now rejoicing in this message because colporteur-evangelists came their way during the past five years. If all the facts were known, there is no question but that this figure would be much larger. At best, we can put into this report only a small part of what has been accomplished by our colporteur-evangelists. So much of the glory which lies behind our literature ministry seems as if hidden by a mist of light through which our eyes were not meant to see. Not until we shall read in heaven the "Who's Who" that God is writing, will we be able to know the full results of this soul-winning agency. Even though we have not accomplished God's program for the literature ministry, we are glad that we can report real progress during the five years that have just closed.

Year	Agents	Hours	Magazines
1932	48	46,535	\$ 2,420.66
1933	63	56,726	4,709.11
1934	83	68,380	6,843.50
1935	70	62,447	11,054.10
1936	75	71,843	13,740.95
Total	68	305,931	\$38,768.32

Year	Sales	Deliveries
1932	\$34,012.79	\$13,482.21
1933	67,134.02	29,396.19
1934	82,046.95	26,716.18
1935	74,744.20	27,242.20
1936	97,185.90	40,815.25
Total	\$355,123.86	\$137,652.03

With the exception of the year 1935, a marked upward trend will be noted in the hours worked by our colporteurs, sales, deliveries, and magazines sold. This can be clearly seen by the following graphs. In spite of the fact that we have had four years of drouth in parts of our territory, and in many places excessive rains and even floods, at harvest time, our

four courageous field captains have led their colporteur forces on to victory and under God made possible these remarkable gains. We are very happy over the decided upward trend in all of our Publishing department activities during the past five years, and we express our deep appreciation for the cooperation given by conference presidents, Book and Bible House secretaries, and workers throughout the field.

But we are forced to the conclusion that we are but touching the possibilities of colporteur-evangelism with the tips of our fingers in the Southwestern Union. The conference that delivered the most books during 1936 covered only 7 per cent of its territory. This would mean that it would take fourteen years to give every family only one opportunity to purchase our literature. In other words, each home would be visited one time every fourteen years. In many mission fields, colporteurs cover the territory once each year, and in some instances every six months. The very fact that we are reaching the people in the Southwest on an average of only once in fifteen years should be a real challenge to us.

Even though we have made splendid progress in our publishing work, and our sales compare very favorably with the other unions in North America, yet we have sold only about one cent's worth of literature to each family in the Southwestern Union during the five-year period that has just closed. This would be approximately one large book to every 400 families in this union conference. These figures certainly indicate that we are not scattering our literature like the leaves of autumn.

We have only one colporteur for every 155 members; only one colporteur for every seven counties; only one colporteur for every 8,240 square miles of our territory; and only one colporteur for every 185,300 of our population. "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields (502 counties with 12,600,000 population) for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35.

Our records indicate that we have in our four conferences, scores upon scores of counties, and hundreds of cities and towns, without a colporteur. Allowing a population of 50,000 to each colporteur, we would have sufficient territory for 252 regular, year-around colporteurs, and this would be more territory than a full-time colporteur could cover in a whole year.

#### OUR NEED

The foregoing information indicates that our outstanding need is a greatly increased number of colporteur-evangelists. In *Testimonies*, Vol. 5, p. 313, we read, that "were it not for the

efforts of the canvasser, many would never hear the warning." Therefore we know that unless more regular workers enter the literature ministry in the Southwest, many will never hear the warning.

Selling the colporteur idea to our people as one of the principle means of reaching the masses of people is a denominational program. In other words, recruiting colporteurs should not be left to the Publishing department. We admit that educating, training, and assisting colporteurs is departmental work, but we are dependent upon the ministry of this denomination to sell the missionary idea to our people, especially when they become members of our churches.

#### OUTLOOK FOR THE FUTURE

During the past twelve months, the following gains were made by the Southwestern Union over the year 1935: gain in hours canvassed, 15.05 per cent; gain in sales, 30.02 per cent; gain in actual deliveries for 1936, 49.86 per cent; gain in magazines sold in 1936, 24.31 per cent. For the very last month of 1936, the following gains have been recorded: gains in hours canvassed, 32 per cent; gain in sales, 70 per cent; gain in actual deliveries, 79 per cent. These most recent gains greatly encourage us to press forward during 1937 to accomplish greater things under God than have ever been accomplished in the literature ministry in the Southwestern Union.

Two local institutes have been conducted so far this year, and the four annual conference institutes in the Southwestern Union will be conducted immediately following this union conference session.

The ministry of the printed page is destined to play a most important part in the closing work of the third angel's message, and is worthy of our loyal support and continued cooperation. Notwithstanding the difficulties, the Lord has prospered and will prosper the efforts of our faithful, consecrated colporteurs, not only in sales, but in a rich harvest of souls.

God has revealed to us that "This is the very work that the Lord would have His people do at this time," and that "as long as probation continues there will be opportunity for the colporteur to work." "The work of the colporteur is elevating, and will prove a success if he is honest, earnest, and patient, steadily pursuing the work he has undertaken." Again the servant of the Lord states, "I have been instructed that the canvassing work is to be revived, and that it is to be carried forward with increasing success. It is the Lord's work, and a blessing will attend those who engage in it with earnestness and diligence." May these statements from the pen of God's servant be an encouragement to all of our conference workers as they come in contact with prospective colporteurs in our church-



es, who are making a success in the secular pursuits of life, to help them realize that the Lord is calling for their talents in this closing work, and that no business, however prosperous from a financial standpoint, is too precious to give up in order that we may win souls to Christ. Nothing in this world can take the place of personal service for the Master.

#### CONCLUSION

In closing, I wish to read a statement by the servant of the Lord in *Colporteur Evangelist*, pp. 31, 32, "Canvasser-evangelists are needed to hunt and fish for souls. The canvassing work should now be earnestly and decidedly taken up. . . . Let no business enterprises be allowed to absorb the time and talents of workers who ought to be engaged in preparing a people for the coming of the Lord. . . . Time is short; the enemy will make every effort to magnify in our minds matters of lesser consequence, and lead us to regard lightly the very work that needs most to be done."

B. E. WAGNER, *Secretary*.

Elder J. E. Shultz commented favorably upon the report, mentioning also the Educational and Missionary Volunteer reports. He especially mentioned the recruiting to the colporteur work of those who are out of employment because they have accepted the message.

Elder E. E. Franklin congratulated the leaders in the publishing work for the upward trend which it has shown since the low-water mark in 1932. He mentioned the fact that the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference led the entire Southern Publishing Association territory during 1936 in the actual delivery of subscription books.

The following is a digest of the remarks made by Elder W. G. Turner:

"I have had a little experience in the colporteur work, when we had to push bicycles, and I believe that the book work is a very vital and essential part of our work.

"You have had a depression here in the past few years. We have had the same in our field. In the time of depression it is a very helpful thing to know that the colporteur need never be out of work, for by the Spirit of God we have been told of the fact that while probation lasts the colporteur will always have opportunity to do his work. Other men may lose their positions, but the colporteur will never lose his.

"In the Australasian field we are of the opinion that the colporteur work is very vital to the success of every other feature of activity, and especially to the success of our ministry. We have a plan there that has been working for a long period of years, that no graduate from any of our colleges receive an appointment as a

missionary or minister in our field until he has applied himself for a reasonable period of time to the book ministry. We have discovered that the operation of that policy has greatly increased the value of the young men who leave our schools. It has given to them better success as field workers, and has made them sense in right proportion the value of the place of the colporteur ministry in all their future relations.

"I believe there is no place where our books will not sell. We sometimes feel that there is territory where conditions are so difficult that people will not buy. The reverse has generally been the case. Where the situation is hard (as the American statistician, Roger Babson, stated some time ago), when there is depression men turn their thoughts to spiritual things. But when there is plenty of money, then they are turned away from spiritual things. That is so in the sale of our good literature. When the way is hard people count on the colporteur to help them along the way in spiritual things.

"We have a field in Australasia that seemed to be a field of no possibility. The people are not religious. They are out for the gold that perisheth, which to them is of great value. They are out to live as merrily as they can. In New Guinea we have some hundreds of men of that nature, men who are out to make fortunes in gold, men who are doing tolerably well as traders, being men, however, for the most part who are not the slightest interested in things religious. But they have souls. Some of us felt that we ought to attempt to do something for these men. We called one of our colporteurs who had faced difficulty to go over to New Guinea with the books *Home Physician* and *This Mighty Hour*. It was entirely a new venture. We cherished ideas that he might do a little helpful business. We hoped that he might do more than we thought. As the result of less than four months he sold almost \$6,000 worth of literature. We have recently sent another man where conditions were the same, and he sold \$1,200 worth in one month. Another young man, only 20 years of age, sold nearly \$1,400 worth of our denominational literature. We have discovered that there is no territory where people will not buy our literature, and know in our hearts that this work has been ordained of God, and will continue with the blessing of God until the end, and be a positive factor in the cause of God."

Brother G. A. Huse called attention to three features in the report, the continual increase in the percentage of sales and deliveries, the good reports for the one-year period and for the month of December, and the number of souls who gave their hearts to God. It was his desire that every heart be burdened with the appeal

which Elder Wagner made for more recruits.

The meeting adjourned until 10:15 A. M., February 4. The closing song was "Sunrise Tomorrow" sung by Mrs. W. D. Kieser.

R. L. BENTON, *Chairman*,  
F. L. HARRISON, *Secretary*.

#### Fourth Meeting

Held February 4, 1937, at 10:45

A. M.

At the beginning of the fourth meeting of the session, which has not been uninteresting for a moment, as Elder J. E. Shultz stated yesterday, Elders W. H. Bergherm and H. K. Christman sang "Speak My Lord," and Elder Bergherm offered prayer.

The minutes of the third meeting of the session were read and approved, and Elder J. J. Strahle was seated as a delegate at large.

Elder Nelson was asked to take the chair, while Elder J. J. Reiswig read the following report from the nominating committee.

"After an earnest season of prayer in which a number took part, asking the Lord for guidance in the selection of officers for the next quadrennial period, the committee unanimously agreed upon the following nominations: President, R. L. Benton; Secretary-Treasurer and Auditor, F. L. Harrison; Missionary Volunteer and Educational secretary, G. R. Fattic; Home Missionary secretary, C. V. Anderson; Religious Liberty secretary, R. L. Benton; Transportation agent, R. L. Benton; Negro department secretary, J. G. Dasent; the selection of a Field Missionary secretary to be left in the hands of the Union Conference Executive committee.

"Executive committee: R. L. Benton, F. L. Harrison, H. C. Hartwell, R. P. Montgomery, J. J. Reiswig, J. D. Smith, H. H. Hamilton, G. A. Huse, G. R. Fattic, C. V. Anderson, B. E. Wagner, F. M. Robinson."

College Managing Board: R. L. Benton, H. H. Hamilton, G. R. Fattic, F. L. Harrison, C. V. Anderson, G. A. Huse, J. J. Reiswig, J. D. Smith, H. C. Hartwell, R. P. Montgomery, B. E. Wagner, R. L. Carr, L. N. Carter, F. M. Robinson."

Elder Nelson explained that the services of Elder B. E. Wagner have been efficient and highly appreciated in the Publishing department during the past six and one-half years, but that he is not eligible for re-election for the full term according to the tenure of office plans adopted by the General Conference. Therefore the Nominating committee felt that the selection of a Field secretary should be left to the Union Executive committee, with the understanding that

they appoint Brother Wagner to serve out his unexpired tenure.

The entire congregation stood in response to the invitation of Elder Nelson, expressing their appreciation and approval of the report of the committee, and pledging to those elected their support during the next four years.

Elder Benton expressed appreciation for the confidence shown by the re-election of the staff of workers. He stated he regretted very much that the tenure of office affected the re-election of Elder Wagner for the full period, but spoke very highly of the service that he has rendered in this union. Elder J. G. Dasent was welcomed to the place left vacant by the death of Elder M. M. Young, former Negro secretary for the Union.

It was necessary to adjourn the conference session at 10:45 A. M., in order for the corporation business to receive attention. The conference session was resumed at its completion.

#### Home Missionary Department

I TAKE pleasure in presenting this report for the Home Missionary forces of the Southwest for the past five years, inasmuch as four and one-half of those years the lay endeavors of the union were led by better men.

Elder R. L. Benton struggled with the heavy task of union president and Home Missionary secretary as well to start this period. He labored heroically during the dark days in the valley of depression. This period began with everything practically at the bottom of the hill. He had the pleasure of seeing things begin to brighten in 1933, when Elder H. F. Brown took the Home Missionary saddle. He rode on and up to greater victories. Only seven months has your humble servant been in action. He entered into victories, the foundation for which had already been laid—for instance, the third and fourth quarter Home Missionary report showing a gain over last year in twenty-three of the twenty-seven points reported. And let us not forget the signal advance in Ingathering, the best in the history of the Southwest. To God be all the praise.

I would pay special tribute to these two loyal predecessors, and as I enter into their labors may signal soul-saving victories attend.

I would also pay tribute to our loyal conference Home Missionary secretaries. They have borne the heat of the day, and were it not for their faithful reports I would have nothing to tell you today.

And last but not least, I would make honorable mention of our fine corps of church Home Missionary secretaries and of our membership. What would we secretaries amount to were these true-blue Seventh-day Adventists not there, willing to be led into active service

for God. God bless them and give them starry crowns as a reward.

My Home Missionary statement for these past five years may not be considered a report by some. Some very interesting facts come to light when digging for truth.

Provoke one another to good works, saith the Scriptures. I pray that this report may provoke serious consideration and that immediate action may follow.

Did you know that there are 193 churches in the Southwestern Union? And that only twenty-one churches had an organized Dorcas Society five years ago, while today seventy-seven societies are functioning to the glory of God. However, there are 116 churches left who are hereby invited to join the Dorcas list of workers at their earliest convenience.

Note carefully how the union has been steadily responding to the organization suggested by those who know what Israel ought to do in such a time as this.

Classes for Bible Evangelism and How to Give Bible Readings were conducted in only nineteen churches in 1932. Today thirty-five churches enjoy that privilege. Not many, you say. True; but the trend is upward, and certainly that is encouraging.

Better is the showing when considering class-band organization. At the beginning of this quinquennium, forty-one churches were working this plan. Today eighty-eight churches have lined up for organized class-band endeavor for effective reporting and successful campaign progress. We recommend the class-band idea to the other 105 churches of the union.

Again a fine healthy growth is manifested in the number of churches observing the first Sabbath of every month as Home Missionary day. In 1932 thirty-eight churches conducted, on the first Sabbath of every month, a program in behalf of soul winning at home. Five years later 102 churches were enjoying that blessing. We hope that the remaining ninety-one churches will not wait five more years before entering the layman's ranks by conducting a regular first-Sabbath service.

The Church Missionary service every Sabbath, known at times as the Fifteen-Minute Service, is growing in popularity. Where properly conducted, this service certainly fills a serious gap in our church life. We began this five-year period with fifty-two churches observing this weekly reminder. We closed the term with 129 churches promoting Home Missions fifteen minutes every Sabbath. Seventy-nine churches established this service among them these past five years. Sixty-four churches remain to be won. The task lies before us. What a challenge!

Now, these classes and class-bands, these missionary services on Sabbath

and otherwise, should be accomplishing something. And to be sure, they are. However, the reported items run so near alike year by year that comparison would be too monotonous.

But anyway, listen to some big figures. This is for five years.

Number of Bible readings or gospel meetings held	174,021
Number of missionary visits	345,641
Articles of clothing given away	187,459
Persons given needed help	360,827
Number of books, periodicals, tracts, or scripture cards distributed	2,263,026

Wonderful how the figures pile up when added together. Now let me analyze some of these figures. I would like to have our eyes opened, if you please, to see that while we are doing wonderful things we are in reality playing with the situation.

Take for instance the missionary visits. Every member in the Southwestern Union made on the average seven visits per year during the past five years. In other words, each of us paid one visit every seven and one-half weeks, or every other month, in the interest of somebody's soul. I hope the working force of the Southwest did better.

Again, take the members of the Southwest. Each one gave on an average not quite four studies per year.

Or put it this way. We gave one study every fifteen weeks for the past five years. Someone said it takes thirty good studies to become fairly informed on Adventism and ready for baptism. At the rate of one study every fifteen weeks, it would take eight years and eight months to make an Adventist. They make them in two years in the mission fields. Does it take us longer? Well, we do not make Adventists just that way. Nevertheless, we might consider the fact that were every member to make one more member and take more than eight years to do it, our union membership would then be doubled. Even at that slow rate, it beats the past. And that is too slow. We aim to "Everyone win one in 1937."

Now for the biggest figure. More than 2,000,000 pieces of literature were distributed during five years. Think of it. What does it mean? It means that instead of a tract a day we have given away one piece of literature every eighth day during the past five years.

And it means that every sixth person received one piece of literature some time during this period. What about the other five who did not get even one piece of literature?

Literature is to largely accomplish the work of that other angel bringing the loud cry. Our literature through the lay forces is not making much of a loud cry yet, is it?

The Home Missionary department has been responsible for raising large

sums of money. The Missions Extension campaign has brought in \$9,590.77.

The Ingathering, too, has made laudable advance year by year since the low point of 1932. The fine sum of \$136,003.38 was brought. The department has also fostered the subscription list of several periodicals such as the *Watchman*, the *Signs, Health, Life and Health* and the *Message*. The *Review and Herald* has also been promoted by the department. The *Church Officers' Gazette* has been its medium of communication to the officers in the local churches.

Last but not least, the Home Missionary army of the Southwest can report 1,339 captives taken, souls for the Master. That means two souls every three days for five years. Have our labors been in vain? I say, No. God has blessed our feeble efforts.

There are unsaved millions within our territory. Most of them know not that a special message is due the world today. Our lay forces must be aroused to their responsibility. It seems as though we had just begun. The task seems too great. But our God is able, though a willing people, to do wonders.

And so, with an army 10,700 strong, we look to the future with confidence, believing in God for salvation to thousands more in the Southwest, through the layman's movement, before the Lord comes.

C. V. ANDERSON, *Secretary*.

The secretary read to the delegation a poem written by Brother W. L. Barclay, entitled "A Voice Calling."

Another special feature was the song written by Elder Dasent in memory of Elder Young, which the Negro delegation sang.

The session adjourned until 2:15 P. M.

R. L. BENTON, *Chairman*,  
F. L. HARRISON, *Secretary*.

### Fifth Meeting

Held February 4, 1937, at 2:15 P. M.

A chorus of "amens" was heard as Elder J. L. Neil finished singing "Casting All Your Care upon Jesus," at the beginning of the fifth meeting of the session.

Elder W. H. Bergherm in his comments on the report of the Home Missionary department stressed the number of souls won, placing the Southwestern Union high among the other unions in this respect.

Elder H. K. Christman took advantage of the topic under discussion to speak a word for the *Watchman*, 84,000 copies of which were circulated in the Southwest during the

past year. Elder W. S. North told of the good work which the *Message* magazine is doing.

"Face the facts, and then talk courage, for there is plenty of good room for improvement in the old Southwest," was the sentiment expressed by Elder Reiswig. He emphasized the wider use of the *Watchman* among people of influence.

Elder Anderson desired a report from the Plans committee at this time, and the following resolution was adopted by vote.

"WHEREAS, The General Conference has definitely launched a world-wide 'Win One' movement for 1937,

"Resolved, That the Southwestern Union go on record as being in full harmony and sympathy with this endeavor to enlist every Seventh-day Adventist in active soul-winning service; and

"That in order to effectively enlist the lay army of the Southwest, we suggest that every line of Home Missionary endeavor be brought into action in order to reach the desired goal;

"1. By observing February 20 as 'Win one' Day in all our churches, and by appealing to our ministry in the Southwest to assist in marshaling our lay forces for attaining this worthy objective.

"2. By making the literature ministry a part of the 'Win one' movement.

"3. By instituting effective class band organization for the adult membership in all our churches.

"4. By asking that the first Sabbath missionary service be observed in all of our churches.

"5. By emphasizing that the church missionary service, commonly known as the 'Fifteen-Minute Missionary service,' be observed as a regular part of the Sabbath program of every church.

"6. By encouraging our members to bring a friend regularly to Sabbath school.

"7. By faithfully following up all Ingathering contacts made with further literature or Bible studies."

(The presidents' reports of the conferences will appear in subsequent issues of THE RECORD, as space permits.)

### Arkansas-Louisiana Conference

The president, Elder H. C. Hartwell, reported progress during the five-year period, evidenced in the gains in tithe and missions offerings. The tithe for the white work increased from \$19,691.92 in 1932 to \$29,755.09 in 1936; and the tithe for the colored work from \$2,978.39 in 1932 to \$7,079.16 in 1936. The five-year period showed mission funds to the total of \$64,636.68 from the white department, and \$13,691.23 from the colored department. The membership totals 2,334, (1,671 white and 663 colored).

Ten new churches have been organized, five white and five colored. The \$43,000 worth of books delivered and the splendid *Watchman* sales are justly a source of pride to the conference.

The progress of the work in the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference was vividly brought to us by the good report and the charts presented.

The "Song of the Builders," sung by the delegates from Arkansas-Louisiana, told of the unity and co-operation which exists among the workers.

The session adjourned until 10:15 A. M., February 5.

R. L. BENTON, *Chairman*,  
F. L. HARRISON, *Secretary*.

### Sixth Meeting

"What a Wonderful Saviour" was used as the opening hymn for the sixth meeting of the session, held February 5, at 10:15 A. M. At the conclusion of the prayer offered by Elder H. K. Christman, Brethren Dasent, Lee, Huddleston, and Bryant sang "When the Plagues Begin to Fall."

The minutes of the fourth and fifth meetings were read by the secretary, and approved.

The reports of the Oklahoma, Texas, and Texico Conferences were then given by the presidents.

### Oklahoma Conference

In spite of depression, dust, and drouth, which have reduced the earning power of the population one-half in Oklahoma, the president, Elder J. J. Reiswig, brought a courageous message to the delegates assembled. The band of nine ordained ministers, one sustentation worker subsidized by the conference, three licentiates, three internes, one Bible worker, one licentiate who is doing self-supporting work, and three office workers have labored valiently among these obstacles.

As the outgrowth of 28 evangelistic efforts conducted in the years 1934-36, 1,420 members were added to the church. While the net increase for the same period is 511 members, making the total membership 3,125 at the close of 1936, many of those lost during the period migrated from the state, or could not be located.

The tithe income has shown a steady increase from \$31,231.46 in 1932 to \$56,867.36 in 1936, and the interest in missions is indicated by \$20,835.85 given in 1932, and \$30,812.38 in 1936.

Elder Reiswig closed the report by the rededication of the Oklahoma Conference to the speedy finishing of

the work, with a future "as bright as God's promises."

### Texas Conference

The president of the Texas Conference, Elder J. D. Smith, pointed to the blessing of God upon the work in Texas while passing through the severe strain of the depression, as a proof of God's guidance in the uniting of the North Texas and South Texas Conferences.

The present working force consists of 13 ordained ministers and seven licensed ministers, including the sustentation workers in part-time employment.

Since 1932 an even dozen churches have been added to the conference, and the membership has grown from 3,352 to 3,957, a net gain of 605 members. Over 200 were added upon profession of faith and baptism in 1936.

The tithe amounted to \$42,670 in 1932, and \$65,720 in 1936, or a gain of \$23,050.

The advances made in the Texas Conference have served to increase the needs, and trust must be placed in God to supply the grace, together with the means, to finish the work in this field.

### Texico Conference

The president of the Texico Conference, Elder R. P. Montgomery, spoke of the reaching out after God manifest in these trying times experienced in the swiftly passing years of this last generation.

His report of the tithe showed \$20,664.72 received in 1932, \$14,697.42 in 1933, and \$20,548.60 in 1936. The total offerings to missions in 1932 were \$8,513.38, and in 1936 \$12,313.62.

The membership at the close of 1936 stood at 1,201. This is an increase of 480 since the beginning of the past five years.

Elder Benton made an interesting comparison from the president's report of the Texico Conference published in the UNION RECORD of 1920. At that time there were 22 churches with a membership of 400. It is encouraging to look back there and see a conference with 400 members, then see it today with 1,201. In 1918 the Ingathering totaled \$170.09, and this year \$5,518.53.

Prayer was offered by Elder G. A. LaGrone, and the meeting adjourned to Sunday, 10:15 A. M.

R. L. BENTON, *Chairman*,

F. L. HARRISON, *Secretary*.

### Seventh Meeting

Opening Hymn: "Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken."

Prayer by Elder J. C. Thompson.

The minutes of the sixth meeting of the session were read and approved.

### Southwestern Junior College

SOUTHWESTERN Junior College was founded about 43 years ago. It did not enter the minds of the few families that formed the nucleus of a small settlement on this hill to establish a school that should be the forerunner of a union conference college, but when the organization in the Southwestern Union was perfected and the brethren thought of establishing an institution for the group of states represented by this Union, they established Keene Academy as the school for the development of the youth of the Southwest.

It was under the direction of Professor Nelson that Keene Academy became Southwestern Junior College, and from that time it has enjoyed a fair patronage of college and academic students. It has been the endeavor through the years to make the Ministerial feature of the school the strong feature, and to encourage the young men to enter this phase of God's work; and it shall be the endeavor of the present administration to strengthen in every way possible this feature of the college work.

The chart which I have placed before you will indicate somewhat the financial trend of the institution for the last four years. The actual increase of liabilities over assets during that time has been \$8,117.15. Additional investments to the industrial section approximate \$43,710. The income by divisions is shown on the chart before you, and is as follows for the quadrennial period:

Instructional .....	\$ 95,821.84
Homes .....	171,174.00
Industries .....	518,510.00

In putting out the products of our industries our students earned \$196,272.45. The student's labor credits amount to 73.5 per cent of his total costs. This means that the student's earnings has saved his parents 73.5 cents on every dollar charged him in this institution.

The net operating losses during the time have been \$56,342.37. During this period there was set up for depreciation of buildings and equipment \$43,317.36. To this add the cost of building and equipment repairs a total of \$22,677.28, making a grand total for these items of \$65,994.64 from May 22, 1932 to January 2, 1937.

Please note carefully the red chart and the yellow one next to it. The total expense of the College for 1935-36 was \$217,443. Per day that amounts to \$596. The total expense of the present year—33 weeks—has been \$147,117, a per-day expense of \$637.

Please notice the worthless accounts written off. In 1934 there was written off \$15,745, and since that

time \$4,255, making a total of \$20,000. Who got the benefit of this, and why was it not paid?

Now there are some features connected with the College which I wish you would think of very carefully. Industrial work is an integral part of our education. Industries have been connected with this college from its inception. It costs a great deal of money to equip and maintain industries, and they should show a gain. The industries at the present time do not show a gain, with the exception of printing. However, they are on the upward trend to betterment. It is manifestly impossible to run industries as large as the ones at our college and make profit unless some provision is made for capitalizing them. We have no cash reserve; we can therefore take no discounts on bills we owe. We have taken what spare money we could and spent it for equipment and for other things which should be provided outside of the income of the institution. Our mill has increased its business within the period covered by this report from \$25,000 to over \$100,000 a year. We are ashamed to confess that we are operating upon the capital of our creditors. This should not be, and plans should be laid at this Union Conference looking to redress in this respect.

The statements of the Educational secretary for the Union, concerning shift of responsibility from home to school have some point. The College has in its endeavors to help the greatest number had a debt thrown upon it that should be managed by the parents themselves. There should be a change of thinking in the Union concerning the obligation of this school to give the young people of the Union their education, board, room, clothing, and extra spending money. It is true not all have this conception of the place the school occupies in the scheme of things. Nevertheless, the fact that we get but 27 cents out of every dollar charged to students should convince us all that we are not operating upon a safe enough margin of cash from the constituency of the Union so far as expenses in college go.

There are at the present time, including those who work full time, 253 registrants in the College. Nearly all of these are members of the church. The institution enjoys a good spiritual experience, and I have never found a more responsive group than the students of Southwestern Junior College. The average age in the college is 21.43; in the academy 18.4.

Let me say a word of special commendation for the faculty. They are most harmonious and cooperative—a wonderful group of people with whom to work. And the fact that they are generally loved by the students them-

selves was evidenced during the last Week of Prayer, when the burden of conducting the services was thrown upon the teachers. God marvelously, very marvelously, blessed His youth in this place.

There are 37.26 per cent of the students who take half work; 25.5 per cent take three-fourths work; 7.8 per cent are special students. During the first semester 18 per cent of the registrants were dropped, mostly for debt and insufficient capital. There are 58 resident students, and eight working in homes in the village.

H. H. HAMILTON, *President*.

Brother L. N. Carter, treasurer of the College, explained further the financial condition. The large inventories which must be carried, are a large factor in the present situation. The great need is a working capital to care for these inventories. It would require \$22,000 to cover the operating deficit.

In response to the request of Elder Nelson, only six of the workers present raised their hands as having never attended one of our schools, and nearly all of these were older workers who probably accepted the truth after the completion of their education. So we see that our schools are training centers for our work.

Elder Nelson cited the experience of a colporteur who discovered the mother of a Roman Catholic priest, who was a Seventh-day Adventist. The parents felt they could not afford to send their boy to Emmanuel Missionary College, so they sent him to the Catholic school which was near home. Later the son became a Catholic priest.

In another community the church members could not afford to send their boys and girls to our college, so sent them to the Baptist college near at hand. That was 30 or 40 years ago, and today those boys and girls are Baptist missionaries, and the doors of our church are closed. Does it make any difference where the sons and daughters of Seventh-day Adventists attend school?

The approximately 200 students in attendance at Southwestern Junior College, about 100 of which are doing full-time study, are not half enough. There should be 350 or 400.

A good slogan would be to "keep one" of our young people. If we could do that, our membership would be much larger. Our boys and girls slip away so gradually that we do

not know they are going until they are out of the fold.

It is impossible to operate a business of \$125,000 or \$150,000 a year on nothing. It is up to this group to form some plan so that sufficient capital can be secured so that the industries can operate on a safe basis, and young people will be trained up for God and His work.

#### Southern Publishing Association

The manager, Brother G. A. Huse, the editor of the *Watchman* magazine, Elder J. E. Shultz, and the circulation manager, Elder H. K. Christman, gave short but comprehensive reports of the Southern Publishing Association during the past five years.

When a survey of the institution was made some years ago, it was found to be heavily in debt. The brethren were determined to reduce this debt and operate within their income. In order to do this the personnel was reduced, the branch houses were closed, and the old stock was reduced. Since that time 29 new publications have been brought out, and the *Message* magazine has made its appearance.

The brief financial summary given showed the book department with a good gain, the periodical department with a slight loss, and the entire institution with a gain of \$2,500 for the year 1936.

The Spirit of prophecy has foretold the work which the Southern Publishing House is to do in the South. Once when the brethren felt it would be necessary to close it because of debt, Sister White received a message that the institution should be continued for the work in the Southland. So far as equipment, machinery, and buildings are concerned, the Southern Publishing Association is well equipped.

The *Watchman* reached its peak year during 1936, with a circulation of 625,000 copies. Eighty-four thousand of these copies were distributed in the Southwest. The *Message* magazine has passed its first-year period, and has an established place among our magazines. During *Watchman* week, April 10 to 17, our people should endeavor to accomplish three things: (1) Every home a subscriber; (2) The *Watchman* in all public libraries; (3) and every community with one or more *Watchman* magazine workers.

By special request our Negro brethren sang once more "Plenty Good Room."

The meeting adjourned until 10:15 A. M., February 8.

R. L. BENTON, *Chairman*,  
F. L. HARRISON, *Secretary*.

#### Eighth Meeting

Song: "Beauty for Ashes."

Prayer: Elder E. E. Beddoe.

The solo which Mrs. W. T. Jones sang entitled "He'll Come Again" was composed, both words and music, by her brother, Albert Burk.

Minutes of the seventh meeting were read and approved.

The committee on Constitution and By-Laws submitted a report, which was adopted by vote, as follows:

"We recommend, (1) That Article IV, Section 5, be amended to read 'an additional delegate for each 150 of its church membership, or major portion thereof.'

"(2) That Article V, Section 4, be changed to read 'The executive committee instead of the president.'

"(3) That Article V, Section 5, be changed to read 'quadrennial session, instead of biennial.'

"(4) That Article VI, Section 2, be amended to read 'The executive committee shall consist of the president, secretary, treasurer, the presidents of the local conferences and missions, the president of the Southwestern Junior College, and the secretaries in charge of duly organized departments, viz: the Publishing, Medical, Educational, Young People's Missionary Volunteer, Home Missionary, Religious Liberty, and not to exceed four other members as the delegates may elect.'"

It was moved that the report of the committee on Plans be adopted by calling the question when it was read, and then that the whole be voted on at the close. This motion was adopted, and the first nine resolutions were read, with the exception of Section 2 in the ninth resolution, which was referred back to the plans committee. The committee adjourned pending discussion on No. 9, regarding the encouragement of our colporteurs.

The session adjourned until 2:30 P.M.

W. E. NELSON, *Acting Chairman*,  
F. L. HARRISON, *Secretary*.

#### Ninth Meeting

Held February 8, 1937, at 2:30 P.M.

The meeting was opened with song. Prayer was offered by M. E. Olsen.

Second section of the recommendation on encouraging our colporteurs which had been referred back to the committee on Plans was brought in and studied. Recommendations 1-10 inclusive were adopted by vote, as follows:

## Plans Committee—1

## Resolution of Thanks

"As we review the five years that have passed since our last Union Conference session, we see many evidences of our heavenly Father's watchcare and protection. Although plagues and judgments have fallen upon the land as unmistakable evidences of the near approach of the time of trouble, God has remembered in mercy. For His loving kindness, His constant watchcare over His own, we desire to return thanks.

"We acknowledge with gratitude His special blessings upon the labor of our hands. Our membership has grown, our tithes and offerings to the foreign fields have increased, and the various departments and phases of our labor have been blessed. For all these and other blessings, we are most grateful.

"We look forward to the coming quadrennium of service with confidence and unity, assured that greater manifestations of His power are before us.

"To this end we hereby reconsecrate our lives to Him and plead for a more spirit-filled and fruit-filled ministry in His vineyard."

From the Plans Committee—2

## Radio Preaching

"We recognize in the radio a means specially provided of the Lord to carry our message quickly into every home in our large cities and the country round about, and thus to help swell the loud cry.

"We recognize also that the preaching of the gospel is the main objective of all our organization and all our endeavor.

"In harmony with this providence and this objective, we hereby pledge ourselves to work more earnestly in the development of radio preaching as rapidly as our methods prove effective and our resources permit. To this end

"We recommend, 1. That certain of our ministers who are judged to have talents suited to preaching on the air, be encouraged to study the art and science of broadcasting, with a view to devoting themselves largely to this method of winning souls.

"2. That since radio preaching entails certain well known costs, whether it be made the main effort or be used in connection with a hall effort, our conference committees be encouraged to give it a definite allotment in their working budgets, so as to insure a maximum use of this God-given means of helping to do a quick work in the earth.

"3. That we work earnestly toward the objective of getting our message by radio into every home in the conference at least once a week, and in as continuous an effort as may be found possible throughout the year.

"4. In order that our broadcasting may reach into every home in the station area, our lay members and young people be enlisted in placing our Radio Log in every house by personal visit and courteous invitation to tune in, working courageously by repeated calls toward the objective expressed in our watch-

word: ALL OUR NEIGHBORS LISTENING IN.

"5. That wherever it is feasible, some one in conference employ be appointed to foster the interests of radio preaching, in cooperation with the General Conference Radio Commission."

From the Plans Committee—3

## Church School Teachers' Salaries

"WHEREAS, The Fall Council has made certain recommendations relative to teachers' salaries,

"It is recommended, 1. That we adopt in full the action taken at the recent Fall Council, including the recommended wage schedule.

"2. That in order to make this adoption possible we recommend that a fund be raised in each conference, under the direction of the local conference committee, to supplement the five per cent comeback for church school teachers' salaries.

"3. That the methods for raising this fund be referred to the Union Conference committee for study in counsel with the Educational and Treasury departments of the local conferences."

From the Plans Committee—4

## Missionary Volunteer Week of Prayer

"WHEREAS, Our young people have proved to be a very fruitful field for evangelism,

"We recommend, That our conference workers plan definitely to make special effort in behalf of the youth of our churches during the Missionary Volunteer Week of Prayer as set apart by General Conference action."

From the Plans Committee—5

## Encouraging Our Young People

"WHEREAS, God has given definite counsel and instruction regarding the training of our youth for soul-winning service as well as instruction in Christian living,

"We recommend, That our pastors and evangelists encourage the young people in their churches along lines of soul-winning phases of evangelism, yoking them up with them in evangelistic efforts and doing what they can to encourage these youth to participate in the League of Evangelism, as outlined by the Missionary Volunteer Department."

From the Plans Committee—6

## Lay-Preachers' Institutes

"WHEREAS, Our churches are to be training schools for Christian workers, and believing that there are among us many who have the talent of lay-preaching,

"We recommend, That our conferences plan definitely to conduct Lay-preachers' Institutes for the purpose of training promising lay-preachers, in order that a large number of laymen may be pressed into service to unite their voices with the ministry in preaching the message."

From the Plans Committee—7

## Riverside Sanitarium

"WHEREAS, We are told by the Spirit of prophecy that, 'Sanitarium work is one of the most successful means of reaching all classes of people,' and that 'our sanitariums are the right hand of

the gospel,' and that 'schools and sanitariums for colored people should be established, and in these the colored youth should be taught and trained for service by the very best teachers that can be employed,' and

"WHEREAS, The General Conference is now operating the Riverside Sanitarium and Hospital at Nashville, and

"WHEREAS, One year ago the colored constituency of North America pledged themselves to raise \$20,000, or an average of about \$2 a member, and only a little over half of this has been raised, therefore

"We recommend, That our conference presidents with their committees use their influence in urging our colored churches to raise their required amount February 27 to March 23, and that our conference workers and lay-members support the Riverside Sanitarium by introducing this institution to the colored citizens in their communities."

From the Plans Committee—8

## Oakwood Junior College

"WHEREAS, Oakwood Junior College, located near Huntsville, Alabama, is the training center for our colored youth, and

"WHEREAS, There are in the Southwestern Union Conference a number of worthy young men and women who should have the advantage of a Christian education such as is offered at Oakwood, but who are not able to attend on account of the distance, therefore

"We recommend, 1. That our workers encourage our young people of academic and Junior College grades to put forth every effort possible to attend Oakwood Junior College.

"2. That our conference committees give careful consideration to the matter of giving financial assistance toward defraying the expense of transportation of worthy young people who are desirous of securing a Christian training at Oakwood, but who on account of lack of transportation are not able to do so.

"We further recommend, That details of working out this policy be referred to the Union Conference committee."

From the Plans Committee—9

## Encouraging Our Colporteurs

"Realizing that our colporteur work is destined to occupy a large place in the work of evangelism in the Southwestern Union, and that in the last five years twelve Sabbath schools and four churches were organized, and that two hundred and twenty-five souls were brought to a knowledge of this truth through the colporteur ministry, and that the servant of the Lord states, 'In a large degree through our publishing houses, is to be accomplished the work of that other angel who comes down from heaven with great power, and who lightens the earth with his glory,' (Testimonies, Vol. 7, p. 140)

"We recommend, 1. That in each conference a careful survey be made of the territory to be worked, and the number of colporteurs needed to work it, and that this number of colporteurs be taken as a recruiting objective.



"2. That the conference committee and field secretary pro rate this number among the districts of the local conference, and that the district superintendent cooperate with the Field Missionary secretary in recruiting the necessary number from among the members of the district, these workers to be trained by the Field Missionary secretary; and that so far as possible they be retained in the district where they were recruited.

"3. That in selecting these workers, care be taken to maintain the high standard set for this work by the Spirit of prophecy.

"4. That in the interest of economy, efficiency, and stability, we encourage men to make this colporteur ministry their life work, and engage in permanent all-the-year-round resident canvassing.

"5. That our conferences give careful consideration to the rendering of financial assistance, such as rent and other expenses, as may be necessary, to prevent the loss to the cause of faithful, worthy workers.

"We further recommend, 1. That we urge that every pastor strive to get at least one colporteur in each of our colored churches during 1937.

"2. That we urge the organization of a MESSAGE magazine group wherever possible in the Southwestern Union."

From the Plans Committee—10

#### Colporteur Work as a Pre-requisite For Service

"WHEREAS, We have been told by the servant of the Lord, 'Let those who have been in school go out into the field, and put to a practical use the knowledge they have gained. If canvassers will do this, using the ability which God has given them, seeking counsel from Him, and combining the work of selling books with personal labor for the people, their talents will increase by exercise, and they will learn many practical lessons they could not possibly learn in school. The education obtained in this practical way may properly be termed higher education.' (Colporteur Evangelist, p.24) And

"WHEREAS 'Those who are fitting for the ministry can engage in no other occupation that will give them so large an experience as will the canvassing work.' (Testimonies, Vol. 6, p. 334, Colporteur Evangelist, p. 84) Therefore

"Resolved, That we encourage those looking forward to denominational employment to devote a minimum period of at least six months of faithful service in the colporteur ministry prior to employment."

The committee on credentials and licenses brought in the following report, which was adopted.

#### Credentials and Licenses

"After prayerful consideration, your Committee on Licenses and Credentials recommends the following:

"Ministerial Credentials: R. L. Benton, G. R. Fattic, H. H. Hamilton, F. M. Robinson, B. E. Wagner, C. V. Anderson, J. G. Dasent.

"Honorary Ministerial Credentials: J. G. Oblander, D. U. Hale, B. M. Garton,

H. B. French, R. E. Stewart, Bernard Voth, J. I. Taylor, E. M. Gates, George M. Brown.

"Ministerial License: F. L. Harrison.

"Honorary Ministerial License: Daniel E. McNeil, G. C. Jenks.

"Missionary License: G. B. Boswell, Mrs. F. M. Robinson, L. N. Carter."

It was voted to refer all other names that should have consideration on credentials and license to the Union Conference committee for consideration.

Recommendations 11-15 were read and adopted by the committee as follows:

From Plans Committee—11

#### Medical Missionary Work

"WHEREAS, We have been instructed that 'We have come to a time when every member of the church should take hold of medical missionary work,' and we have been counselled to 'send into the churches workers who will set the principles of health reform in their connection with the third angel's message before every family and individual,' therefore,

"We recommend, 1. The inauguration of a strong program of health education throughout the churches of our union, for the purpose of increasing the health and efficiency of our membership and training them for medical missionary service in their communities.

"2. The appointment as soon as possible of a Union Medical secretary, whose duties shall be:

"a. To promote and foster the program of health education and training for medical missionary service among the churches, as recommended above.

"b. To give such help as may be desired by our ministers who wish to develop as medical evangelists.

"c. To enlist all our physicians and nurses in an organized plan of medical evangelism.

"d. To give leadership to the important work of alcohol education."

From Plans Committee—12

#### The Watchman Magazine

"WHEREAS, There is a unique advantage that comes to our people during these days of rapid and unprecedented events to place our distinctive message before an inquiring public, and

"WHEREAS, the WATCHMAN, (our full-message journal in this country) is dedicated to the task of presenting our message, in its entirety, to its readers, and

"WHEREAS, April 10 to 17 has been set aside as WATCHMAN Week in the missionary program for all churches in 1937, therefore

"We recommend, That our churches everywhere avail themselves of the advantages of this special occasion to provide a wider circulation for the WATCHMAN magazine by

"1. Encouraging our own members to subscribe for The WATCHMAN for themselves, and their friends, at the special, missionary rate of 60 cents provided by the publishers.

"2. That they endeavor to contribute as liberally as possible to place the WATCHMAN magazine in all the public libraries, reading rooms of Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. in their respective conferences.

"3. Securing recruits for work with our full-message magazine, who will devote full or part-time to this endeavor."

From the Plans Committee—13

#### Burial Association

"WHEREAS, The heavy expense incident to burial of loved ones finds many of our people unprepared and unable to properly adjust themselves, and

"WHEREAS, Even if satisfactory arrangements are made for the burial, yet in many cases the future has necessarily been mortgaged for sometime, which hinders those thus affected in supporting their local church and conference financial programs, and

"WHEREAS, During such time of bereavement and financial burden it is our Christian privilege and duty to extend necessary financial assistance to our brethren; therefore

"Resolved, That we ask the Union Conference committee to give careful study to the advisability of creating a Seventh-day Adventist Burial Association similar to those now in operation in other unions."

From the Plans Committee—14

#### Debt Reduction

"WHEREAS, The financial audited reports show a heavy operating deficit taking the organization as a whole in some of our conferences within the Southwestern Union, and our notes payable have increased up to the beginning of 1935; therefore,

"We recommend, That, in order to stay this rapid increase of indebtedness, we adopt anew the following resolutions concerning church building finance, and concerning the borrowing of money, passed at the Autumn Council of 1933:

"a. That all our churches encumbered with debt make every sacrifice and effort possible to free themselves from all burden of debt as rapidly as they are able, while carrying on the regular program of the church.

"b. That churches contemplating either purchasing or erecting church buildings, be cautioned not to undertake obligations which the church cannot easily carry, the local and union conference committees giving careful counsel, after studying the size of the congregation, its financial strength, and the location of the church.

"c. That where conditions seem to make it imperative for congregations to assume obligations on their church properties, in no case should building operations be started until 75 per cent of the entire cost is in hand in cash; and that any help from the 'Church Extension Fund, where given, be a part of the remaining 25 per cent; and further, where the church-building project contemplates an expenditure of \$5,000, the plan adopted by the General Conference for building

operations be carefully followed; and further, that a project contemplating the expenditure of \$25,000 or more be recognized as a special problem involving wider counsel with local, union, and General Conference committees as to the percentage of funds above 75 per cent that should be in hand.

"d. That whenever possible, churches be not dedicated until they are free from indebtedness."

"And,

"1. That no conference or institution shall borrow money for the purpose of reinvestment or loan to individuals, neither shall it make loans of its own funds to employees or other individuals.

"2. That in no case shall organizations, either conferences or institutions, within a union conference, borrow any money for operating or for any other purpose without authorization of the union conference executive committee.

"3. That no union conference shall borrow or shall authorize the borrowing by any other organization within its territory of more than \$1,000 in any one year without the authorization of the General Conference committee.

"4. That no conference or organization shall borrow money to relocate to churches. That no church shall borrow money for church building or church expense without action of the local conference committee approving such loan."

"5. a. That each conference and the college give careful study as to a definite plan to build up working capital; that our conferences build up a working capital of not less than 15 per cent of the annual operating expenses just as soon as possible.

"b. That all our note obligations be carefully studied in each field and the College, and that plans be laid to liquidate if possible the entire obligation within the next four-year period."

From the Plans Committee—15

#### Spanish Training School

"WHEREAS, There exists an urgent need for native workers as teachers, colporteurs, Bible workers, and ministers among the thousands of Spanish speaking people; therefore

"We recommend, A hearty moral support to the plans adopted at the last Fall Council for the establishment of a training school for the Spanish speaking youth."

Meeting adjourned until 10:15 A. M., February 9.

W. E. NELSON, *Acting Chairman*,  
F. L. HARRISON, *Secretary*.

### Tenth Meeting

Held February 9, 1937, at 10:15 A.M.

"Lifetime Is Working Time" was used as the opening hymn for the tenth meeting of the session, preceding the prayer offered by Elder M. E. Kern.

Elder F. M. Robinson rendered a report of the Southwest Indian Mission, which is responsible for the evangelism of the 130,000 Indians in the Southwestern Union territory.

The work which was begun about 19 years ago in McKinley County, New Mexico, has recently been extended among the Cherokee Indians near Stilwell, Oklahoma. Six of these Cherokee Indians have taken their stand for the truth, and two more have accepted the Sabbath.

Workers and means are needed, so that all the Indian tribes in our territory may be reached.

#### Sabbath School Department

FOR some hitherto unexplained cause, no provisions have been made for coordinating the local conference Sabbath School departments in the homeland. And unless someone adds the responsibility to his regular work, the delegates at the union session have no opportunity to see the Sabbath school work spread out union-wide before them like we are privileged to observe the other departments. At the request of one of the associate secretaries of the General Department, and because I believe it ought to be done, I have given just a little study to the Sabbath schools in the conferences of this union covering the five-year period just ending.

I note that we went into the period with 8,543 members the first quarter, while on the first quarter of the last year of the period we had 9,892 Sabbath school members, a difference of 1,351 members. I note, however, if the records are correct, that we entered the period on the first quarter with 1,310 church members not in Sabbath school, and we came out the first quarter of the last year with 2,216 church members not in Sabbath school.

We closed the first year of the period showing for the last quarter \$10,345.49 Sabbath school offering, while on the last quarter of the last year we showed \$11,791.07.

Referring to just a few items by conferences: Arkansas-Louisiana began the period with 1,821 members in the first quarter, and 2,106 in the first quarter of the last year. They started the period with 281 church members not in Sabbath school, and closed it with 216 not in Sabbath school. This shows a little advancement, but I am sorry that they began the period with twenty-four schools taking the *Sabbath School Worker*, and closed with only twenty. Sixty-one members took the training course the first year, and only forty members the last year. If I were a physician diagnosing and prescribing, I would say that the blood pressure is low and rapidly falling. I would pre-

scribe a conference-wide campaign to revive interest on the part of every church member in the Sabbath school, to encourage the Sabbath school officers to make a wider use of the *Worker* and the Training Course.

Oklahoma began the period with 2,694 members, and closed with 3,098. They started in with 506 church members out of Sabbath school, and finished with 411. The contributions ran \$30,045.69 the last quarter of the first year, and \$42,073.74 the last year and last quarter. Their investment for the last quarter of the first year was \$322.82, and for the last quarter of the last year \$862.37. Oklahoma believes in the investment plan. They opened the period with twenty-nine Sabbath schools taking the *Worker* and closed it with thirty-nine taking the *Worker*, an improvement of ten. Six of their members were taking the Training Course at the beginning of this period, while sixty-six were taking it at the close. Their blood pressure is coming up along all lines.

Texas, with a Sabbath school membership of 3,097 at the beginning of the period, closed with 3,267—a nice gain. But according to their records, 426 of their church members were out of Sabbath school the first year, and this past year we find 1,472 church members missing in Sabbath school. They have more members missing than Texico has members hitting. Texas had \$3,991 the last quarter of the first year, and \$4,097 the last quarter of the last year. Like Oklahoma, they closed the period with thirty-nine schools taking the *Sabbath School Worker*. They opened the period with eighty-three in the Training Course, and finished with thirty. Another case of low blood pressure.

Texico had 931 Sabbath school members to begin the period, and 1,396 to close; 97 church members out of Sabbath school to begin, and 117 out of Sabbath school to close. Their offerings were \$1,068 the last quarter of the first year and \$1,210 the last quarter of the last year. They had thirteen schools taking the *Worker* to begin the period, and closed with twelve. Ten members were taking the Training Course at the opening of the period, and nineteen at the close. Texico, your blood pressure is not too high.

I believe there should be in every conference a definite campaign to make our Sabbath schools more interesting, to train more and better teachers, to increase the enthusiasm in Sabbath school giving, as means of getting those hundreds of church members into the Sabbath school who are now elsewhere. I would suggest that in every Sabbath school, classes be made up from the church clerk's records, and that these missing members be about evenly divided and added to each class, thus making it

the business of that class to use their united efforts to get that one or more missing members attending. This in turn will increase the offerings and the interest, and perhaps some of these who are now missing will develop into excellent teachers and liberal givers and general boosters of the Sabbath school.

At the recent Fall Council, some study was given to the advisability of having union conference Sabbath school secretaries. Some of the brethren did not feel that it was time to make such a recommendation as a General Conference committee. Therefore, the matter was not voted. I think, however, the way is open if the union desires to appoint someone to coordinate the efforts of the Sabbath schools of the conferences within the union. Union leadership in the other departments seems to be necessary and successful. I know of no reason why it would not be successful in the Sabbath school.

Shall we not set as our objective for the next quadrennium, getting all our church members in our Sabbath schools, having all our teachers trained to teach, and leading all our members into the habit of more liberal giving, and placing proper emphasis on the investment plan as a means of increasing the Sabbath school offering?

R. L. BENTON.

Elder J. C. Thompson spoke to the report, calling attention to the Sabbath school membership, which was greater than the church membership until about 1931, when the lines crossed on the graph displayed, and the church membership line rose above that of the Sabbath school. The 3,701 missing members in the Union were attributed as a large factor in this situation. Since the Sabbath school has been asked to raise five-eighths of our mission funds, full support and cooperation are necessary in its promotion.

Elder Benton urged that the Sabbath school and other regular branches of our work not be neglected when special calls and emphasis are placed on other things.

The report from the Plans committee was resumed, and sections 16 to 20 were adopted by vote as follows;

From the Plans Committee—16

#### SABBATH SCHOOL

"WHEREAS, Recent careful estimates indicate the following number of church members are not members of the Sabbath schools in the four conferences of the Southwestern Union:

Ark.-La. -----	881 or 37.4 per cent
Oklahoma -----	971 or 31.1 per cent
Texas -----	1638 or 40.8 per cent
Texico -----	211 or 19.1 per cent

"And,

"WHEREAS, This alarming trend has

been on a steady increase during recent years, with its serious attendant spiritual loss to our people and financial loss to foreign missions, therefore,

"Resolved, That as workers in the conferences of this union, we dedicate ourselves anew to the ideals of the Sabbath school;

"That we urge all of our people to do likewise;

"And that we constantly endeavor to end the tendency of our people to be irregular and irresponsible in Sabbath school membership, attendance, daily study of God's Word, regular giving to missions, and soul-winning endeavor in and through the Sabbath school."

From the Plans Committee—17

#### Sabbath School Workers' Training Course

"WHEREAS, Our Sabbath School Workers' Training Course provides a splendid opportunity for the deepening of the knowledge and spirituality of our Sabbath school officers and teachers, as well as other workers, therefore

"Resolved, That we encourage the local Sabbath school leaders in this union to organize and conduct a Training Course class in every school. Where it is possible for the class regularly to meet together at some convenient hour each week, under the tutelage of a good leader, we suggest they do so; where this appears impossible, we suggest a leader be chosen in the Sabbath school to foster the private taking of the Training Course by all officers and teachers."

From the Plans Committee—18

#### Branch Sabbath Schools

"WHEREAS, The plan of establishing branch Sabbath schools has rapidly spread to the entire world field, and is proving a strong factor in carrying the truth to others, and in adding members to the Sabbath school; therefore,

"We recommend, That each Sabbath school in the Southwestern Union be encouraged to organize and conduct at least one new branch Sabbath school each year."

From the Plans Committee—19

#### New Crisis Series Book

"WHEREAS, The publishing of selections from GREAT CONTROVERSY under the title THE IMPENDING CONFLICT has proved a great blessing, by making available to thousands this precious instruction from the Spirit of prophecy, and

"WHEREAS, There is great need of simple, practical instruction concerning diet and health, and

"WHEREAS, We have been told that the book MINISTRY OF HEALING 'contains the wisdom of the great Physician;' therefore,

"Resolved, That we request the Southern Publishing Association to give consideration to getting out a Crisis Series book, containing the following chapters from MINISTRY OF HEALING: 'Our Example,' as an introduction, and the two sections entitled 'The Care of the Sick,' and 'Health Principles.'"

From the Plans Committee—20

#### Message Magazine

"WHEREAS, The Spirit of prophecy in TESTIMONIES, Vol. 8, p. 89, states that, 'We are fast approaching the end. The printing and circulation of the books and papers that contain the truth for this time are to be our work,' and,

"WHEREAS, The MESSAGE magazine is the only periodical containing the truth for this time, that is published primarily for the colored people of North America of which two and one-half million live in the Southwest; and,

"WHEREAS, The present circulation of the MESSAGE magazine in the union is only 5,102; therefore,

"We recommend, That our conference executives and our workers courageously push the circulation of the MESSAGE magazine by single-copy sales and by greatly increasing the yearly subscriptions in every colored church throughout the union."

The meeting adjourned until 2:15 P.M.

R. L. BENTON, *Chairman*,  
F. L. HARRISON, *Secretary*.

#### Eleventh Meeting

Held February 9, 1937, at 2:15 P. M.

The meeting was opened with a special song entitled "My Heavenly Father Watches Over Me," sung by Brother S. B. Huddleston.

Prayer was offered by Elder M. B. Butterfield.

It was voted, That a further report from the Plans committee be adopted after the consideration of each resolution.

The question was called on Section 21 regarding the Southwestern Junior College as follows:

"WHEREAS, The financial condition at the Southwestern Junior College demands definite action on the part of the constituency of the Southwestern Union, to help bring relief to the institution and build up a working capital, after it had been given careful study by the leaders of the field, it was felt that this should be brought to our people; therefore,

"We Recommend, That beginning with the year 1937 we ask each conference to raise an amount equal to \$1.00 per capita for the Southwestern Junior College based on the white membership (exclusive of Spanish) as of December 31, 1936; and that for 1938 the amount be \$1.50 per capita based on the membership as of December 31, 1937; 1939, \$2.00 per capita based on the membership as of December 31, 1938; and 1940, \$2.00 per capita based on the membership as of December 31, 1939.

"We recommend, That a goal of 300 students be set for the Southwestern Junior College for the year 1937-38, based on the average percentage of students from the various conferences covering the last five-year period."

At this point Elder M. E. Kern was given opportunity to explain the work of the Advanced Bible School. Its purpose, as he expressed it, is to equip an increasing number of our workers with advanced scholarship, combined with a deep spiritual experience and faith, sufficient to cope with present-day conditions, when every point of our doctrine is being tested. In this way they will not receive their mold from other sources, but will be guided by our most able men. It is God's purpose to lead His children progressively into a deeper knowledge of His word.

This school, which begins where our other colleges leave off, has been located at Washington, D. C., where there are unexcelled source materials.

The committee on Plans brought in a resolution in support of the Advanced Bible School, which was adopted as follows:

"Resolved, That we heartily approve of the action of the General Conference in the establishment of a graduate school, where our teachers, preachers, and other workers can obtain further training in Bible, religious history, homiletics and allied subjects.

"Resolved, That in harmony with the recommendation of the Autumn Council we approve of the institutions and conferences of the Southwestern Union making provision for certain workers to attend the S. D. A. Theological Seminary as can be arranged from time to time."

The meeting adjourned until 7:15 P. M. Elder Kern pronounced the benediction.

R. L. BENTON, *Chairman*,  
F. L. HARRISON, *Secretary*.

## Twelfth Meeting

Held February 9, 1937, at 7:15 P. M.

"There'll Be No Dark Valley" was the hymn used at the beginning of the last meeting of the session. Elder F. M. Robinson offered the prayer, asking that each might be kept true until Jesus comes.

The twenty-second to the twenty-seventh sections of the report from the committee on plans were adopted by vote as follows:

From the Plans Committee—22

### Spirit of Prophecy Books

"Inasmuch as the Fort Worth Autumn Council, encouraged by the officers of

the General Conference, adopted the following recommendations:

"WHEREAS, The recent General Conference session passed an action calling attention to the great importance of the study of the Spirit of prophecy on the part of all our people; and,

"WHEREAS, The Minority committee has laid definite plans for a special effort for a widespread circulation of the TESTIMONIES FOR THE CHURCH, the recently published SELECTIONS FROM THE TESTIMONIES, and other volumes from the pen of Mrs. E. G. White,

"We Recommend, 1. That in order to be able to make thorough preparation, the time for this special effort be the months of May, June, July, and August, of 1937.

"2. That the Minority committee of the General Conference, and also the various division committees, with the co-operation of the publishing houses, lay definite plans for a comprehensive and concerted effort to make the writings of the Spirit of prophecy better known to the many thousands of new believers, and to all our people throughout the world, and to greatly increase the circulation of the Spirit of prophecy books, be it

"Resolved, That the Southwestern Union Conference assembled endorse this recommendation and the time designated be employed by each local conference in placing this matter before all their churches with a view to seeing that every Seventh-day Adventist member has access to the volumes of the TESTIMONIES FOR THE CHURCH or SELECTIONS FROM THE TESTIMONIES. And,

"WHEREAS, It is necessary in certain territories for the colporteur to make a long time delivery, it be permissible for the publishing committee to advance at least 50 per cent of the merit award on the basis of an anticipated 50 per cent delivery.

"This recommendation shall apply immediately to regular colporteur evangelists. All recruits shall serve an internship of six months. If at the end of this period it be determined that he has done acceptable work, he shall qualify as a regular colporteur evangelist and be placed on the colporteur merit award basis, by vote of the conference committee.

"This policy is not to supercede the colporteur emergency relief fund.

"We Recommend to our local conference committees that this plan be put in operation at the earliest possible date."

From the Plans Committee—23

### Course in Salesmanship

"WHEREAS, The Home Study Institute is offering its revised and improved course in Salesmanship at about half the former cost; namely, \$6 for the complete course, including textbooks; and,

"WHEREAS, Colporteurs who are taking this course are becoming able to place more books in the homes of the

people and do stronger work in representing the truth; therefore,

"Resolved, That we put forth our best efforts to see that every colporteur in this union is provided with this means of developing his talents as a gospel salesman."

From the Plans Committee—24

### The Colporteur Merit Award Plan

WHEREAS, The Spirit of prophecy declares that 'The intelligent, God-fearing, truth-loving canvasser should be respected; for he occupies a position equal to that of the gospel minister.' (Testimonies—Vol. 6, p. 321), and that the efficient colporteur as well as the minister should have a sufficient remuneration for his services if his work is faithfully done." and (Testimonies, Vol. 4, p. 490),

"WHEREAS, This instruction places the 'efficient colporteur' on an equality with the minister in soul-winning work, and at the same time involves the responsibility of so arranging matters 'that canvassers shall have enough to live on without overdrawing.' (Testimonies, Vol. 6, p. 337),

"Be it therefore resolved, That such 'efficient colporteurs' in the Southwestern Union Conference be remunerated on the following basis:

Explanation of the requirements to qualify for the colporteur award plan—

	Minimum Hrs. Per Week	Retail Del. 4 Week period	Merit Per 4 Week period
Men	35	\$50.00	\$5.00
Women	30	35.00	3.50

"\$2.50 for each additional \$25 delivered during current month.

"And, further, the colporteur evangelist shall be required to—

1. Report promptly each week.
2. Be faithful in all denominational endeavors.
3. Settle Book and Bible House account satisfactorily.
4. Be faithful in attending institutes and rallies, as arranged."

From the Plans Committee—25

### College Press

"WHEREAS, Our college industries have been definitely established to provide practical vocational training and furnish regular employment to our students, thus enabling many to earn their way through school, and

"WHEREAS, The earnings of the College Press, of the Southwestern Junior College, consistently contribute to the general financial operation of this institution, and

"WHEREAS, The College Press is thoroughly organized and completely equipped to take care of all types of job and publication printing on an efficient service basis, and at most reasonable prices, therefore

"We Recommend, That all conferences, ministers, and workers of the Southwestern Union encourage this most worthy project by placing their orders, whenever possible, for printing with the College Press, at Keene, Texas."

From the Plans Committee--26

### The Home Study Institute

"WHEREAS, Many of our promising young people are unable for various reasons to attend one of our colleges or academies, and are thus denied the skilled guidance that makes for harmonious, intellectual, and spiritual growth; and

"WHEREAS, Experience has shown that a knowledge of the Bible, history, languages, and other subjects can be successfully imparted by the home-study method, and our colleges are giving full credit for such work; therefore,

"Resolved, 1. That we encourage our Missionary Volunteer and Educational secretaries, and other conference workers, as they labor among the churches, to seek out persons of some talent, and lay before them in a personal way the desirability of taking one or more courses given by the Home Study Institute.

"2. That we invite the attention of conference workers to the opportunity offered them through the institute, of pursuing in their spare moments, under the guidance of highly-qualified instructors, various lines of advanced study in Bible, history, and ancient languages.

"3. That we approve the plan of organizing and conducting in our churches, classes for the systematic study of the standard course in Lay Evangelism offered by the institute; and that we encourage our Home Missionary secretaries to give increasing attention, in their promotion work, to this means of achieving a greater degree of uniformity and efficiency in the training of our lay members for service."

From the Plans Committee--27

### Vote of Appreciation

"WHEREAS, The members of the Keene church and the Southwestern Junior College have so graciously provided a meeting place and rooms for the entertainment of practically all the delegates to the Southwestern Union Conference; and

"WHEREAS, The college has readjusted the schedule of its cafeteria so as to provide meals for all attending the union session; therefore

"Resolved, That we hereby express our deep appreciation to the management of Southwestern Junior College and to the residents of Keene for the hospitality they have so cheerfully extended."

Preceding the reading of the last recommendation, the secretary spoke briefly of the plans to be carried out in the RECORD during the coming year.

Upon the completion of their work, the delegates, and visitors, were favored with a musical number, "Pause at His Feet for a Moment of Prayer," sung by Elder J. L. Neil and Professor C. W. Dortch.

The minutes of the entire session were approved in full. Then Elder Benton made his closing remarks to the session. (This will appear in a later issue of the RECORD.)

As a special request number, the Negro brethren sang once more, "When the Plagues Begin to Fall."

Before parting, the delegates and teachers expressed their appreciation for the General Conference and other help, and the arrangements and other accommodations. Elder I. C. Pound spoke for the delegates, and Sister A. K. Watkins and Sister W. T. Jones for the teachers. The remarks were made into a motion, and unanimously approved by a standing vote.

Elder C. V. Anderson offered the closing prayer for the session, declared by many to be the best meeting ever attended.

It was moved by Elder Reiswig, seconded, and voted to adjourn the meeting sine die.

R. L. BENTON, *Chairman*,

F. L. HARRISON, *Secretary*.

## ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements and business notices are not solicited and are published only as an accommodation.

Advertising rate are: Two cents per word up to 40 words, with a minimum charge of 50 cents; 40 to 50 words 80 cents, and one cent for each additional word above 50. Each additional insertion, if run consecutively, will be at the rate of one cent per word. Payment must accompany ad. Stamps received.

BABY CHICKS at most reasonable prices from Standard AA assorted, \$5.20 per hundred, up to 342 egg R. O. P. sired stock. Guaranteed. Prepaid. Ortnor Poultry Farm, Clinton, Missouri.

WANTED: By widow, position in home with Sabbath and church privileges, where there is Seventh-day Adventist church in neighborhood. Can furnish references. Mrs. Annie Maudlin, 1013 Maple Avenue, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

WHEAT, CORN, AND RICE PUFFING MACHINE, all equipment for business to net 300 per cent profit. Many valuable recipes for confections included. W. L. Carter, 105 S. Lea, Roswell, New Mexico.

### SUMMER SCHOOL FOR GRADUATE NURSES JUNE 2 TO JULY 14

THE Medical department of the General Conference, in cooperation with Washington Missionary College and the Washington Sanitarium, will sponsor a summer school for graduate nurses in connection with the first six weeks of the regular college summer session beginning June 2.

Courses in administration and supervision, and teaching methods in nursing and health education will be offered by qualified instructors in each field. This program of instruction will include courses of special value to private duty

nurses, school nurses, and nurses engaged in field health work. Other courses will be provided of special value and interest to teachers and supervisors in institutions conducting schools of nursing.

Any courses in the regular Washington Missionary College summer session or in the Theological Seminary (Advanced Bible School) will also be opened to nurses with the required prerequisites.

For detailed description of courses and costs write the Washington Missionary College, Department of Nursing Education, Takoma Park, D. C.

## OBITUARIES

BALLARD—John Leslie Ballard was born Jan. 21, 1907, and died Jan. 24, 1937.

He and his brother Dudley were baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist church by Elder M. L. Wilson about 1932.

He is survived by his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Ballard of Marthaville, La., two brothers, Dudley of Glenwood, Ark., and Joseph Carson of Marthaville.

Funeral services were held at the Beulah Methodist church, Louisiana.

H. P. WALDO.

RAUH—Eva Rauh was born in Saratoff, Russia, on Dec. 4, 1858, and died in her home in Hitchcock, Okla., on Jan. 11, 1937, at the age of 78 years. Sister Rauh came to America in her youth and was married to Christ Rauh in 1875. She became a member of the Seventh-day Adventist church about 50 years ago, and was a faithful witness for Jesus through all these years. She fell asleep in Jesus with a firm hope of having part in the first resurrection.

Three daughters, three sons, thirty-seven grand children, and twelve great grandchildren are left.

Funeral services were conducted in the S. D. A. church of Hitchcock, Okla. The writer officiated.

BERNARD VOTH

## The Record

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### SOUTHWESTERN UNION CONFERENCE DIRECTORY Keene, Texas

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## College News Notes

Several of the colored delegates sang at chapel on Monday. Elder F. L. Peterson, Secretary of the Negro department, read three selections. "When Melinda Sings" was one, and another told of what happened to the small boy who stole the green watermelon.

Elder L. H. Christian told of a few of the severe persecutions of our people in countries in Europe. Surely it is hard to realize what it means to be deprived of our liberties. He has recently returned from a trip in the South American Division.

Dr. M. E. Olsen, president of the Home Study Institute, spoke on Wednesday. Several of the present enrollment at the College have taken work in this school, and many asked for a copy of the catalog. Dr. Olsen emphasized the value of even parts of minutes.

President M. E. Kern, of the Advanced Bible School, spent a few days with the students. He visited the Bible and History classes and spoke during the chapel hour on Thursday.

Elder J. G. White held meetings in the church on Thursday and Friday evenings. The students attended Friday evening. The subject was "Food Values." His last lecture, which was given Saturday evening, was on the question of "Meat Eating."

Dr. J. Jacques was a surprise visitor Sabbath. He spoke in the afternoon in the church at the M. V. hour. He wrote the book, *Escape From Siberian Exile*, and also did much of the work on the *Index* to Mrs. White's writings. He is now on his way home to California, having been with the Mayo Brothers for a time.

The college and the community have enjoyed a real treat during the Union Conference session. It is hoped that this session will bring great impetus to all branches of the work in the Southwest.

On Saturday evening, some of the students enjoyed a play hour on the campus; others attended parties in groups.

Professor H. A. Morrison of the Educational Department of the General Conference is visiting at the College this week.

## Ten Reasons Why Every Church Should Have a Club of the "Signs" Weekly

1. Because the *Signs* weekly is a soul-winner. It has brought more people into the truth than any other publication. Our leading brethren urge that every member of the church engage in its circulation.

2. Because it gives the third angel's message—the life-giving message—a clear, definite ring. One of our general men says of it: "The *Signs* is a mighty preacher. It stands for the faith once delivered to the saints, and fearlessly and without apology gives a certain tone to the message of truth for this time."

3. Because its stirring prophetic studies, its strong doctrinal articles, its striking comments on current world events in the light of Scripture, and its other helpful and timely features, qualify it to enter any home as a representative of Seventh-day Adventists.

4. Because our ministers and writers are giving of their best through the columns of the *Signs*, and we should cooperate with them by passing on their messages to the people. You would be delighted if these men could talk personally with your friends and neighbors. They want to do the next best thing—talk to them through the *Signs*. Let us bring them and our friends together.

5. Because it is a weekly paper. The frequency of its visits is an advantage. It slips into the mail boxes of many thousands of "outside" homes regularly every week, giving its messages in a quiet yet persistent manner.

6. Because the contents of the paper are varied. One member of a home is interested in a certain article, and another member is attracted by something else. Its scope is wide, and one issue contains material for a variety of minds.

7. Because the very life of the church is dependent on the work it does for others. The *Signs* is one of the greatest aids in the work of witnessing among friends and neighbors. It is the church's evangelist where there is no other, and a mighty helper where there is one.

8. Because of what the *Signs* will contain in the future. Our writers will make the paper vibrant with matter that will focus Bible interpretation

upon world events and the tremendous issues before us. The spiritual delusions of the day will be treated by the positive counteracting Bible truth. Strong articles will deal with the fundamentals of religion, the great doctrines of the Book, Christ the Saviour of men, and His coming as the solution of all earth's problems.

9. Because people, including our relatives, will read the *Signs* when they cannot be reached in any other way. The *Signs* furnishes an opportunity for individual work, even though home duties prevent, to a great extent, the personal touch.

10. Because of its very low price, every member can afford to pay for one to five or more copies. And because more *Signs* simply means more souls.

S. T. SHADEL,

*From Lake Union Herald.*

## Colporteur Institutes

Texas, Houston, February 25 to March 6.

Texico, Clovis, March 4 to 13.

TRI-STATE INSTITUTE

Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana, Fort Smith, Arkansas, March 17 to 27.

## Special Offering for Flood Relief

SABBATH, February 20, has been set aside by the General Conference for a special collection for our brethren and sisters in the flood area. It has been reported that hundreds of our brethren and sisters have been left homeless and destitute in the wake of this terrible disaster.

It is hoped that every church member will come to the rescue with a liberal offering. We trust our church leaders will not fail to take this special offering.

J. D. SMITH.

## Sunset Calendar

For Friday, February 19, 1937

New Orleans, Louisiana	5:52
Little Rock, Arkansas	5:55
Shreveport, Louisiana	6:03
Muskogee, Oklahoma	6:05
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	6:14
Galveston, Texas	6:11
Dallas, Texas	6:15
San Antonio, Texas	6:26
El Paso, Texas	5:54
Santa Fe, New Mexico	5:48