



Union Session Reports

President's Address

BELIEVING the 101 delegates from the four conferences in the five states where thirteen and one-half million people keep watch over five hundred fifty-two thousand two hundred forty square miles of the nation's sunshine belt known more generally as the great Southwest, would be interested in the progressive development of the Southwestern Union Conference now meeting in quinquennial session, from its beginnings more than three score years ago until now, I draw your attention first to Texas—the only state to serve under six flags. The Texas Conference was organized in November, 1878. The first record of church members is in 1882. There were 12 recorded churches in 1887.

In 1888 the Arkansas Conference was organized, and with Texas constituted the organized work in the Southwest.

District No. 5 was formed in 1891, comprising Texas, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Colorado, with 124 churches and 3803 members. Oklahoma was added in 1893, and in 1895 New Mexico and Wyoming were added. I asked Brother Roger Altman to secure this information from the archives in Washington, and at this point he said, "What a Union!"

With 188 churches and over six thousand members, District five next suffered a set-back in 1897 by the removal of Wyoming, but the spirit of growth had taken root and 246

churches dotted the district with more than eight thousand members.

It was in 1901 that the brethren began to study forming a Southwest Union Conference, and in 1902 such an organization was completed, having for its nucleus Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. Thus our churches were reduced to 87 and membership to 2,896.

The Colorado Conference, feeling it was too large with the states of Colorado and New Mexico, released New Mexico as a mission field to the Southwest in 1907, which, by the way, is the year I began my ministry, and it was in New Mexico that I began.

Texas, with its 254 counties fell under the carving knife in 1908 when the West Texas Mission was organized and became a conference the following year.

The New Mexico Mission also became a conference at the same time.

In 1909 the South Texas Mission was carved out of the remainder of Texas and was soon thereafter organized into a conference. For the next seven years many sections suffered drouths and members moved in large numbers, in some instances almost whole churches left. This left our membership smaller than at the beginning of the seven lean years.

Coming now to 1916 we see the West Texas and New Mexico conferences consolidated. This provided interesting and amusing work for the nominating committee for some years to come—to see that the same num-

ber of persons from each state were elected to membership on the conference committee. When I came there as president in 1923 I found only one personal objection to the consolidated conference, in the way of a slight inconvenience in that meal time and bed time were one hour apart within the same conference.

It was in the same year of this consolidation that the union conference office was moved from Keene to Oklahoma City.

Ten years ago this month we met in union conference session in Oklahoma City. In the readjustment of the Southern and Southeastern Unions, Louisiana was recommended to the Southwest, and received with open arms. Arkansas, always first in many things, requested Louisiana's company, and soon they were duly united—we hope and believe, to live happily ever afterward.

Other bells were soon to be ringing, for South Texas, viewing the stately North Texas so near, said "Why not?" and in the presence of notable witnesses were declared one in the springtime of 1932. Thus we have four strong growing conferences in the Southwest—and watch us grow! Good gains in membership, tithe, and debt paying, were made during the five-year term that followed.

I come now to the present quinquennium. A definite program of church building, school building, and church and school repair, has

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Southwestern Union Conference Directory

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 Home Miss. Secretary - - E. A. Manry
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been in motion. Two of the large churches built during this term are New Orleans and Shattuck, Oklahoma. One of Texico's new buildings is at Midland, Texas.

I have found it interesting to compare the ingathering results for the two five-year terms. An increase of 59 per cent for the closing quinquennium over the like previous period, means that more members have worked, and we have contacted more people.

Texico can be counted on for the largest per capita. She has not failed thus far.

These added contacts mean more people learning of our work—more funds with which to do our worldwide work, and finally it means more baptisms. It is through more baptisms that we have more members, and a continuously enlarging work. Credit is due our ministers, departments, lay workers, and church school teachers, plus the influence of all our members, for the fine increase in souls gathered in.

While the treasurer will show in detail the progress made in debt reduction, I felt it proper to mention it in this report, for this union has been fighting a desperate case of lep-

rosy (debt) during these ten years. It sometimes seems that the principal thing we have had to do during this decennium was to pay debts. We possess much that we do not own throughout the union, but I am happy to say that at the rate we are liquidating our indebtedness, it will soon be over. Then we can use all our resources for soul winning. This we have not been permitted to do heretofore.

To the tithe-paying Seventh-day Adventists of the Southwest is due a real measure of commendation for their faithfulness which has brought in a constantly enlarging stream of tithe. I note that in a recent quarter our tithe was double what it was for the same quarter of the first year of my administration.

Many changes in the working force of the union have taken place since we met here five years ago. In mentioning these I must first call attention to the loss by death of some of our faithful fellow workers. Elder C. D. Hein, of Oklahoma, and Elder F. M. Robinson, former director of the Indian Mission, have fallen asleep, as have also three of our sustentation workers, Elder U. B. Dake, and Elder H. B. French of Keene, and Elder E. B. Hopkins of Jefferson. We sorrow over the passing of these faithful leaders, but not as others who have no hope. Ours is the Blessed Hope of the glorious appearing of our Lord to raise His sleeping saints and take them together with the translated ones to that home where changes never come.

The treasurer, and every departmental secretary of the union except the secretary of the Negro Department have been changed; as has likewise the stenographic staff aside from Miss Harrison. Like the servant of Job in times gone by, she and I only have escaped alone to tell thee—and my escape is not for long.

At least eight workers of the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference who attended the last session are no longer in that field. Twelve delegate workers from Oklahoma are there no more. Seventeen workers in Texas have been replaced; and seven are missing from Texico.

In our section the advent movement really moves. During this quinquennium, the president of the Oklahoma Conference, Elder J. J. Reiswig, was called to Montana; and

Elder J. L. McConaughy was called to the presidency. Elder J. D. Smith accepted a call to Southern New England, and Texas called Elder F. D. Wells in his stead. Upon the retirement of Elder H. C. Hartwell from administrative service, Elder I. C. Pound was elected president of the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference.

When the Texas conference called Elder R. P. Montgomery as pastor of the Dallas District, Texico placed a call for Elder Wesley Amundsen to serve as president, and later when Elder Amundsen was chosen as Home Missionary and Sabbath School secretary for the Inter-American Division, Elder V. A. LaGrone was selected to carry on.

All local conference treasurers have been changed or exchanged.

The Southwest Indian Mission has been dissolved and the Indian work largely is under the supervision of the Oklahoma Conference. Texico hopes in the near future to do some work among the Navajos.

In medical missionary lines we have done but little. There is a great need for larger things in this direction. It has been our hope to have a full-time medical missionary nurse that could foster this work in every section of the field. It is to be hoped the future may see this hope realized.

In each conference some beginnings have been made in radio work as our presidents will probably report. In addition to this the nationwide radio program under the direction of the General Conference is being heard over eight regular stations, and several other stations have been and are being added. We hope this will continue to enlarge until every section of the Southwest is reached.

A report on the state of the union would be incomplete without mention being made of Southwestern Junior College, and the part it takes in training and saving our youth. We are pleased with the ever enlarging group of preachers, teachers, secretaries and other workers developed by this institution. President Hamilton and his faculty, in the face of multiplying problems, continue to hold the high standards of the pioneers and keep every department running smoothly. Not a few perplexities come to the management and the board because of our industrial program. It will be most helpful if

every delegate and visitor at this session will acquaint himself with these problems and lend a hand in their respective fields in co-operative solution.

Twenty-three years ago in a union conference session held in Keene, the following action was taken, "Resolved that we look with favor upon, and plan to unite with the Pacific Union and General Conferences in establishing a Spanish school centrally located in the Southwest." After these many years, I am happy to tell you that land has now been purchased, a principal elected, and soon, very soon, work will begin on the Semenarrio Adventista about thirteen miles from the beautiful city of Albuquerque, New Mexico. We sincerely hope for great things from this latest child of the Southwest which is so rich with promise for Christian education and training for the Spanish-speaking youth.

The terms of the officers and departmental secretaries of this union are now ending. My ten-year (tenure) of office comes to a close. It has been a privilege to serve with my brethren these ten years. Any progress attained is due to the kindness of the Lord, the co-operation of conference officers, workers, and the most loyal of members in all parts of the union.

As I turn over the responsibility of office to the delegates, I do it with a feeling of surety that the Lord will bless you in the selection of those who will lead in the days to come.

While in the future our duties may lead us in divergent paths, in only a little while, if faithful, our ways will again converge as we take our places with those who shall go marching in through the gates to the city of God.

R. L. BENTON.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

AS WE study the records covering the period of five years since the last session, we find many encouraging features. Perhaps as a starting point, it will be well to recall a statement by your previous treasurer in regard to the standing of all organizations in the union as a whole. "It would require \$87,000 to clear off the working deficit." In other words, the deficit would have to be cleared before there was *one dollar* of actual working surplus. At the close of 1940, which is the last completed, published report, this deficit had been

INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT

Condensed from Audited Reports
Years Ending December 31, 1937 to 1941

WHITE DEPARTMENT					
Income	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941
Appropriations from Gen. Conf.	7600.00	5600.00	5600.00		
Tithe	18928.04	18684.96	20529.38	22003.70	27853.95
Miscellaneous	471.49	568.03	626.89	5600.00	5600.00
Subsidies, S. P. A.	1084.22	1274.13	1212.48	1043.67	790.84
Total Income	28083.75	26127.12	27968.75	29952.23	35644.71
Expenses					
Admin. Salary and Expense	6304.01	6228.77	6512.78	6362.90	7016.21
Dept. Salary and Expense	8642.87	8858.79	9159.11	9260.93	10115.88
Office—Sup., Dep'n., Tel., etc.	1213.41	1327.06	1638.77	1714.53	2059.89
General Expense	894.72	1073.29	641.88	1173.58	432.50
Appro. Within Union	2602.81	4137.64	4539.53	4505.88	6268.32
Appro. to Gen. Conf.	3639.19	3550.15	3900.58	4268.75	7125.85
Total Expenses	23297.01	25175.70	26392.65	27286.57	33008.65
Net Gain, White	4786.74	951.42	1576.10	2665.66	2636.06

NEGRO DEPARTMENT					
Income	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941
Appro. from Gen. Conf.	1841.70	2091.70	2293.40	2293.40	2543.40
Tithe	1422.47	1531.28	1527.84	1626.00	2007.22
Miscellaneous	24.94			30.00	
Total Income	3289.11	3622.98	3821.24	3949.40	4550.62
Expenses					
Admin. Salary and Expense	2324.27	2750.84	2832.06	2963.58	3183.82
Office, Dep'n., and General	332.78	247.12	219.61	197.57	178.28
Appro. Within Union	383.30	402.41	354.89	316.03	124.61
Appro. to Gen. Conf.	273.38	290.95	290.28	315.45	387.39
Total Expenses	3313.73	3691.32	3696.34	3792.63	3874.10
Net Gain, Negro	24.62	68.34	124.90	156.77	676.52

SOUTHWESTERN UNION CONFERENCE

Condensed Balance Sheet from Audited Reports
Five Years Ending December 31, 1937 to 1941

Assets	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941
Current					
Cash and Bank	3786.58	5184.41	9727.91	14329.52	16657.57
Accounts Receivable	1082.73	1140.85	1.25	1010.00	3449.59
Supply Inventories	415.42	353.85	157.97	146.37	145.33
Prepaid Expenses	57.93	232.86	198.41	117.97	26.49
Fixed					
Furn. and Equip. (net)	2647.84	2324.74	2430.29	1789.35	1922.23
Total Assets	7990.50	9236.71	12515.83	17393.21	22201.21
Liabilities					
Accounts Payable	91.37		316.79	1307.29	2833.65
Trust Funds	1343.16	756.16	651.06	545.51	671.56
Total Liabilities	1434.53	756.16	967.85	1852.80	3505.21
Regular Net Worth	2980.48	3863.56	5564.56	8386.99	11699.57
Surplus Reserves	3575.49	4616.99	5983.42	7153.42	6996.43
Total Liab., Worth, & Reserves	7990.50	9236.71	12515.83	17393.21	22201.21
ANALYSIS OF WORKING CAPITAL					
Current Assets	5342.66	6911.97	10085.54	15603.86	20278.98
Less Current Liabilities	1434.53	756.16	967.85	1852.80	3505.21
Gross Working Capital	3908.13	6155.81	9117.69	13751.06	16773.77
Less Surplus Reserves	3575.49	4616.82	5983.42	7143.42	6996.43
Net Working Capital	332.64	1538.82	3134.27	6597.64	9777.34
Made up as follows:					
Cash for Equip. Replacement			460.00	964.00	2481.00
Cash for Operating			2316.64	4359.30	3674.93
Supplies, Accts. Rec., etc.	332.64	1538.82	357.63	1274.34	3621.41
Total	332.64	1538.82	3134.27	6597.64	9777.34

completely overcome and a Net Working Surplus of \$8579.58 was in hand.

While this is an excellent showing, there is still much to be done to bring every organization to the point of having a working surplus. Three

conference associations are still heavily involved, but they are working steadily toward eliminating their deficits.

In bringing to you the financial standing of the union itself, it is offered in a condensed form, and taken

from the audited reports. Inasmuch as the report will be printed in the RECORD, and you have the figures in your hands, I will not take the time to call each item. We will reverse the general order and observe the Income and Expense statement first.

The total Income for the White Department in 1937 was \$28,083.75, which was increased to \$35,644.71 in 1941; while the total Expense in 1937 was \$23,297.01, which increased to \$33,008.65 in 1941. Every year covered by this period shows an operating gain, the results of which will be more clearly shown in a later study of the Financial Statement. The increased income is largely due to the increased tithe.

The Operating Statement of the Negro Department is shown on the same page, and from this you will note that the total income in 1937 for this department was \$3289.11, which increased to \$4550.22 in 1941; about 41 per cent of this increase was due to increased tithe and 59 per cent to increased appropriations. The expenses for 1937 amounted to \$3313.73 and in 1941 these had increased to \$3874.10. The first two years of this quinquennium shows an operating loss, but we are glad for the gains that have been made the past three years. We are glad also that during this period the Negro Department has been able to set aside almost its complete Working Capital in cash, as required by the General Conference working policy.

The condensed Financial Statement which accompanies this report, shows a clearer picture of what has been accomplished; especially the section which analyzes the Working Capital.

In 1937 the Cash amounted to \$3786.58 and in 1941 the amount on hand was \$16,657.57. The Working Capital, however, in 1937 was only \$332.64, none of which was cash, and again in 1938 we find a Working Capital of \$1538.82 and none of this was in cash. This of course reveals that in these two years—as well as years previous—the union has had to work with nothing to spare. The corner has been turned, and at the close of 1941 we find a Working Capital of \$9777.34, with operating cash amounting to \$3,674.93 after all liabilities and reserves are cared for. This has not been done at the expense of the local fields; for the union has

been free to share its funds with other organizations to a reasonable degree, as more than \$22,000 has been passed on to other organizations; aside from the amounts of tithe that regularly go to the General Conference.

The total Assets have risen from \$79990.50 in 1937 to \$22,201.21 in 1941. The total Liabilities were \$1434.53 in 1937 and \$3505.21 in 1941. The Liabilities consist of Trust Funds largely, except in 1941 in which there is included \$1750 for the National Radio Hookup, and this already has been passed on to the General Conference since the close of the year.

The union has its entire Working Surplus, as recommended by the General Conference, set up in cash, and with this Reserve on hand to meet an emergency in event of shortage of Income, it is freer to enter into a wider program of helpfulness.

At our last session, attention was called to the heavy debts that were involving the organizations in this union. Elder Nelson, our General Conference treasurer, remarked that this was the discouraging part of our report, but added that he believed we would see great improvement in this respect within the next four years. I am sure that if he were present at this time he would be glad to see the "improvement." In 1931 the *note* indebtedness of all organizations in the union was \$214,983.63 and at the close of 1935 it was \$206,127.05. At the close of 1940 it stands at \$123,202.30. We are indeed thankful for this good reduction, and trust that every effort will be put forth to eliminate this plague spot.

Perhaps this is a good time to change from the Financial Statements and take a look into general items, not covered by the department reports.

We began this quinquennium with 10,628 members and at its close we had 11,852 members, or a net gain of 1224. Our 11,852 members in a population of 13,579,228 figures one Seventh-day Adventist to 1145 population. A mighty challenge to evangelism in all its forms! During this five-year period 4425 have been added to the church through baptism and profession of faith. We have lost to other unions during this same time a net of 398 members by transfer. We are sad to have to report that during

this same time 559 members have passed to their rest and now await the call of the Life-giver. And as we think of them we are reminded that "now is the day of salvation," the time "to make your calling and election sure."

But a greater sadness comes to our hearts when we note that during this period there have passed from the church 2247 members through apostasy or missing; 5.7 per cent of the total number received into the church. What must be the anguish of Him who is "not willing that any should perish." Somehow it seems to me that here lies a real cause for prayer and study. Oh, I pray that, with the greater evangelism program that is being promulgated, a deeper evangelism may also be realized; that we as leaders may have a deeper and more earnest connection with Him, through Whom every weakness may be overcome. "Show me Thy ways, O Lord: teach me Thy paths" should be our constant desire as we study to change this trend.

The first year of this quinquennium saw this field reach the \$200,000 tithe mark for the first time, and also \$100,000 for missions for the first time. The tithe during the period just closed increased 65.7 per cent and the offerings to missions increased 31.2 per cent. The per capita of tithe and mission offerings at the time of the last session was \$25.64 and at this time it is \$35.39.

Year	Tithe	Missions
1932	116,236.98	67,059.60
1933	116,085.75	69,393.29
1934	151,265.27	79,298.04
1935	164,056.08	87,056.73
1936	180,339.86	92,170.60
1937	203,504.11	100,520.40
1938	202,162.53	100,761.65
1939	220,572.19	100,770.50
1940	236,292.52	106,841.71
1941	298,611.73	120,877.23

Regular Appropriations Vs. Returns To General Conference

In closing, it is only fair that a word of appreciation be said for the appropriations which the General Conference has been good enough to send us. It has proved a good investment for the General Conference, as well as a help in time of need for us. We are glad that the investment has not been in vain. For each dollar invested in 1931, there was re-

turned to the General Conference \$3.50 in that year. In 1936 this had risen to \$6.03 and in 1941 to \$8.50. If it were proper to make comparisons with other fields, it might prove interesting. Suffice it to say that when based on the number of workers per field, we are not at the bottom of the list. We are of good courage and believe that the time will come when we can be self-supporting.

"Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit; saith the Lord of hosts." Let us go forth, pressing the battle to the gates of the enemy, doing a valiant work for our Lord and Saviour.

W. E. ABERNATHY.

Home Missionary Report

IN THIS land of sunshine and magnificent distances there reside 13,596,743 souls for whom the Son of God gave His life. These individuals are living within the borders of five states with a combined area of 560,428 square miles which make up the Southwestern Union. In the providence of God there are 11,852 Seventh-day Adventists, or one commandment keeper to each 1145 of the population. Were the population distributed evenly then each group of 1145 individuals would occupy 48 square miles of space and there would be one keeping the commandments of God and having the faith of Jesus there to tell them of the soon-coming Saviour.

In the early days, Spanish explorers traversed much of our territory in quest of gold. They heard rumors that there were cities whose inhabitants possessed great quantities of gold. Costly expeditions penetrated into the country in search of this precious metal. After innumerable hardships, cities and villages were found, but the gold was not there. These populous cities were filled with jewels overlooked by the invaders, yet Jesus the Son of God gave His blood to save them.

Today we have in this union large cities containing a marvelous people. In fact, all through this country there is a love for the Bible that is not so pronounced in other parts of North America. We are in the Bible belt of the United States. It is felt by many of our leading thinkers that the day is near when some of the

most successful soul-winning efforts will be held in our field. In this land where the Bible is revered it is not uncommon to find a businessman with his Bible on his office desk.

A few days ago it seemed providential that the train was two hours late. It gave time for a few calls. In a doctor's office there on the table lay a Bible. As I picked it up, the doctor remarked that it was his wife's Bible. It has been many a day since I have opened a Bible so marked as was this one: A few days later as the doctor's wife received one of our truth-filled books she explained that she had to read the Bible in order to keep up her Christian experience. While I was ingathering, a businessman produced his Bible and wanted to know the meaning of the words, "Seal up those things the seven thunders uttered and write them not." A lady in a business office said she had wanted to understand the Revelations since a child.

Speaking of the South, the servant of God states in Volume IX, pp. 100 and 101, "Let us do our part in warning these people who are ready to perish unwarned and unsaved. The Lord desires us to let our light so shine before men that His Holy Spirit can communicate the truth to the honest in heart who are seeking after Him.

As we do this work, we shall find that means will flow into our treasuries, and we shall have funds with which to carry on a still broader and more far-reaching work. Souls who have wealth will be brought into the truth, and will give of their means to advance the work of God . . . God has interested people there. Go to them; teach them as Christ taught; give them the truth. They will accept it."

It has been the studied goal of the Home Missionary Department to foster a program that will train every church member in our union to be a soul-winner. We have been told in Volume IX, p. 117, "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church-membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers." Our objective has not been reached but much progress has been made along this line. A little over three years ago, according to our Home Missionary report, less than

one-third of the members were doing any missionary work. At that time your union rested at the bottom of the list of unions in North America. The only way to get on top was to turn the report upside down. Conditions changed until your union was half way up the ladder in per cent of reporting members. Personally, we hope that the time will never come when your union will be at the bottom of the list again. One of our large conferences has had sixty per cent of its members doing missionary work.

Within the last union period there have been several changes in the personnel of our department. Elder Benton was both president and Home Missionary Secretary of the union and then he was succeeded by Elder Brown. Elder Brown accepted a call to unite with the Southern European Division, and was succeeded by Elder Anderson who scarcely had time to get acquainted with the field before he was called to be the president of Kentucky-Tennessee. Elder Amundsen followed Elder Anderson, but not so long as an invitation came to him to become the president of the Texico Conference. Since Elder Amundsen left the union, your servant has been making the rounds among the churches.

Calls to local conference Home Missionary secretaries have been so many and often that it has been difficult to keep up with them. Elder Pontynen of Texico took up work in Michigan. Elder Wittenberg of Oklahoma accepted an invitation to labor in California. Elder Storing of Texas was called to connect with the Jamaica Conference, and Elder Cash of Arkansas-Louisiana accepted a call to connect with the Caribbean Union. It is true that our field is a training center for many other fields, and about the only way we can hold our good men is not to speak very loudly about the good qualifications of our secretaries when away from home. However, if the capable men we have furnished from our department are fitting into God's great program in other regions, we are happy.

With all the changes, our work is advancing along every line of endeavor and as the figures are given you will note that our field is well manned, and the period covered in this report is the best by far in our

history.

INCREASE IN MISSIONARY WORK

"Our work has been marked out for us by our heavenly Father. We are to take our Bible and go forth to warn the world." In the first five years of the ten-year period, the lay members gave 185,769 Bible readings. The yearly average was 37,353. Each month 3,112 studies were given. This work of the laymen, under God, accomplished much good. The last five-year period studies amounted to 220,970. Each year there were 44,154 studies a month, or 6,801 above the monthly average for the first five years. This large increase over the first period surely shows a healthy growth. "Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power" is becoming more and more apparent. Had the conferences employed Bible workers to give these studies, the services of many workers would have been required.

Speaking of oppressive Sunday laws, the servant of God says, "Keep right on with your missionary work, with your Bible in your hands, and the enemy will see that he has worsted his own cause." *Vol. IX, p. 232.*

The number of missionary visits the first period was 373,430 and the last five years 504,577, or 231,147 increase. Surely it is pleasing to God to see His people finding their way into the homes of the people with the last message of mercy.

One of the phases of missionary endeavor is to invite others to our services. All through the years our people have been enthusiastic in this, yet the increase during the period just closed is 29,353 above the old record.

Reports show that 394,733 individuals were given needed help in the five years just closed, which is an increase above the former period.

Seventh-day Adventists are a warm-hearted people and it is a delight for them to help the needy. One hundred seven of our churches have Dorcas societies actively engaged in Christian help work. Speaking of the poor, Volume VI, p. 225, has this to say, "For these the Lord has a special care, and He calls upon His people to be His helping hand in relieving their wants." In giving help to others, the plan is to investigate each case so that the proper help may be given.

Recently one of our Dorcas leaders contacted a widow and her son. The furniture was above the average showing that the family had seen better days. The lady said that she desired work and not charity. As our sister gained the confidence of this widow, she, in a broken spirit, said, we are actually hungry. Of course help was given and since that time a change has come so that the family are taking care of themselves. A little help at the proper time did wonders. Our Dorcas sister was told, upon the occasion of her second visit, how this widow appreciates our people. Within the next year there should be an active Dorcas and Welfare work going on in every church.

One of the finest ways to reach the heart is by a good missionary letter. Thousands have taken a new lease on life as a result of such letters. Each year 14,000 of such epistles were written in the first period, while in the corresponding period just closed 22,000 a year were written, a record gain of 39,120 for the five-year period.

Less than one-third of our constituency used to take an active part in the missionary program. Now better than 45 per cent are active. If the rate of gain in the last year or two continues, it will not be long until every church member will be an active worker for God.

One of the best ways to keep the truth before the public and to win souls is by the circulation of the printed page. This phase has been stressed in every conference and this audience will be glad to know that in the last five years the gain over the former five years amounts to 2,036,406. This literature, carefully selected and given out to individuals, has meant much to our field and has been a material factor in helping us to make the marvelous gains in soul winning.

One of the major campaigns carried on each year in our union is the Harvest Ingathering. A little better than 50 per cent of our people engage in this enterprise. At one time in our history it took practically all the fall to finish this project. Year by year the time has been shortened until now we are raising more money, and doing it more cheerfully, in a comparatively short time. Instead of four months as formerly, we now reach our goals in from six to eight

weeks. In raising the \$45,277.90 in 1941, 144,883 Harvest Ingathering papers were used.

In comparing the two corresponding periods we find that in the first, 1,333 were won to this truth by the laymen. Could we have this company together it would make a fine conference of hand-picked members. Surely, God blessed the efforts of His laymen. During the last five years, much study has been given to the question of what the laymen can do. Institutes have been held, conventions arranged, and much personal instruction has been given. The result is apparent, for 1,941 souls embraced the truth. This is a gain over the former time of 608. We surely praise the Lord for this increase. Were we to count 45 to a church, it would take 29 churches to house the members won in the first five years, and it would take 43 such buildings to house these precious souls brought in during the period just closed.

These successful achievements would have been impossible had it not been for the cooperation of our presidents and their corps of laborers and the untiring energy of four super home missionary secretaries leading the lay forces on to victory.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Just how long a time will intervene between now and the close of probation no one can say. Evidence on every hand indicates the day is not far off when Jesus will close His work in the sanctuary and then the plagues will be poured out. This being true, then our missionary program must be changed so that every honest heart be invited to connect with God's commandment-keeping people.

"Intense earnestness should now take possession of us. Our slumbering energies should be aroused to untiring effort. Consecrated workers should go forth into the field clearing the King's highway, and gaining victories in new places. My brother, my sister, is it nothing to you to know that every day souls are going down into the grave unwarned and unsaved, ignorant of their needs of eternal life and the atonement made for them by the Saviour? Is it nothing to you that soon the world is to meet Jehovah over His broken law? Heavenly angels marvel that those who for so many years have

had the light, have not carried the torch of truth into the dark places of the earth." *Vol. IX, p. 44.*

The tempo of our missionary program must be stepped up to finish the work quickly. Much has been accomplished in the past, but the times demand a greater work. The 13,596,343 inhabitants of this union are to be warned while the hours of probationary time are fast slipping away. We have been told that "We are to carry the word of God to every man's door." *Christian Service, p. 144.* To fulfill this, Bible service classes should be organized in every church where this work has been neglected so that our members can qualify quickly to do this great work.

"Papers and books are the Lord's means of keeping the message for this time continually before the people." *Vol. VI, p. 315.* Literature should be scattered like the leaves of autumn. The Home Bible Study League method is a success and should be continually employed in all our churches in order to fulfill the will of God. Dorcas and welfare work must be greatly strengthened throughout our field. Much good has been accomplished, yet not every church has a Dorcas society.

We have gone a long way along the line of organization, yet there remains much to do. We have been told, "Time is short and our forces must be organized to do a larger work." *Christian Service, p. 72.*

No general in an army would ever think a battle could be won without organization. Soldiers are drilled day by day until every command can be executed perfectly. Just so in our work, God expects the leaders to train every member to be a success in winning souls. As soon as a person joins a church, that individual should be assigned his post of duty. The Negro boy who could knock a bee off a flower with his whip-lash, but refused to knock the hornet off its nest, gave as a reason, "They are organized."

In view of the conflict given in Volume VIII, p. 41, an angel is represented as flying in the midst of heaven saying to God's people, "Come into line. Let those who are loyal to the commandments of God and the testimony of Christ now take their position."

"The battle raged. . . . At last the

victory was gained. The army following the banner with the inscription, 'The commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus,' was gloriously triumphant." *Ibid.* Consecration and organization and action will bring about this great victory. Every member in the Southwestern Union should be seen in the picture given of God's victorious army.

"In visions of the night representations passed before me of a great reformatory movement among God's people. Many were praising God. The sick were healed, and other miracles were wrought. A spirit of intercession was seen, even as was manifested before the great day of Pentecost. Hundreds and thousands were seen visiting families, and opening before them the word of God. Hearts were convicted by the power of the Holy Spirit, and a spirit of genuine conversion was manifest. On every side doors were thrown open to the proclamation of the truth. The world seemed to be lightened with the heavenly influence. Great blessings were received by the true and humble people of God." *VOL IX, p. 126.*

E. A. MANRY.

Report of the Young People's Missionary Volunteer Department

EVER since I was a child, some of the most comforting verses in all the Bible to me have been the record of Jesus' experience blessing the children. We read it in Mark 10:13 to 16. "And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them."

Jesus was so busy. He was surrounded with many sick. The crowds pressed about Him. The disciples were busy too, preparing the way to set up God's kingdom. There were big things to do. Jesus was occupied in the most important task that any man ever undertook. He was

working out the final phases of the plan of salvation, and it was such a big task, that of saving souls, that it cost Him His life. Children were all right, but they had their place, and as Jesus' immediate helpers, the disciples could not bear to think of permitting them to come so unceremoniously into the presence of the coming King of Israel, the long-hoped-for Avenger of the Roman conquerors. Very properly, the disciples rebuked those who brought the children.

Pain and fear flashed across the faces of the innocent children as the words of the disciples cut through to their hearts. "But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased." I do not know all that He said, or how He showed his displeasure. But I do know that after correcting them, He took the children up in His arms, and blessed them. I have known of some people who would both look and feel strange if someone were to put some children in their arms.

But it was not so with Jesus. Again the children's faces lighted up with smiles and joy as Jesus reached out for them, and lifted them up on His knees to comfort and bless them. That is Jesus. He was not too busy winning souls. He was not too busy working things out to be the King of the Jews. He even went so far as to say that all feeling of importance had to be laid aside by anyone who ever expected to have a part in His kingdom, and that only those who were like little children, could ever expect to be there.

I love that record for the comfort it has always given me personally. I also love it for the great truth that it brings out, that in God's great plan of work, He expects us to devote time to young people, even children. Together with many other references in the Scriptures, it teaches us that God definitely expects His church to do something for the young people. That statement that "he was much displeased," is about as strong an expression of disapproval as there is about Jesus anywhere in the record. It all came because the disciples did not have much time for the young people's work. Is there not the same danger today?

In the very last recorded conversation of Jesus on this earth He specifically pointed out that we have a definite work for the children and

young people. Three times He asked Peter if he loved Him, and after Peter's answer, He gave Peter three clear instructions. The very first one was, "Feed my lambs." Then next He said, "Feed my sheep." The lambs, the children and young people, were the first ones who came to His mind.

In the prophecies, God has made it clear that the young people and children are to have an important part in God's work. The history of the church, even of the Adventist church, shows how true this is. Young people have done wonders, both in the homeland and in the foreign fields. In fact, we would hardly have a foreign mission program if it were not for the young people.

At this time, therefore, I want to express my deep gratitude to God for what the young people's work is doing in all the world, and for the privilege that has been mine of being connected with it. Besides knowing that it is divinely commissioned of God, approved through the word of the Spirit of prophecy, it is a source of genuine pleasure to me to help lead our boys and girls to their Saviour.

At this time, you expect a report of what has been done, and of what needs to be done.

First, we note the percentage of societies in which the society officers meet together with the elder or pastor of the church to plan their work. While we see progress, yet the figure is altogether too low. There is no reason why they should not all, 100 per cent, work and plan together and with their church leader. Too often the pastor or elder thinks that he has done his duty by the young people when he has elected officers for the society. And too often the society officers do not feel that they and their work are a part of the church program, that they have a task to accomplish. It would help a great deal if there were more cooperation in this matter. It ought to be 100 per cent, on the part of both.

Second, we notice that there is a gradual increase in growth of the church in the Southwestern Union Conference. It is encouraging to note the gradual growth through the years. The number of Missionary Volunteers should correspond to this, as far as the gradual incline indicating the growth is concerned. No

doubt the unevenness is caused by the failure of the reporting system, rather than by that much of a variation of the actual number of Missionary Volunteers. However, that is not the big point. It is rather the percentage of young people in the church, who are connected with the Missionary Volunteer society and therefore give prospects of becoming Christians.

Compared with the baptisms of the conferences, we see that more than half the baptisms are of young people. This shows the importance of working for young people.

Now we come to what we might call the constructive work of the department, Morning Watch, Bible Year, Reading Courses, Standard of Attainment, and Progressive Class work. They build character. They place in the lives of the young people the foundations and elements that will lead them to be not only Christians, but strong workers. I sometimes think of them also as "ounces of prevention." Those young people who keep the Morning Watch, read their Bibles and the Reading Course books, who study about our church and its doctrines, and keep up with the progressive class work, will have very little time for or interest in bad things. Every church ought to push these activities all the time. They will keep our boys and girls. The only wrong thing about them is that they will not run by themselves, and need someone to be constantly pushing them. Those workers who do that pushing will have a rich reward when the stars are allotted in God's kingdom.

There has been a decline for the last year. There are two reasons for that, which are more encouraging than it appears. First, the number of new Missionary Volunteers has increased over 200 in the last year. Being new members, the number of activities has not quite kept up with the increase in members. We must improve in this. The second feature to note, is that the report in these items was very largely influenced by the lack of a Missionary Volunteer secretary in the largest conference in our union. It was rather painful to see the report come in with only dashes where figures ought to be, in the last quarter's report. We are glad that plans have carried through, and that this need has been supplied.

Another observation ought to be made, and that is that the average for the North American Division shows a more decided drop than in our union, for the past year. Also, we are encouraged by the fact that we came to the close of this five-year period with a considerably better record than the average for the years past.

On the missionary work, we selected only three of the more important items, which were representative of the others. They show a steady growth over the years. Two of them are above the North American Division average. But why should we persistently remain below that average in the literature distributed? I hope we can put on a real literature campaign and let our young people work, for they are willing when they have an opportunity.

There is another very interesting little item on this report. It is indicated by only a little star on the items—Young people baptized per church members, Reading Course certificates, Invested, Bible Readings and Cottage meetings held, and Missionary Visits. This little star indicates that in the final summary of the work of the Missionary Volunteers in the North American Division, the Southwestern young people made the best of any of the unions of North America. That is something for which to praise God. We can be justly proud of our young people, of our young people's workers, and of every one of you, and of our good people who have so loyally worked with them. Can we not keep up the good record? We do not yet have the summaries for 1941 from the General Conference, so we do not know what it will be. But let us make 1942 a real record year. We can if we will.

Is it possible that our records are correct in showing that there are 2,597 boys and girls in the homes of Adventist fathers and mothers, who are slipping as these figures indicate? Well, I have come in contact with a few. They are just as bright, just as full of enthusiasm, just as gifted as the 2,134 who are members of our societies. Why are they out? What can we do for them?

The words of Jesus come to me very forcibly, "Feed my lambs." We have no way of knowing how many of these lambs might be kept for the

church, if they were properly fed, but we do know that we have the direct commission of Jesus to feed them. We do not know what share of the responsibility of their loss will be laid at the feet of the parents, of the church elders, of the pastor, and of the conference committees, but we do know that unless something is done that will meet the mind of Jesus, that we will not stand clear in the judgment day. Here is a good question for us to ask ourselves right now—Are we doing all we can for the young people of our church, our home, our conference?

I believe we can do more. The Missionary Volunteer secretaries of our conferences are hard-working, intelligent, sincere Christians. If they were free to devote much more of their time to evangelistic and personal work for the youth of our homes, much more could be done. That is my vision of a real Missionary Volunteer secretary, one who can give his time to becoming so familiar with the conditions in all the churches of his conference that he can direct each Missionary Volunteer society, and each church, in soul-winning work for the youth of our homes everywhere. He also should have time to do personal work himself wherever he goes, dealing in particular with the young people. Such work would bring remarkable results. He ought to have time to keep our young people occupied in good things, and help to make all these things interesting for them. As he does that, he will be winning souls in a very real way. Keeping them at their Morning Watch, Bible Year, Reading Courses, the study of our church and its doctrines as in Standard of Attainment, holding their interest and confidence through the Progressive class work, what wonderful possibilities there are in that.

In our union the best we have done is to require the Missionary Volunteer secretary of the conference to divide his time with only the educational department. What could he not do if he had only the Missionary Volunteer department, if he were to set his definite goal to convert all the young people of Adventist homes, and devote all his time and energy to seeking them out and winning and holding them for Christ? That is the vision I would like to see fulfilled here. I would like to see the work

of our secretaries so arranged, that they would be able to be real youth's evangelists. That is what they are, as nearly as their time permits. More than 2,500 young people call them in this union territory, boys and girls who are turning to the world, because no one can help them find Christ, boys and girls who do know something about the truth, and in whose hearts at times there is real hunger for Christian fellowship and help, but who cannot find that which meets their need.

It would not be right to fail to recognize that there is room for improvement in our program. While we want to do that, we do not want to leave a loophole for the enemy in one place, in order to build up in another place. A General Conference policy has been laid down, which reads as follows, "We recommend, that in conferences of 1,500 to 2,500 constituency, not more than two departments be placed on one secretary," and further, "That in conferences of 2,500 or more, one secretary carry only one department." I am firmly convinced that if we could see this done in our union, we could do considerable towards changing the figures in our report on the Missionary Volunteer work, and in satisfying the heart hunger of these more than 2,500 young people who seem to be heading out of the fold.

I have confidence in every one here, that you are just as interested in this problem as I am. I merely present this as one way in which we can come nearer to God's program for us. I believe if it is right, that God will help you to work it out in His own good time. On behalf of those dedicating the major part of their time to the young people in this union conference territory, I wish to say that we pledge ourselves anew to do our utmost to win men to God's kingdom. For the sake of our boys and girls, *your* boys and girls, may I appeal to everyone of you here to join us in this rededication, in this new consecration of our lives, so that our boys and girls may be attracted to the Christian life through us and that they may see its saving power manifested in us? If there is anything in the work of the Missionary Volunteer department that is not conducive to soul-winning, we want to take it out. At the same time, our appeal is that we

do more for our youth, to win them, to hold them, to build up in them a genuine Christian experience and give them real Christian ideals of service, such as the Missionary Volunteer activities are bound to do. Every church, every home, ought to be familiar with all its activities, and a loyal participant in those which apply to their conditions. We most earnestly solicit your prayers and a part of your time for our children.

R. J. ROY.

Report of the Educational Department

THE only reason for our existence as a body is to prepare men and women for God's kingdom. The only reason for the existence of any activity within our organization is to contribute to the preparation of men and women for God's kingdom. Any work or activity within our ranks that does not contribute to this supreme objective cannot possibly have God's approval, and will condemn those who shared in them in the judgment day. In any time of peril, all throw aside all interests of secondary importance, and permit nothing to divert their attention from their supreme goal. That is where we stand today.

As members of the Seventh-day Adventist church, we enjoy a privilege which no other people enjoy. We know that our planting is not of men, but of God. We know that the foundations of this church, the principles of its organization, are not of men, but of God. We have His word for it. No other people, no other message, is predicted in His Word, except this people and this message, as finishing His work and preparing a people for His kingdom, to live with Him forever. This gospel of the kingdom is being given by no other people.

This brings great confidence, courage and strength to everyone who has become a part of this people. It gives me personally, a deep satisfaction to be one with you in this great work, and to carry a part in that branch of God's work known as the Educational Department.

God saw the need of working in many different ways, from the very beginning of His church. We have His word for it, as in I Corinthians 12:4 to 6. "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. . . .

And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all." Then follows a partial list of the different ways God expects men to work for Him, and in conclusion of that God says, "But all these worketh that one and the self-same Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will." I can only understand this to mean that it is not God's plan that all work the same way, and that God has foreseen the various interests of life, and the opportunities of winning men in many different ways.

The same thought is expressed in Ephesians 4:4 to 13. Here the gifts are quite specifically mentioned, the fifth one being that of teachers. Again in Daniel 12:3, using the marginal reading, for the word "wise," which gives it as "teachers," we see that God very definitely gives His approval of the gift of teaching, and that He will have a place in His kingdom for all teachers who use that gift to "turn many to righteousness." There wells up in my heart a prayer that God will so favor our teachers, and that those of us whose responsibility it is to direct them in their work, may be among those who will "shine forever and ever." Our work may not be as spectacular as some, our gifts may require greater sacrifices, but since it is God's designation for us, we surely want to do it well. Together with those of you who have other gifts, we want to rededicate our talents today for the Master, for the finishing of His work, and for the preparation of the boys and girls who gather around us to be ready when Jesus comes. What a joy it will be to see our boys and girls ready in that day.

Let us take up the progress of the work through the years. There is an encouraging gradual growth of the church and a comparative growth in the number of church schools. We are glad that the comparison shows that the degree of progress is somewhat similar, and that we have not fallen in the percentage of schools in comparison to the membership.

Why should we have a smaller proportion of our young people in our schools today than we did ten years ago? What justification is there for it? The nearer the end, the more we trust the world with the salvation of our children. What a comment on our work! I appeal to you to help us fulfill Malachi 4:6,

which prophesies that the parents and the children will be drawn together as the end approaches.

We ought to do something to change the sentiment among our people in regard to the possibility of attending our schools. God leaves us in no uncertainty about this. He very directly tells us, "Train up a child in the way he should go." He does not add "if you can afford it," or "if you live near a church school," or "if you like the teacher better than the public school teacher," or "if she does not correct your child too much." In God's word He has made no allowance whatsoever for any conditions. He simply and directly tells us to do it. "All his biddings are enablings."

This is a command, the same as any of God's commandments. It is included in the very first command, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." We must help our brethren to know that they can if they will.

A very thorough investigation of the age groups in our church has been made a number of times and in different places, and has shown that there is an average of two young people for every five church members. This includes young people from the ages of six to thirty. Considering that approximately one-third of the number of young people would be beyond school age, and making allowance for those who are now in our schools, we have the estimated number of 2,078 young people in our union at the present time who should be in our schools but who are not. Throughout all the years of this report, the number not in our schools is greater than the number in our schools.

It seems to me, brethren, that we have a responsibility there. When the cases of these young people come up in review before God, whom will God hold responsible for their education? First of all, the parents, naturally. Next, it seems to me, He will hold the individual members of the home churches responsible, then will come the officers of those churches and then the conference workers in whose territory those churches are where there is no church school. Then I suppose the responsibility will pass on down to the conference leaders, their committees, and to the educational superintendents, and the union educational secretaries. It seems to me that I should bring this fact before us all here as those who

will have to answer in that day.

What will we answer? First of all, what will the parents answer? As I have studied this part of the problem, and in my contacts in the field, I find two classes of parents whose children are not in our schools. One class is both uninformed of the dangers and indifferent. The other class seems to be considerably concerned, but not enough to make a supreme effort to meet the need. I have been surprised and shocked to see the large per cent of those who really try to justify their course of action, and defend the work of the public school. If the truth were known, there are many Seventh-day Adventists in our churches today who would not send their children to a church school even if they could.

That to my mind is our greatest challenge. That is a dare. That is fifth column work right in our very midst. I do not mean to say that it is deliberate and malicious. I think it is because of a lack of vision and understanding. But it is very real, and very disastrous in its effects. It means that more than half of our young people do not get the advantages of a Christian education, and permit the world to shape their ideals. If we are to be free in the judgment day, we ought to lay plans in every conference to change that picture, from the parent to every conference worker.

You will be interested to know that the General Conference has seen this need, and has provided very splendid help. I refer to the plans for parent education. This work was formerly done by what we called the Home Commission. It has now been placed upon the Educational Department, and has already begun its work. Regular lessons for parent instruction have been provided, and are obtainable for all parents. There is a great need for this particularly in churches where there is no church school and in homes where the children cannot attend a church school. May I make this definite request, that a definite program be launched in every conference, in every church, to reach all our parents with this work. It is just what we need, and if properly carried on, will be the biggest thing we have done to make our homes true Christian homes. Your educational superintendent will be happy to help you have these lessons in your church.

Then the question comes to us as workers. What will we answer in the judgment day about these more than two thousand boys and girls from Adventist homes, who know the truth, and who ought to grow up to be a part of our great working force? We cannot simply shrug our shoulders and say it is the parents' responsibility, or that we are too busy with other things. The souls of those of our children will be required of us before those from non-Adventist homes. Once more I wish to refer you to a recent General Conference action, taken at the past Fall Council.

"Whereas, statistics reveal that many of our children and youth are not now given the privileges of Christian education, and it is felt that there is great need of this phase of work receiving special promotion at this time.

"We recommend . . . 3. That our ministers when conducting evangelistic efforts and in their ministry in the churches instruct believers in the Bible doctrine of Christian education with the same care which they use in teaching other vital truths."

We recognize the voice of the General Conference committee as the highest authority on such questions. When this body takes such a position, it ought to stir us to recognize that 2,078 Seventh-day Adventist young people in this union conference territory not in our schools is a condition which we must change. We may have been tempted to think that we have reached that saturation point in the establishing of our schools, that our educational men would be better employed in some other way. What will we say to that in the judgment day, when we are faced with this question before these same young people who are now imbibing worldly ideals from worldly teachers in worldly schools? Facing that question honestly, I wonder if we will not say, "I wish we had provided church school privileges for everyone of our children."

As parents and workers, in these solemn days, it seems to me we ought to do what God asks us to do, and carry on that part of God's work just as he outlined it. No part of God's work can be neglected and that work be built solidly and most successfully.

As those in charge of the work of these departments, we recognize that

the work done must meet God's plans, and come up to the ideals He has set for this work. We can never be satisfied by merely giving facts. We could buy a phonograph record to repeat those facts. Divine inspiration has set this goal for us, as recorded in *Desire of Ages*, p. 250. "It is not the highest work of education to communicate knowledge, merely, but to impart that vitalizing energy which is received through the contact of mind with mind, and soul with soul. It is only life that begets life."

That is the goal we have set for our church schools. It may be that we have not been accomplishing what we should, as teachers, and as those in charge of our teachers. We recognize that even our best efforts often come short of our ideals. Nevertheless, I would like to put this on record, that I do not believe there is a more consecrated group of workers than our devoted teachers. The very fact that they feel the call enough to make the sacrifices they do is the best possible proof. It is possible that they may make mistakes, but their consecration is shown by the fact that practically all of them are qualified to go out in public schools and receive a much higher salary, but they have heard a higher call and are giving their lives to do God's work.

From all I could learn, approximately half of the baptisms are of the children from our church schools. In many places the larger part of the baptisms in the year are from the church school. This is as good an evidence of the character of the work of our teachers as anything could be. We recognized that the work of soul winning is the combined work of parents, teachers, and workers. Yet we ought to give the teachers their share of the credit. Let us stand by them, help them, and never do them violence by fault-finding and criticism. There is a proper way to help them if they need it. We cannot afford to leave the impression with our children that those who stand before them as Christian teachers are not true. There is altogether too much open criticism of our workers, not only of teachers. Such a procedure is the very best way to break down the confidence of our children in God's plan of salvation for them and in the leadership of those who in spite of human frailties have undertaken to do God's work.

In keeping with our desire to do good work, we are glad that the number of teachers who have the proper qualifications scholastically is growing. That is as it should be. We want it to continue improving till every teacher meets those standards.

And now may I call your attention to the teachers' salary. I appeal to you to not let that drop. Our teachers are human, they are flesh and blood, and they need to keep body and soul together. At times it seems that they are expected to live on thin air, their salary is so meager. The world does not treat their teachers that way. Why should we. I know that it comes out of the so-much-needed income of our good fathers and mothers. But after all, it is worth every possible sacrifice. They can take no other treasure to heaven.

Again, the General Conference has spoken of this, first by recommending that an increase of approximately 10 per cent be made in the salary of the church school teachers, and second, that plans be made to employ them at least 40 weeks, and where possible to plan for work for them during the summer months. Provision for their attendance at the summer school is also recommended. Unless we do these things, we will soon find ourselves without teachers. This matter of proper distribution of salary is also a responsibility before God. We dare not be unequal in our dealings with one another.

As I close this report, I want to make very clear my firm conviction that all that has been accomplished in this department is the work of all of you together. Particularly may I express appreciation for the work of the conference educational superintendents. Surely they will have many stars in their crowns when the jewels are made up. And what a privilege it will be to be with all those young people there. Pastors and church members, those of you who are right next to the problem, and who are really under the load, your part in carrying out this commission of God is very great. God will reward you. Our conference presidents too, and their committees, are loyally back of this work. I have sensed it in their ready response to the needs and suggestions of this department. You will never regret what you do for the boys and girls of your conference.

Yet, with all the good that has

been done, sometimes it seems I cannot bear to look at the picture. Over 2,000 boys and girls, in Adventist homes, in the territory of the Southwestern Union Conference, every school day of their life, surrounded by worldly influences. What a very small chance they have of catching the vision of service for Christ. Where will they get it? How will they get to heaven without it? Are you satisfied? I am not. I cannot be till everyone of those fine boys and girls are with us, in our schools, under the influence of Christian teachers, sitting at the feet of the Master Teacher as it were.

Wanted, 2,068 boys and girls for Adventist schools! Wanted, at least 114 more church schools! Wanted, laborers together in God's cause, fathers and mothers, to make the future tell a different story than the past.

R. J. Roy.

The Publishing Work

THE five-year colporteur report of the Southwestern Union demonstrates what can be accomplished by faithful field missionary leaders and the consecrated men and women going from door to door with our truth-filled literature. Truly we can say, in view of drought, floods, and other calamities, "The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad." We are not altogether satisfied, but we are glad.

As we look back we can think not only of orders being taken and books delivered, but individuals acquainting themselves and accepting this blessed truth. Figures are rather dry, but a publishing report would not be complete without them. During the last five years, the conferences have delivered the following amounts:

This represents \$198,339.18 worth of literature that has gone into the homes of the people. It means that about 40,000 souls have had the privilege of coming in contact with the greatest message ever committed to mortal man.

If these books could talk, what a

story could be written! A colporteur by the name of Jose Ortega ventured up to the home of Brother Martinez. The altitude of 7,500 feet caused our earnest and enthusiastic minister of the printed page to take sick. Although he lived but a short time, Jose Ortega had started a family in the right way. Elder G. Casebeer next visited the family and further instructed them in this message, which they now love with all their hearts. The next worker was Brother M. Vargas. Brother Martinez told Brother Vargas of a remarkable dream that he had had. He said that he saw three men and that these men placed on the table what appeared to be a sword with ten points, and they counted each point slowly but emphatically, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, and ten. These three men said: "If you will remember the ten points that we present to you, you will succeed in business."

Brother Vargas said, "I can tell you the interpretation. The three men you saw were: first, the colporteur with his books, Brother Jose Ortega; next a minister, Elder G. Casebeer; and then your servant, Brother Vargas. The sword is God's word, and the ten points that have brought happiness and success to your home are the ten commandments."

Brother Martinez remarked that this was a sweet interpretation and brought joy to his soul.

The lay-by or installment plan was first introduced in the Southwestern Union Conference fully ten years ago by Brethren Cox and Grandon. This new plan has now developed into the easy payment plan.

Mention must be made of the wonderful work accomplished by our students. They have been instrumental in placing many books and magazines in the homes. A number of scholarships have been earned, the best year being 1941, when one conference came in with about ten scholarships. Verlene DeWitt, Margaret Youngberg, Mary Lee Eaton, and Lillian Tucker did a wonderful work

with our small books. Each one made a scholarship. At the present moment there is a growing interest in the scholarship plan.

Big Week—One of our field missionary secretaries went out last summer and delivered over \$250 worth of books. I am glad to tell you that the secretaries set their goals at \$200 each for Big Week of 1942.

Our Spanish Colporteurs—We have seen some progress in this line, however we are not satisfied. With such a large Spanish population in our union, we should plan to do greater things. Scholarships can be earned among the Spanish. This has been proved. Last year Brother Castillo delivered over \$600 worth of books. He is planning to come back this coming summer.

We should have more colporteurs, but you may be interested in knowing that the Southwestern Union stood second place for the number of colporteurs compared with the constituency. One colporteur for every 121 members. The Columbia Union was first with one for every 106 members.

No conference administration is well balanced and strong that does not foster and build up this important branch of the work. It should be cherished and promulgated by every minister, licentiate, and Bible worker, for it is an important auxiliary of the gospel ministry. The Book and Bible House office should be a well spring of this spirit. The colleges should be bubbling over with it, every church should be impregnated with it, every home should be saturated with it. The colporteur work should have the active sympathy of every worker and believer in the conference.

I feel that we have come to the time when every leader and minister in the Southwestern Union ought to take upon his heart in a new and larger and more definite way the responsibility and burden of encouraging our people who have a Christian experience and a burden for souls to go out and sell our books and magazines.

God has ordained that the publishing work will be one of the greatest factors in the finishing of this work.

"And 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." *Volume VII, p. 140.* J. A. P. GREEN,

Conference	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	Total Sales
Ark.-La.	13,608.15	13,295.79	14,924.02	14,930.26	19,434.67	
Oklahoma	4,888.50	4,444.00	6,980.97	7,325.72	8,661.30	
Texas	16,379.27	14,131.55	16,190.46	11,743.54	13,937.06	
Texico	2,266.95	3,141.75	3,571.90	4,267.55	4,215.77	
Union	37,142.87	35,013.09	41,667.35	38,267.07	46,248.80	
Total sales 5 years 1932 to 1936						\$198,339.18
Total gain						137,625.03
						\$ 60,714.15

Report of the Religious Liberty Department

UNLIKE our other departments, the Religious Liberty Department has seemed to be attached to rather than a part of, our general work. For the most part it has been worked at only when aimed at. Or, in other words, it appears to be an emergency measure, and only for the duration. Generally our interest seems to be at a high pitch when some proposed legislation threatens the rights or liberties of Seventh-day Adventists.

I once heard of a man who, in conversation with a neighbor, remarked, "Well I must stop by and pay my lawyer." His astonished neighbor exclaimed, "Why I didn't know you had been in trouble, that you must employ a lawyer to get you out." "I haven't," replied the man. "I don't pay a lawyer to get me out of trouble, but I employ one to keep me out."

To my mind the time has come for us to approach the Religious Liberty work from some such an angle. We need to launch a program of education on the principles involved. This can never be done as it should be by just two or three men in Washington, as they themselves recognize. We would do well to set in motion a program that would place this branch of our work in such relationship to the general program that its influence will be felt at every point of contact. Why should not institutes be held with the same objective in this department as in others? Thus with councils and institutes, all our people executives, department men, eventually come to be liberty minded, and the great principles of liberty now set forth at the hands of just a few men on special occasions of an emergency nature, will be understood and presented by all, not as an addition to our message, but as a part of that message.

From the messenger of the Lord, we have this counsel, "The principle for which the disciples stood so fearlessly when, in answer to the command not to speak any more in the name of Jesus, they declared, 'Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.' is the same that the adherents of the gospel struggled to maintain in the days of the reformation. . . . This principle we in our day are firmly to maintain. The banner of truth and religious liberty held aloft

by the founders of the gospel church and by God's witnesses during the centuries that have passed since then, has, in this last conflict, been committed to our hands."

In our approach to the consideration of the whole question of religious liberty we should keep in mind it is not just liberty for ourselves—but liberty for all. The Methodist, Mormon, Mennonite, Catholic, Jew, and infidel are entitled to just as much as we are. The work we have to do in this line is to contend for the right for all to worship or not to worship according to the dictates of individual conscience.

Ours is one of the last nations in this world to insist on and defend this right. No government can give us this right. We were born with it. Government cannot give rights, it can only protect its citizens in the enjoyment of them. Governments have however, one after another denied their citizens the enjoyment of their rights. Prophecy makes clear that freedom of choice may yet be denied people even in our beloved country. Conditions now existing constitute fertile soil for a rapid growth of intolerance, and public opinion may now be easily and quickly moulded in dangerous channels with honest and sincere people believing it is just the thing.

Sometime back, in the Texico Conference, one of our colporteurs was beaten and kicked by an officer. The Texico officers and I drove several hundred miles to investigate the case and found that a group of Jehovah's Witnesses had been in the town a few days before, and the populace quickly formed into a mob and drove them out of town and threatened to burn them. Our colporteur, unaware of all that had happened, was canvassing there the following day and soon the police came and took him into the county judge's office. The justice of the peace, who had, in a mad fit the day before, knocked down one of the Jehovah's Witness men, accused our colporteur of being one of them. He assured him that he was a Seventh-day Adventist and that we believed in saluting the flag, but still this officer beat him. After full explanation the judge assured us that the colporteur would be protected thereafter.

We endeavored to show the judge that while we had no defense for the doctrine of the Jehovah's Witness

people, at the same time we were willing to defend them in the right to believe their doctrine, and to live it so far as it did not interfere with the rights of others. The judge wanted to know if we believed in saluting the flag, and we informed him we did when the proper occasion offered, but that we reserved the right to determine what constituted the proper occasion. We made it clear to him that it was not his or the justice of the peace prerogative to order us to do it. To this he quite readily agreed and was very kind as we parted although he was most frigid upon our first approach.

Last year a bill was introduced in the Texas legislature designed to provide free textbooks for parochial schools, to be paid for from tax funds. Elder Crane and others kept me informed of the movements, and at the proper time I made request for a hearing before the committee on constitution in both the House and Senate. This was granted. At the hearing in the Senate committee the bill was championed by a Catholic Priest. In the other committee it was championed by a professor of a Catholic University. Father Carne represented that under the Constitution, Catholic children were penalized in that other boys and girls received free textbooks while Catholics were compelled to purchase theirs. We pointed out that Father Carne was either uninformed or misinformed, for we were sure that if Catholic boys and girls went to the same school where the others did that received the books free, they too would receive them free; that if they were penalized it was not the state that penalized them but the Catholic parents who kept them from the free schools and sent them to Catholic schools; that it seemed right to us for the free schools to furnish free texts, and likewise right for Catholic and Adventist schools to furnish texts for Catholic and Adventist schools—which the Adventists did.

In the House we had a friend who listened to our views and took his stand by our side, and every time they tried to bring the bill up for passage he waged war—using Adventist ammunition, and after several attempts at invasion, the bill went to the bottom, we hope to rise no more.

In the hearing before one of the committees, one of the legislators on the committee addressed the chair-

man, saying, "Mr. Chairman, so far as I know this is the first time in my life I ever heard or saw a Seventh-day Adventist." The chairman answered, "Well this one doesn't seem to have hoofs nor horns." The gentleman replied, "No but he has surely given us something to think about." I am sure the simple truths we were permitted to state before those committees gave birth to many new thoughts in the minds of those men, and that it made friends for our case.

In Fort Worth we requested opportunity to be heard before the board of public schools when they were considering a proposal from the Ministerial Association to teach the Bible in the public schools. This is a delicate subject to attack for it could easily appear that we were opposed to the Bible. I believe we made it clear that we revered the Bible—and so much so that we felt justified in questioning the use about to be made of it. This matter was compromised and it was agreed the Bible would be taught to those who desired it, after school hours by teachers selected by the ministers and paid by the churches. They got half a loaf, but there is plenty of dynamite in half a loaf. It is too much.

Our attention is being drawn now to several instances, as reported by the president of the Texico Conference, where towns and cities are passing ordinances making it an offense punishable by fine or imprisonment to distribute literature from house to house or to take orders for same. This sort of ordinance is a violation of the Federal Bill of Rights. But unless a test case is made and a Supreme Court decision is secured reversing these acts, we will see more towns and cities come under these same laws. Colporteurs are being forbidden the right to sell. This will become more and more a problem we must plan to meet.

In Enid, Oklahoma, the City Council passed an ordinance forbidding solicitation without a permit. Our people who had solicited there for more than thirty years were denied a permit. The Oklahoma committee voted to make it a test case and asked me to go there. It was finally necessary to go over the heads of the Charities commission appointed by the council and appeal for a hearing before the council. When we presented the case and convinced them this was

a right under the Federal and State constitutions, the council gave us a permit. All of these occasions make opportunities to bring portions of our message before a leading class who otherwise might never hear.

We have had some good responses from sending the book *Roger Williams* to prominent men. There is a great field in the Religious Liberty work that could be cultivated with profit, not only for the present but with compound interest in the future. I sincerely hope it will be cultivated more in the future than heretofore.

As Seventh-day Adventists we can hold our heads up anywhere for we are loyal American citizens, supporting our government in every move within the province of civil government to demand. We love our flag, we love our America, and we love the freedom for which it stands and not for ourselves only but for all.

R. L. BENTON.

Negro Department Report

Brother Chairman and Delegates Assembled:

I bring you greetings from more than 1353 loyal, faithful colored believers scattered throughout the Southwestern Union Conference.

With the exception of the Canadian Union, and the North Pacific Union Conference, which includes Alaska, the field represented by these delegates assembled here today, is the most extensive, and it is one of the most interesting sections of the North American Division; for besides its natural features which are very noticeable, its many caves and caverns and other underground attractions, one will find as a component part of this union, the first state in size in the United States, with its 262,398 square miles of territory, its vast desert and sandy lands studded with stubby trees and shrubs, adapted to that section of the country, and its many industrial and agricultural features, including beautiful extensive orchards of distinctive citrus fruits along the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. And here is Oklahoma—land of the red man—commonly called the *Sooner State*. The natural production of this state is considerable. Its petroleum has aided greatly in placing the United States ahead of the world in the production of this precious liquid. Mention must be made also of the State Capitol of Louisiana

located in Baton Rouge. This building towers to a height of nearly 400 feet, and is the center of attraction for thousands of sightseers who visit that section of the country annually. About 107 miles from the mouth of the mighty Mississippi River, in the southeastern tip of this state is the picturesque city of New Orleans, sitting as a queen on both banks of the river. This metropolis of the South has a population of approximately 500,000 inhabitants, and it is reportedly the city with the third largest Negro population in North America. It is a cosmopolitan city, and among the many religious bodies within its borders, you will find the largest Negro Seventh-day Adventist Church south of the Mason Dixon Line, with a membership of a little more than 300.

The first colored church in the Southwestern Union of which anything is known, was organized in De Vall's Bluff, Arkansas, a small hamlet about 47 miles east of the City of Little Rock, in the year 1903, with a membership of either ten or twelve souls. It was reported, however, that there were Sabbathkeepers in the vicinity of Little Rock as early as 1896, for it was in that year that S. S. Ryles, who lived about twelve miles from that city, was baptized at Searcy, Arkansas, by a white Seventh-day Adventist minister. The organization of this first church was due, principally, to the labors of this first convert. Brother Ryles was elected elder, and Brother R. H. Deveraux was asked to serve as deacon at the time of the organization. A mission school was soon put into operation with W. H. Swaite as teacher. Later on, during the administration of Elder Nelson as union president, an industrial school was started in this place; about 40 acres of land were purchased, and church and school buildings were erected. Professor R. L. Bradford was appointed principal of the school which carried intermediate grades. The other teachers were: Katie E. Baker, Carrie L. Jones, and Elder and Mrs. E. M. Gates of Corsicana, Texas. The school continued for several years; however, in process of time the folks began to move away, many to Little Rock, and others to different points in Texas. The property was eventually sold. We have no work of any kind in this place where the message made its start in the Southwest;

nevertheless, De Vall's Bluff marks the spot where a great work was begun, a work which steadily moves on to a triumphant finish.

In the year 1937, the beginning of this conference term, there were 1226 baptized colored believers in this union, divided up into 26 organized churches, with six ordained ministers, and five licentiates in active service. During the years, four of these licentiates were ordained to the gospel ministry; one was pleased to leave us for the Southern Union. At the present time there are nine ordained ministers and two licentiates employed in the union.

The evangelistic phase of the work has moved slowly; we have nothing of a spectacular nature to report along this line; but we are gratefully thankful to our heavenly Father for what He has accomplished through these weak instruments, for His divine protection, and other evidences of His providence. The lives of the workers have been preserved, and unitedly we have gone forward to the accomplishment of the task set before us. The baptisms during the quinquennial term are as follows: In 1937, 90 souls were baptized; in 1938, 87; in 1939, 88; in 1940, 91; and in 1941, 150; or a total of 506 baptisms; and 169 persons have been added to the churches on profession of faith. A goodly number are awaiting baptism.

At the close of 1941 the colored membership stood at 1353. There are 28 organized churches, 9 organized companies, and 4 unorganized companies. This last class consists mostly of unbaptized believers; they meet every Sabbath day to study the Sabbath school lesson, and for prayer. Besides 11 conference workers, there are 12 church school teachers who are busily engaged the entire school year in the training of 250 boys and girls of elementary grades.

While on the subject of schools it might be well to state that the Southwestern Union Negro Department is an ardent supporter of Oakwood Junior College. In 1937, eight students went from this field to that institution. This was two more than the preceding year. In 1938, thirteen attended; in 1939, sixteen; in 1940 eleven; and in 1941, twelve students were enrolled. The largest number going from this field to Oakwood in a single year was sixteen; this may

seem a small number to many, but when the straitened circumstances of my people, and the long distance we are from the school, are taken into consideration, these numbers should not be spoken of lightly.

Our medical institution near Nashville, Tennessee, has been the object of our attention also. Through the influence of the churches a number of patients have gone to Riverside Sanitarium-Hospital, and they have returned home greatly benefited, spiritually as well as physically. We have responded to every appeal for help which has reached us, and in the financial drive for Negro institutions a few years ago, the Negro Department of the Southwestern Union Conference raised its full quota.

There has been a steady increase in tithes each year as the following tabulation will show: In 1937 the tithe amounted to \$14,224.70; in 1938, \$15,312.80; in 1939, \$15,903.98; in 1940, \$16,810.13; and in 1941, \$20,072.12; or a total in tithe alone of \$82,323.73, for the five-year period. There has been a corresponding increase in mission offerings, for from \$7,315.29 in 1937, there was a steady increase to \$9,236.30 in 1941; or a total of \$40,996.28. The grand total in tithe and offerings raised during the quinquennial term was \$123,320.01.

Among the many campaigns looked forward to by the Negro Department is the Annual Harvest Ingathering Campaign. During the past five years the colored churches have shown a keen interest, and have taken an active part in this annual drive with an interest and a determination unprecedented. Special mention should be made of the churches in the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference. For the past two or three years every church in this conference has reached its goal, the greater number of them on or before the date set for the close of the campaign, which is usually the last of October. In the year just past, the church in San Antonio reached its goal, which was an average of a little more than \$3 per member, in less than three weeks. Other large churches, Dallas, Houston, New Orleans, and I must also mention Shreveport, Little Rock, Muskogee, Newby, Roswell, have done splendid work in this annual campaign, as well as the smaller churches. The total amount raised

in this campaign in the five-year period was \$14,118.36.

Our Sabbath schools are well attended, but we have not yet reached the most desired goal—every member of the church a member of the Sabbath school. We are working to that end however, and hope to reach it. The total amount raised for missions through the Sabbath schools for the five years ended December 31, 1941, was \$25,629.22.

In the Southwest we have adopted a policy of having a union camp meeting and youth's congress every two years. These meetings have been well attended, and have been a source of great blessing to those who attended. Two institutes for colored ministers, and two such meetings for colored teachers were held during the conference term. General, union, and local conference officials have attended these institutes and camp meetings, and contributed definitely to their success. Church missionary, and Sabbath school officers' conventions have been conducted, and the result of these gatherings is seen in the favorable development in church activities. The colporteur work has been given some attention also. Mention should be made also of the department paper, *The Promoter*. We try to make this monthly sheet all that its name implies. It reaches every worker and certain church officers each month; reminding those to whom it is sent of the great objectives of the church, and how to reach these objectives.

Our needs are many. Outstanding is the need for a much stronger evangelistic force; this we should have, if this phase of the work is to make the progress which we would like to see.

The educational and young people's work calls for an assistant department worker such as we have in the Southern Union. The possibilities for further development of the work among the young people in this union are very encouraging, and should be given careful consideration.

We should have a school carrying academic grades centrally located—an institution which the youth can attend after they have completed the elementary grades in our own schools. A number of boys and girls complete these grades at an early age, too young to enter Oakwood Junior Col-

lege; therefore, many of these graduates attend the public high schools, and as a result, a number of them is lost to the church. An academy, well conducted, would meet the needs of these young people, and it would serve as a feeder to our training school in Huntsville, Alabama.

We would like to see a strong corps of evangelistic colporteurs, such as we have had in years gone by, busily engaged in putting the printed page in the homes of the people. There are scores and scores of counties and parishes with a fair Negro population, where we have no representative of any kind. According to the census taken in 1930, and released by the Bureau of Census in Washington, D. C., there are in the area covered by the Southwestern Union Conference no less than 134 towns and cities with a Negro population of upwards of 1,000; the greater number of which have never been warned; not saying anything about the thousands who live in the country and on the farms. These dear souls for whom Christ died must hear the message of the Christ who is soon to come.

Above all we need the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon us in larger and richer measure, so that an experience similar to that which came to the church in apostolic days may come to us also. We need such an experience, for we are in the midst of great and solemn events; the whole world is stirred with the spirit of war; troublous times are upon us; and in the midst of these eventualities lies before us an unfinished task. Let us all pray earnestly for this added blessing which will qualify us as fit instruments to be used by God in the accomplishment of His work.

We take this opportunity to heartily thank the General Conference for the liberal appropriations granted us during the years, without which, it would have been impossible for us to operate as successfully as we have. And we would further express our thanks to the union and local conference executives and departmental secretaries for their kindly counsel, advice, and other help rendered in moulding and keeping the work moving forward in the right direction. And with our white brethren, we would rededicate our talent, our means, our strength, and our lives

to the speedy finishing of the work entrusted to us.

J. G. DASENT.

Five Year Report of S. P. A. Literature Sales to the Southwest

The World Situation

THE world is experiencing a severe crisis. Strange and mysterious influences are at work. Like a ship without helm or compass, the world plunges on to its doom and only God knows what the immediate future holds in store for us. Because of the uncertainty of the future, a great obsession of fear fills the minds of men. Conferences are called for the purpose of uniting the political forces under their command in a great effort to stem the tide which seems to be leading civilization to destruction. The future without God is dark. In the situation facing the world today, we can see a marked fulfillment of the words of the Saviour while describing conditions to exist in the last days. He declares that there would be "distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." Luke 21:25, 26.

But there are other prophecies which are meeting their fulfillment. Referring to the political situation, the prophet Joel declares that the last days will be marked by bloody war and a fierce struggle among the nations for supremacy. The nations of the world are engaged in a bloody conflict. Efforts to bring about peace are of no avail and the statement of Isaiah 33:7, "The ambassadors of peace shall weep bitterly" is literally fulfilled at the present time. The struggle between capital and labor as foretold in the prophecy of James 5 is one of the outstanding signs of the times in which we live. The marked increase in crime, the lowering of moral standards and the deplorable social conditions existing in the church and the home show that we have reached the day foretold two thousand years ago.

The World's Need

A message of hope is the world's great need today. A leading churchman declares: "The Christian church has no message today for a dying world. As a matter of fact, the Christian church is preaching many gos-

pels, and the result is confusion and failure. Denominations are being rent asunder, and those who have long been brethren are warring camps, contending, not over nonessentials, but alas, over the very foundation principles of Christianity." Thank God for a living faith in the living God and for a definite message committed to Seventh-day Adventists to be given to the world. Convinced that such a message of hope is due the world at this time, what a satisfaction there is in meeting such a large group of workers in this union whose first purpose in life is to carry the third angel's message to every part of this great field. The world needs and the present situation demands a stabilizing influence in the lives of men. Our responsibility before God is "to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

Our Task

Nineteen hundred years ago our Lord stated in no uncertain tones that "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." That prophetic utterance will be fulfilled. The greatest work that can be done for lost humanity is to be done at this time. The responsibility resting upon the church of God in an hour like this will be discharged by faithful men and women who sense the burden for lost souls and who have caught a divine vision of the world's great need. God has not only definitely stated that the work will be done and the end will come, but He has given explicit instruction as to how that is to be brought about. From Manuscript No. 55, written in 1909 and addressed to the Southern Publishing Association, I quote:

"The publishing work was established by the Lord. It is a specific work. The truth that is handled in our offices of publication is not to be regarded as a common thing. . . . Seventh-day Adventists have been chosen of God to be a peculiar people, zealous of good works. They are to let the light of truth shine forth in the character. . . . God calls them laborers together with Him." Also we are told that "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." *Volume VII,*

page 140.

This is our divine commission. We thank God for the accomplishments of the past, but a still greater work is to be done. We must not and will not measure the efforts we are to put forth in the future by that accomplished in the past. We have reached the time in the history of the world when God demands that advance steps be taken in laying plans for a greater work to be done because the days in which we live will witness the close of probation. It is for all to unite, both those in our institutions and those in the field, in carrying the truth to earth's remotest bounds. The uncertainty of the future and the spiritual condition of the world create a demand for the message which must be met. We must arouse to the privileges and opportunities of the hour and quickly accomplish the task God has so graciously assigned us.

The total population of the territory assigned the Southern Publishing Association is approximately 32,000,000 judgment-bound souls, 12,586,000 of which live within the territory served by the Southwestern Union Conference. There are approximately 31,000 Seventh-day Adventist church members living in the territory of the Southern Publishing Association, 11,600 of which have their church membership in this union. That means that for every church member in the territory of our publishing house, there are nearly 1,000 persons who have not accepted the third angel's message. What a challenge confronts the church today! What shall be our response? How shall we relate ourselves to this grave situation? God helping us, we will arise and fulfill that admonition recorded in Isaiah 62:1, 2: "For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth. And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name."

Literature Sales

For the sake of segregation and comparison, permit me to divide our literature sales into three classes, subscription, trade, and periodical. The subscription literature sales are

practically all made by our colporteurs. This class of literature includes such publications as *Bible Readings, Great Controversy, Great Fundamentals of our Wonderful Bible, Guide to Health, Hope of the Race, Our Times and Their Meaning, Patriarchs and Prophets, and Return of Jesus*. The object of our subscription book sales is to place in the hands of the unbeliever the great spiritual and health truths we hold as a denomination. We consider our subscription book sales as representing a great evangelizing agency by which souls are brought to the truth.

The total subscription book sales of the Southern Publishing Association for the five-year period ending with 1941 amounted to \$382,960.00, \$144,802.00 of which was sold in the territory of the Southwestern Union Conference. This represents a sale of .0115 cents per inhabitant for the union spread over a period of five years. While we rejoice in the amount of subscription book sales, we raise the question as to how long it will take us at the present rate to place sufficient of our truth-filled literature in the hands of the 12,500,000 people so that they may become acquainted with the third angel's message. Should we not, dear brethren, give careful study to greatly increasing the number of evangelistic colporteurs in the field to the end that the warning message may be given before it is everlastingly too late?

The Easy-Payment plan recently adopted at a regional Publishing Department Convention held in Nashville will, we believe, greatly increase the amount of literature placed in the field and thus permit God to accomplish a greater work by means of the printed page. The great need, however, is for consecrated men and women who feel called of God to engage in the literature ministry.

The total sales of church literature, such as the Spirit of prophecy writings and other literature of a devotional nature amounted to \$191,709.00 for the five-year period. Of this amount of \$67,030.00 was sold to the churches of this union. This represents a sale per member amounting to \$5.87 spread over the five-year period. We are greatly cheered as our church literature sales increase

from year to year. This indicates greater spirituality and a higher plane of living among our church constituency. For a limited time now, special prices are available to the field on such literature as *Selections from the Testimonies, Fundamentals of Christian Education, and Messages to Young People*. How the young people and those new in the faith need to study and accept the precious truths presented in these volumes.

The sales of the *Watchman* magazine to the Southwestern Union Conference reached their peak in 1939 when a little over 100,000 copies were used. In 1941, only 62,925 copies were ordered by this union and we naturally wonder why the "Times Interpreting Magazine" sales are not increasing in the same proportion as our subscription and church literature. The total sales to the union spread over the five-year period amounted to 414,400 copies of the *Watchman* or an average of 83,000 per year.

The *Message* magazine sales have increased from year to year from a low of 19,927 copies in 1937 to 25,311 in 1941. The total sales amount to 113,065 for the five years or an average of approximately 22,600 copies per year. We are happy to report that more and more is the *Message* magazine becoming a greater factor in conducting our evangelistic work among the colored race.

Present Truth enjoyed a circulation of nearly a quarter of a million copies in 1937, but for some reason, the circulation dropped down to 146,200 copies for 1941. The total circulation for the five-year period amounted to just a little under 1,000,000 copies or an average of 200,000 copies per year. *Present Truth* has a very large field in which to work and is doing a mighty work for God as it enters the homes of unbelievers. We bespeak for all three periodicals a larger circulation during the next quadrennium. Every effort is being made by the publishers and editors of these truth-filled periodicals to make them more attractive and more suitable, if possible, for the great missionary program of the church.

Present-Hour Challenge

While addressing the delegates assembled at the 1940 Autumn Council, Elder McElhany referred to a conversation he had had with one of

the workers during which he was asked—"Is the work about finished?" to which the president of the General Conference replied, "No, I do not think the work is about finished, but I *do* think the time in which to do the work is about finished." What a tremendous responsibility rests upon us as workers and laity living in a time like this! The question naturally arises—how can the work be finished on time? The answer is—by every one naming the name of Christ, putting his shoulder to the wheel, and doing his utmost to carry on God's work to victory. The task is not impossible. It will, however, require our united consecrated effort to the end that every man, woman, and child living within the borders of this union conference may quickly receive a knowledge of God's saving truth. As we note the increasing worldliness, both inside and outside the church, surely we can sense an increasing responsibility resting upon us to put forth tremendous efforts during the next four years to accomplish still greater things along evangelistic lines than we have heretofore dreamed of. God needs more evangelists, more Bible workers, more church school teachers, more pastors, and more evangelistic colporteurs to visit every home with the printed page. God grant that this extreme need in this vital hour may be met!

Our Response

As we face the future, we must recognize that the political and material outlook is uncertain. While this may be true, let us remember that there is no uncertainty about the message and our responsibility before God. God is calling, yes, demanding, that all workers arise as one man and put forth superhuman efforts to meet the challenge of the hour and inaugurate the greatest evangelical program the more than 12,000,000 souls living within the borders of this union have ever witnessed. Today, we face an unfinished task. Representing the workers of the Southern Publishing Association, I feel it a privilege to pledge to the workers of the Southwestern Union Conference, our fullest cooperation, and we most heartily join you in making it possible under God to literally scatter the pages of truth throughout the entire field, "like the leaves of autumn."

M. V. TUCKER.

Report of the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference

IT IS with feelings of gratitude toward God that we bring before this conference a report of what the Lord has done for and with the members of the advent movement living in Arkansas and Louisiana. During the past five years the lives of all our employed workers have been spared, together with the members of their immediate families. In this we see evidence of divine protection, for which we are grateful. Our conference embraces a territory of 800 miles in length by 300 miles in width, so that much travel is involved in the operation of our work. All of our territory is inhabited, though some sections of the field are thinly populated. The total population of these two states numbers four and a quarter million souls, Louisiana being numerically heavier than Arkansas in the balance, by some four hundred thousand people.

In 1936 there were 44 organized churches in our territory. Now there are 43. Our total membership at the close of 1936 was 2334. At the close of 1941 it was 2915. During the past five years our white membership has increased from 1671 to 2238. During the same period our Negro membership has increased from 663 to 677. Our baptisms for the five-year period number 875. Of these 654 were in the white and 221 in the Negro department.

Our growth in the tithe by years has been as follows: 1937, \$39,025.32; 1938, \$43,156.53; 1939, \$45,093.34; 1940, \$51,523.39; 1941, \$69,685.59.

The tithe received from our white believers has increased a little more than 100 per cent during the past five years. The tithe from our Negro believers during the same period shows an increase of 20 per cent.

Our mission offerings have also increased from year to year as the following figures will show: 1937, \$17,447.60; 1938, \$19,607.85; 1939, \$19,778.81; 1940, \$21,264.23; 1941, \$24,846.44.

Apart from a large increase in tithe percentage going to the General Conference Treasurer during the five-year period, there is seen a 70 per cent increase in funds going from our field to foreign missions. In this item our Negro believers have to their credit a percentage of increase

almost equal to that of our white work (67%).

Thinking that it might prove of interest to make comparison of the last four-year period with the previous four-year period, we did this to discover our net gain in membership from 1934-1937 was 222, while our net gain in membership from 1938-1941 was 584. Our total tithe from 1934-1937 was \$134,544.64, while from 1938-1941 it was \$209,548.85. Our total mission offerings during the previous four years amounted to \$67,475.82, while during the last four years they have totaled \$85,497.33.

Our literature ministry has likewise developed encouragingly during the previous four years amounted to cember 31. Net sales of our Book and Bible House increased from approximately \$12,000 worth of literature in 1937 to \$20,000 worth in 1941. Total sales for the five-year period amounted to \$71,166.80. Our faithful colporteurs are meeting with splendid success in Arkansas-Louisiana, and many souls will yet be won to the message as a result of their gospel seed sowing.

The Educational Department has also made progress during recent years. While from 1937-1941 the number of our church schools increased only from 16 to 17, the total enrollment was 333 in 1937, whereas it is now 505. During this five-year period the Gentry church school has developed into the Ozark Academy, which has nearly 100 students in academic grades at this time. The institution is meeting a real need in our field and new improvements are being added as rapidly as our finances will permit.

The Sabbath school work in our conference is keeping pace with other department activities. The number of Sabbath schools in our field has increased from 48 in 1937 to 60 at the close of 1941. The membership of these schools has grown during the same period from 2026 to 2955. Our offerings to missions through this department have increased from \$8,648.03 in 1937 to \$13,680.14 in 1941.

The Home Missionary Department of our work has been greatly strengthened during the past five years. We shall offer no comparative figures as a gauge to determine what progress has been made, but we can truthfully

ly say that our membership has never before been so active and cooperative in missionary endeavor as at the present time. We have just launched our greatest forward movement along this line, and our hearts have been made glad by an almost unanimous response revealing that our members are willing to undertake the finishing of the work.

Perhaps progress in no other line has been more marked in our field, however, than in the matter of erecting new church and school buildings or in the remodeling and repairing of old ones. During the past five years 13 church buildings have been erected or purchased, 11 white and 2 negro. Six new school buildings have been erected including the two dormitories of Ozark Academy. Large improvements have been made on a number of other buildings throughout our field. Thirty-eight thousand dollars is a conservative estimate of the money spent on these new projects, and it is safe to say that our property values are now about double what they were five years ago. We have followed the "no debt" policy in our building operations.

Five years ago our total number of regular conference employees numbered 20. At the close of 1941 the number was 25. In 1937 our conference had practically no operating or reserve funds, while at the close of 1941 we had \$8,000 in cash for operating and reserve. Our old debts have been reduced from \$11,000 to \$6,000 during the five years from 1937 to 1941.

For these and many other blessings experienced, we thank God and take courage. We believe our greatest day of opportunity has come, and we shall undertake to lift the work of God to new heights of achievement in Arkansas-Louisiana during this year 1942.

I. C. POUND.

Report of Oklahoma Conference

TO THE delegates of the Southwestern Union Conference, Greetings!

We appreciate the opportunity of bringing to you a report of the work in the Oklahoma Conference covering the past five years. While the first part of this period was a most perplexing one for Oklahoma due to serious drouth conditions that very

seriously affected economic conditions, yet the Lord's protecting hand has been over His work and His people in Oklahoma, and we are glad we can come to you with an encouraging report showing that progress is being made in advancing the work in our field.

The Oklahoma Conference is composed of fifty churches and twenty additional Sabbath school companies. The membership of the conference on December 31, 1941, was 3,092, of which 579 were members of the conference church.

Personnel

There are twenty-five workers employed at the present time by the Oklahoma Conference. Aside from the two administrative officers, there are eight district pastor-evangelists, two Bible workers, three evangelistic assistants, two ministerial internes, three department secretaries, three stenographers, one colored evangelist and one native Cherokee Indian worker. The entire working force of the conference, with the exception of three, has changed within the past three years, among these were several workers who had been in the field for some years and desired transfers and our veteran worker, Elder C. J. Dart, who retired in 1939 from active labor.

It is with sadness and deep regret that we mention the death of two of our tried and experienced ministers. Elder F. M. Robinson, who was working among the Cherokee Indians passed away after a few weeks illness in the spring of 1939. Elder C. D. Hein, who had served two terms of seven years each as a worker in the Oklahoma Conference died suddenly from a heart attack in March, 1941, while assisting in the preparation of the new campground. The death of these two workers were distinct losses to our field. The present group of men and women comprising our working force is composed of a loyal group of enthusiastic aggressive workers. A splendid spirit of harmony prevails and a most friendly and congenial cooperation exists.

Tithes and Offerings

The first three years of the last quinquennium were indeed perplexing ones for Oklahoma, due to the long period of drouth that followed hard on the depression years. In 1940 the outlook became brighter and the year 1941 closed one of the best

records Oklahoma has had since the good old days when it was one of the leading conferences in North America with a tithe income of around one hundred thousand dollars a year. We are now well on our way back as will be shown by the following summation.

The tithe income for the previous quadrennial period was \$190,721.35. For the quadrennium that closed with the year 1940 the tithe income was \$243,027.14 or a gain of \$52,305.79 over the previous four years. The tithe income for the year 1941 was \$75,971.53, or a gain over the average income for the years 1937-1940 of \$15,214.75.

The mission offerings have also made good gains but like the condition prevailing generally throughout he field, not as large proportionately as the tithe gain. The total forty-cent-a-week fund for the years 1933-1936 was \$108,726.17; for the four years that closed in 1940 it was \$128,086.54, or an increase over the previous four-year period of \$19,360.37. The mission income for the year 1941 was \$34,242.62, or a gain over the average receipts for the four previous years of \$2,220.99.

The Harvest Ingathering alone, (1936-1940) showed over a ten thousand dollars gain over the previous four years, and in 1941 was nearly two thousand dollars more than was received in 1940. The Sabbath school offerings have also shown a substantial gain.

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Statistical

The membership of the conference shows a slight loss since the report was rendered at the last union session. At that time it stood at 3,115, while at the close of 1941 it was 3,092. The loss is partly due to apostasies—the resultant clearing up of some church records, the moving of a number of families to the Pacific Coast during the dark days of the dust bowl experience, and the difficulty of carrying forward a strong evangelistic program during the days of economic instability which the state of Oklahoma faced when the till was scraped month by month to take care of the routine running expenses of the conference, thus

leaving very little for aggressive evangelism.

Departments

I am glad to tell you that the work in our various departments is showing progress. The departments are well manned with good leadership. We have the largest number of Missionary volunteer societies by a wide margin than at any time during the past ten years and only during two quarters of that time has the membership been higher than it stood at the close of 1941. The educational work shows a similar growth, there being an average increase from fourteen schools to nineteen schools, from eighteen teachers to twenty-five teachers, and from 262 pupils to 305 pupils. The enrollment for the year 1940-41 was the highest it has been for ten years. There is still much to be accomplished in the promotion of Christian education in Oklahoma.

Three state-wide youth congresses have been sponsored during the past five years. Profitable and well-attended junior camps have been held each year. One of our more recent endeavors has been to gather in the young people of the various districts for a singing convention. At these singing conventions, certain definite missionary volunteer features are promoted. These meetings have met with very favorable reception and we believe they have meant a great deal to our youth at this time when there is so much stress and strain. Elder Nesmith has been most efficiently directing the work of these two departments for the past two and a half years.

The Sabbath school and home missionary departments are under the direction of Elder C. N. Eckman who took charge of them at the time of our 1941 camp meeting. The work in these departments has shown steady progress. The Sabbath school membership has averaged slightly better than 3,000 members and the offerings, as has already been pointed out, show a gradual gain during the past quadrennium. We recognize the opportunities before us in this department, and definite and progressive plans have been formulated for very materially increasing both the Sabbath school membership and offerings during 1942.

One interesting feature of the home missionary work during the past

three years has been the excellent work done by several lay preachers. Nearly one hundred have united with the church during the past three years as the direct result of this lay-evangelistic work, and several Sabbath schools have been organized that hold prospects for still further addition as the result of the work of these lay preachers.

The department which was the hardest hit during the drouth period was our publishing department. During the first two years of the last quinquennium the colporteur work suffered heavy losses over previous years. Slowly, yet surely, a comeback is being made. During the past three years steady gains in sales have been made. Our field missionary secretary, Brother Plue, has been directing the colporteur work during the past two years and is now engaged in formulating some aggressive plans for the building up of a stronger colporteur work in our field. During the past few months a program has been under way of securing and training part-time workers in a number of our churches to sell small books and magazines regularly each month. A good start has been made along this line.

Financial

The Oklahoma Conference has been operating safely within its income during the past five years. At the beginning of the last quinquennium the conference had liabilities amounting to \$17,160. with a net worth deficit of \$4,685. The year 1941 closed with no liabilities and a present worth of \$10,087.46. In addition to this, during 1940 and 1941 an investment exceeding \$12,000 was made in a new permanent campground, covering forty acres of ground within seven miles of the heart of Oklahoma City, the center of our conference. This includes improvements on same, such as the installation of a power line, water system, dining room facilities, fencing, clearing, etc. The entire project is paid for. Thus the conference is well on its way to safe financial stability.

We have also made headway in the reduction of our notes payable in the corporation. At the beginning of the last quinquennium the corporation liabilities stood at \$56,611.25. At the close of 1941 these had been re-

duced to \$38,988.78, a reduction of 31 per cent. Liabilities in the legal corporation move downward slowly because of the limited means available that can be used for this purpose. But again the trend indicates we are making progress.

Book and Bible House

The Book and Bible House has made a good showing comparatively speaking. For the four years 1933-1936, the total operating loss in the Book and Bible House was \$3,330.19. While the next four years 1937-1940 showed a total operating gain of \$2,220.65, or an average annual gain of \$505.53, exclusive of salaries. For the year 1941 the operating gain was \$705.65.

Negro Department

A work is being carried forward among the 250,000 Negroes in Oklahoma. At the present time we have six colored churches and three companies. Four of these churches operate church schools. Elder O. J. Trotter, our Negro evangelist, has held several successful efforts and at present is engaged in Sunday night meetings in Oklahoma City, that are well attended. He is also conducting a correspondence Bible school through the columns of a leading Negro weekly published in Oklahoma City. This has just recently been started, but the returns so far are most satisfying.

Indian Mission

There are one hundred thousand Indians in Oklahoma. A start has been made in working among them. A mission and mission school is being operated by the conference at the present time among the Cherokees. Elder Calvin D. Smith, who has had a number of years experience working among the Sioux of South Dakota, joined us this last summer to lead out in the work among the Indians of our field. He is assisted by Brother Oscar Padgett, one of the late Elder Robinson's Indian converts and Brother Ted Moors who is teaching the school at the mission.

New Organizations and Church Buildings

Six new churches were organized in Oklahoma during the past quinquennium the Cherokee Indian Mission, Pleasant View, Seminole, Shat-

tuck (which was the uniting of three churches into one organization) Ada, and Newby No. 2. Fifteen new church buildings have been erected or purchased as follows: Bartlesville, Cherokee Mission, El Reno, Lawton, Nowata, Omega, Pleasant View, Seminole, Southard, Shattuck, Stroud, Vinita (all white), and three colored churches as follows: Enid, Hominy and Newby. Eight of these churches are conducting church schools, five of them in rooms separate from the main auditorium.

Objectives

In Oklahoma we believe in having objectives. We believe they furnish incentives for continuous aggressive progress. We have before us three main objectives for 1942, toward the attainment of which we have geared our entire organization; and every worker in the conference is enthusiastically taking part. The first objective is greater evangelism! It calls for an "all out" evangelistic program. This program has been completely mapped out in counsel with the conference committee and the worker personnel, and on the year's calendar are some seventeen or eighteen evangelistic efforts, all definitely scheduled. These efforts will be held in as many strategic cities and communities in the conference, with a like program in the making for the following year, 1943. We have cleared the decks for united action and are expecting the next two years to show marked progress in the winning of souls in our field.

Each evangelistic company is planning its scheduled efforts well ahead and setting up definite objectives toward which to strive. All workers in the conference know their battle stations for the year. Some of the efforts are already under way and others will start immediately following this conference session. This "all out" program of evangelism will strain our financial coffers, but we are venturing forth with faith and courage placing our trust and confidence in the Lord to supply our needs. We have wholeheartedly in the admonition found in *Christ's Object Lessons*, page 147, to "talk and act as if your faith was invincible."

One of the main features of this program of evangelism is our radio work. We are now carrying one program a week over one of the strongest broadcasting stations in the state,

that reaches every nook and corner of our territory. (This is in addition to the National hook-up). Already nearly 900 persons have enrolled in our Free Bible Correspondence School of the Air. We are hoping to be able to augment this radio work as the months go by. Our people in all sections of the field are rallying to this evangelistic program, which gives us courage to go forward while such unprecedented opportunities are ours.

In addition to the conference-sponsored evangelistic efforts and radio program, a number of our lay evangelists are getting their plans under way for joining in the "all out" program of soul-winning; and plans are being laid for the circulation of literature "like the leaves of autumn" by our lay members and especially by colporteur evangelists. We are praying and expecting that some of the best people in our ranks will respond to the invitation to join the ranks of full-time or part-time dispensers of our most timely truth-filled literature. We believe the time has arrived to put into action Carey's motto to "expect great things from God and attempt great things for God."

Conclusion

Brother Chairman, I wish to assure you that all of us workers of the Oklahoma Conference are of good courage in the Lord. There is not a pessimist among us! We are all wholehearted Christian optimists, and loyal Seventh-day Adventist opportunists! We don't believe, because of grave world conditions, that the message is about finished and that there is not much more for us to do. We believe the greatest days of the message are just before us. We hear the challenge ringing in our ears that God sent through Joshua to his people anciently as they lingered on the borders of the promised land: "Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you." We accept this as God's challenge to us today and most devotedly and sincerely we yield and dedicate our all to meet it. Our most earnest desire and greatest ambition is to help finish the work of the Lord in the earth; and we further pledge our loyal cooperation and untiring efforts, together with our associate workers in sister conferences, to do everything within our

power to help build up a strong aggressive soul-winning work in the Southwestern Union Conference. Toward this end we will give our best. We will not even be satisfied with our best, but will "constantly strive to make our best, better."

J. L. McCONAUGHEY.

Report of Texas Conference

WE ESTEEM it a privilege and a pleasure to present a report of the progress of the work in the Texas Conference during the past five years. It is hardly necessary to remind the delegates of this union conference session that Texas has one of the largest conference territories in the North American Division. When we were called to lead the forces in this field, it was with some satisfaction that we learned that 88 counties of this great state had already been ceded to New Mexico to make up the Texico Conference. After ceding this large portion of our state we still have a gigantic field, and it looks like an insurmountable task to warn approximately five million souls who are scattered to such an extent that it takes many miles of driving between cities. It is estimated that we have more than 500 cities and towns in our territory, and several of these cities are numbered among the fastest growing cities in North America.

Texas is not only the largest state in the union, but it is one of the most interesting states. It is noted for its varied climate. If a person likes a low, damp altitude, he can find it along the banks of the Gulf of Mexico. Here the heat is tempered by the continuous breezes from this great body of water. If one desires to live in a dry, warm, low altitude, the northeastern part of Texas is very desirable. If one prefers a high altitude, he would choose the western part of the state of Texas. One person has said, "If you do not like the climate in Texas, just wait a minute and the change will be so radical that it will please the most fastidious." The thermometer has been known to drop 47 degrees in four hours, and at another time it dropped 30 degrees in one hour. The climate is so pure and wholesome in Texas that it is said a horned toad was recently found in a building column which had not been released for thirty years.

Climate is not the only thing in Texas. We have the rich and the poor. The large farms and ranches, the many oil wells, the mines, the orange groves, etc., have made many wealthy people. On the other hand, mingled with these people are large numbers of poverty-stricken folks who are often found on the same ranches or in the same locality and sometimes in the same yard.

Texas is noted for its many churches and church-going people. All denominations are represented, and one can scarcely find a businessman or common laborer who is not an active member of some church organization. Perhaps this latter statement gives us one of the reasons why our evangelists do not attract large crowds to their meetings. Ordinarily the average church in Texas is filled to the doors at nearly every meeting. Texas produces cotton, oil, cattle, sheep, sulphur, iron, lumber, sugar, citrus fruits, and grains of all kinds, etc. As a result of these varied conditions, Texas is attracting many individuals from other parts of the United States.

Our Working Force

Since our last union session held here, many changes have taken place in the working force of the Texas Conference. Five years ago Elder J. D. Smith was president of this conference and rendered a report. He is now the president of the Southern New England Conference. Brother J. O. Hanson, who was secretary-treasurer at that time, is now holding a similar position in the Oklahoma Conference. Elder Ellis W. Storing, our former home missionary and Sabbath school secretary, received a call to take up active responsibilities in the mission field and is located on the island of Jamaica, British West Indies. Other workers have accepted calls until we have almost an entirely new group of workers in this field. We feel very grateful to our heavenly Father for His kind, protecting care over the men and women who make up our working force. While it is true that some of our faithful laborers have had temporary illnesses which have given perplexity to both the individual and the conference, yet we are thankful the Lord has spared the lives of each one and they are in comparatively good health, with the exception of our dear Brother J. F. Anderson, who has had

to lay down his burdens and take time to recuperate his strength. We must all admit that our working force is small in comparison to the task of giving the message to the people of this large territory. What we lack in numbers we have attempted to make up in deep consecration, enthusiasm and courage.

Evangelistic Work

Every worker in the field has had an active part in our evangelistic program, and while the net gains do not look as encouraging as we would like them to, yet we believe the church membership is much stronger than at any time in the history of the conference. When we arrived here three years ago we found many church membership lists in a really deplorable condition. Sometimes churches with a large number of names on their lists were not meeting at all, or only a small percentage of the members were attending services. We have attempted to re-establish this discouraged and indifferent class by holding short evangelistic meetings, or in some instances, strong evangelistic efforts. Even with this extra effort in behalf of those who were indifferent, many names have had to be stricken from our lists. This has made our net gains smaller but we believe it gives a more accurate record of our actual membership.

Besides the strong evangelistic efforts held in our churches, which have established many new people into the message and greatly strengthened the membership, a large number of public efforts have been held in tents, tabernacles, and halls. Among the most successful have been efforts held in Kilgore, Tyler, Mercedes, McAllen, Houston, Beaumont, Waco, Sherman, Denison, Denton, Mission, San Antonio, etc.

There have been 1618 persons baptized and joined on profession of faith during the five years. The largest number for one year was in 1940, when 420 new believers were accepted into the message. This gives us a present membership of 4303, or a net gain over 1936 of 346. This net gain has come within the last two years, for at the beginning of 1940 we had a smaller membership than at the end of 1936. Eleven new churches have been organized during the five-year period, with a membership of 265. It is with a real note

of sadness that during this same period it is necessary to report that nearly this same number of churches have been disbanded, so that our total number of churches at the present time is 63.

Church Properties

We have made much progress in renovating and repairing our churches and school properties, so that the physical condition of a larger number of our churches is much improved. Four new buildings have either been erected or purchased, and one has been moved and rebuilt in the center of the city. Two new church buildings are in process of erection at the present time.

Church Debt Reduction

During the past five years much progress has been made toward freeing our churches from the terrible burden of debt. Some churches were completely discouraged over the outlook, and it took prayer and cooperative study to outline a way that would bring freedom. The Houston colored church was the first to be able to sing the victory song. Tyler came second. Others followed. Among the outstanding experiences in our field were Dallas and San Antonio, who finished paying their entire debt during the last month of 1941. We believe we should mention the splendid cooperation we are receiving from the colored church in San Antonio. They have not failed to make their regular monthly payment at any time during the past three years. This means that ere long their debt will be entirely liquidated. The Dallas colored church has begun a similar program. We believe we can assure the delegates that within a short period Texas will be free from debt.

Financial Situation

It is with much satisfaction that we are able to give such a favorable financial report. We fully realize that we cannot always determine a man's spiritual condition by the amount of tithe and mission offerings he gives to God, but I believe we can take courage when an entire conference gives more liberally to the advancement of the cause of God. In order that you might visualize the steady growth of tithe and mission offerings, and the assets of our conference and Association, we give you the following comparisons.

Schedule I

We believe the tithe shows the most consistent gain of any fund. In 1932 the combined tithe of the North and South Texas Conferences amounted to \$42,670. The tithe for 1936, or at the end of the five-year period, was \$65,720 or an increase of \$23,000 over 1932. The tithe for 1941 amounted to \$116,263, or an increase of \$50,543 over 1936, or an increase of \$73,593 in 1941 over the year 1932. In the five years from 1932-1937, the total tithe received was \$268,361. The total tithe from 1937-1942 was \$445,950, or an increase of \$177,589. These figures prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that God has blessed and prospered His people.

Schedule II

The total mission offerings also show outstanding increases. In 1932 the mission offerings amounted to \$23,405. In 1936, five years later, they were \$31,854, or an increase of \$8,443. Our mission offerings for 1941 were \$44,505, or an increase of \$12,650 during the five years, or a gain of \$21,100 over 1932. You will note that the total mission offerings for the period 1932-1937 were \$135,329. From 1937-1942 they amounted to \$192,732, or an increase of \$57,403.

Schedule III

The Sabbath school offerings from 1932-1937 were \$74,848. In the period from 1937-1942 they increased to \$99,790, or a gain of \$24,942.

Schedule IV

Another fund which has shown remarkable progress is the Harvest In-gathering. During the five years 1932-1937, \$47,120 were given to God. From 1937-1942, \$75,055 went into the treasury from this fund, showing an increase of \$27,934.

Schedule V

Combining the tithe and mission offerings for the five years 1937-1942, we find that a total of \$638,682 has been received. This is a gain of \$234,499 over the first five years of the Texas Conference.

Schedule VI

During these years our conference committee has attempted to husband these funds and use them to the glory of God. Ten years ago our Operating Fund showed a deficit of \$10,562. At the beginning of the last five-year period, January 1, 1937, we still had a deficit of \$1,580. We are

thankful to report at this session that the entire deficit has been met, and at the present time we have assets of \$36,999.98, and a present worth of \$26,397.05. Our conference has no debts of any kind.

We cannot say this about our conference Association, which is the legal body for the conference. However, we are greatly encouraged with the present outlook. In January, 1937, our Association books showed a deficit of \$17,223.64. But this did not tell all the story. Many of the church accounts had not been kept alive and have had to be discounted thousands of dollars. We have now reduced our indebtedness until at the present time the Association shows a deficit of approximately \$9100. Another year or two should wipe out the entire indebtedness and put our Association on vantage ground.

Two years ago the Lord helped us to secure a property in Fort Worth, which has been converted into a conference office building, with sufficient space for all departments, including storage for our equipment. It is adequate in every way and has brought cheer and satisfaction to the conference officers and workers.

Two Branches

In giving this report of our financial standing, a good word should be said for our Spanish brethren who have attempted to keep up their end of the load. At the present time we have three men in this branch of our work. A similar word can be given for the Negro branch. The tithe and mission offerings of both of these branches have shown substantial increases, and we believe the outlook is brighter than at any time in the history of the conference.

Departments

It would be impossible in this short period to give a detailed report of the splendid work of each one of our departments, but suffice it to say that each department has been under the leadership of an aggressive secretary, who has labored untiringly for the advancement of the work. We recognize that the financial part of our report always stands out prominently, for we can see and understand figures when we cannot keep an accurate record of all the little things in life that may seem of small consequence, but which have such an important bearing upon preparing individuals for eternity. Our

secretaries have shown their interest in the advancement of God's work by their sanctified lives and their willingness to spend many days away from home and sleepless nights on the train, and by their enthusiastic interest in all that pertains to the advancement of the cause.

*Sabbath School and Home
Missionary Departments*

We have already shown the advancement of the Sabbath school along the lines of finance, and we are confident that the spirituality of our members has been greatly strengthened by the daily lesson study and regular attendance at Sabbath school, which have been so fully promoted by the secretary and every superintendent.

The same is true of the home missionary department. Elder W. L. Barclay has untiringly promoted the many phases of this department, and the results of his work, and also the work of the missionary leaders in our churches, are seen in the thousands of pages of literature distributed, hours of Christian help work, and the number of souls won to the cause of God. Only eternity will reveal all that has been accomplished.

Educational and M. V. Departments

Elder V. W. Becker has led these departments during the entire five-year period, until just recently when he accepted a call to the Greater New York Conference. The records of this department show that 2436 reading course certificates have been given to our missionary volunteers during the past five years, 421 persons have been encouraged to read the Bible through, and 689 insignias have been given to persons who have finished the Progressive class work, including 78 individuals who have been invested as Master Comrades.

An increased interest has been manifested in the junior camp work. The camp has become an established custom in our field. The 1941 camp was probably the best attended, with approximately 100 juniors present. Youth rallies and youth congresses have been held in different parts of the field, with a splendid attendance and with eternal results, we are certain.

At the present time we have 25 church schools, being taught by 39 consecrated teachers, with an attendance of 481 pupils, of whom 80 are above the eighth grade. This does

not include the hundred or more young people who are attending the academy and college.

Publishing Work

We have had two field secretaries during the five-year period; first, Brother C. L. Chastain, and then Brother A. E. Van Noty, our present secretary. Our records show that there has been a steady growth in this department. We have men and women who are demonstrating that books can be sold these days. The servant of the Lord has said: "It is not the Lord's purpose that ministers should be left to do the greatest work of sowing the seeds of truth. Many who are not called to the ministry are to be encouraged to labor for the Master according to their several ability. Hundreds of men and women who are idle could do acceptable service by carrying the truth into the homes of their friends and neighbors. They could do a great work for the Master." *Testimonies, Vol. VII, pp. 21, 144.*

More than \$95,000 worth of literature has been sold through our Book and Bible House during the past five years. These books, periodicals, etc. are now in the homes of our own people and thousands of homes where our colporteurs have placed books and other literature. They will remain as witnesses to the truthfulness of Bible prophecy and we are certain they will have much to do in bringing on the loud cry of the third angel's message. It should be observed that our faithful colporteurs have been responsible for more than \$72,000 worth of these literature sales.

Closing Remarks

Our greatest need at the present time is a deeper consecration and a fuller realization of the solemn work God has given to us. We are planning for a larger work and a greater evangelistic program. We have greatly appreciated the cooperation of our union brethren. Their counsel has been valuable to us and we regret that the time has come when some changes must be made. Elder R. L. Benton has been a real father to us. His counsel has been sound and his life has been an inspiration to us. The same words could be said of all our other union brethren. We ask the prayers of the delegates that God may give us wisdom and strength to go forward with courage and fortitude as we continue to carry

the responsibilities of the work in Texas.

F. D. WELLS.

Report of the Texico Conference *Introduction*

WE BELIEVE that the zero hour has struck. Men and women by the millions are having an opportunity to get their eyes opened as to the future. Perhaps never in all man's history has so much light been given in earth's domain as at present. The eyes of heaven and of the entire universe, with its unnumbered worlds, are focusing their keenest interest and attention upon one little speck in this vast creation. The Holy Spirit has been doing its full work of grace upon human hearts for almost six thousand years, but especially so in the present crisis.

The great work of the judgment is drawing to a close. Judgment bound creatures are on the verge of an eternal world. Man's choices and opportunities for eternal life will soon be in the past. Jesus now acts as our high priest and mediator, but soon his work of mercy will close; then He will say: "It is finished." The most beautiful, grand, and noble work, God has placed in the hands of men and women who love Him and keep His commandments. We are in the moments when we may expect a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit to complete the work. This is the most glorious hour for God's true and faithful followers. The way has been opened for the finishing of the work quickly.

As workers in the Texico Conference, we feel grateful to God for such splendid men and women as we have had to follow. The blessings of heaven have rested upon their labors through the years. The present working force is enjoying the fruits of their work.

Geographic

The Texico Conference is made up of 78 counties of western Texas and all of New Mexico except San Juan county. It is the largest conference in area in this union. There are 203,313 square miles within its boundaries. In the report rendered at the Southwestern Union Conference Session, February 4-11, 1924, the president in his report stated: "After deducting from its area Lipscomb County, Texas, which was given to Oklahoma in 1923, and San

Juan County, New Mexico, which was given to the Inter-Mountain Conference ten years earlier, we still have sufficient room in which to place the North Texas Conference, the South Texas Conference, the conferences of Arkansas, Rhode Island, and Connecticut, the District of Columbia, and two cities the size of Oklahoma City."

The Texico Conference gave to Texas approximately 19,000 square miles, but you can see there is still plenty of room left. This field is bounded on the west by the Pacific Union, on the north by the Central Union, on the south by the Mexican Union, and on the east by our sister conferences of Oklahoma and Texas.

In this conference there are many cities and towns, but our membership is made up largely of a rural constituency. There are many ways in which the people of Texico earn their livelihood. Some of the leading industries are the raising of wheat, cattle, sheep, cotton, row crops, fruit, broom corn, and vegetables. There are many large saw mills in New Mexico. Coal and copper are mined. Much oil and gas is to be found in sections of western Texas and New Mexico. Texico has many health resorts. The lowest point in the conference is 1603 feet, and the highest is 13,356. The air is bracing and cool during the summer nights.

Peoples

If you were to visit the Texico Conference, you would find that one and one-half million people reside there. This population is made up of English, Spanish, and Indian people. Forty per cent of the population of New Mexico is Spanish; many colored people are to be found there. At one time a work was carried on among our Indian population. Today, according to the last census, we have 34,510 Indians in the conference. Many of these people are just as steeped in heathenism as their forefathers were. Some are spirit worshippers. We have no worker laboring among these Indian people. We are hoping and praying that the way may be opened for an advance step to be taken to give these native Americans the gospel of the soon-coming of Jesus.

History

When Spain was a strong colonial nation, her far-flung possessions included the territory of New Mexico. We still see the influence of the ear-

ly Spanish settlers in this state. President Roosevelt said that Santa Fe, the State Capital, was "the quaintest town in the United States." It is the second oldest town in the U. S. A.

Within the borders of this field there are over fifty special places of historical interest. The most interesting of all is that great hole in the ground known as the Carlsbad Caverns—the largest caverns known in the world. The handiwork of God was not spared in its inexpressible beauty.

Workers

There have been a number of changes in the working force in the last five years. Truly, this is a great "Advent movement." In the changes and exchanges, fourteen workers have come and gone. Ten new faces are to be found in the field, and we are looking for two more to fill present vacancies.

The Book Work

This phase of our work, according to the messenger of the Lord, is represented by the angel flying in the midst of heaven who lightened the earth with his glory. During the last five years \$17,371.07 worth of books have been delivered. The book work has been the forerunner of the good progress shown in the Spanish Department in the addition of new members. Entire churches have been raised up as a result of the book work.

Educational

The nicest work ever entrusted to men is the training of the minds of the youth and young people in heavenly ways. God's servant repeatedly stresses the need of all our boys and girls and young people being in our own schools, instructed by our own teachers. If we could only hold our own youth and young people to this denomination, our membership would be as great as the number of people we bring in from the outside at present. The Lord has instructed us that where there are as many as six children, there should be a church school.

Even though the expense on the average is high for our schools—\$5.50 per student per school month—yet our people have loyally supported the program. There have been on the average during the past union conference term 15½ schools in Texico. In 1941, seventeen schools

opened with an enrollment of 271 students. Twenty-one teachers were employed to instruct these boys and girls. Forty-nine students from Texico have enrolled in Southwestern Junior College. The administration of the college has cooperated loyally to make it possible for many of these young people to enter its doors. Eleven students have enrolled in secondary schools outside of the field.

Sabbath Schools

In the year 1936, forty-two Sabbath schools were functioning. In 1941 there were sixty, or a gain of 18. A goodly number have been won to the Lord through the efforts of Sabbath school members. Through the Sabbath schools, \$55,284.85 in offerings have been received. Our people like to give to the Lord's cause.

Religious Liberty Work

Since the last union session, the enemy of God's truth has placed many hindrances in the way of the progress of the three-fold message. We have, in several places, Catholic nuns who are teaching in the public schools, paid by the State, and they dress in their distinctive garb. In one of the public schools a child of one of our Spanish members had to attend where a nun was in charge. She had all the children bow down to an image. The S. D. A. child refused. She was told not to come back to school any more until she would be willing to bow down to this image. In one district, the Catholic priest is the sole "planner and sayer" for the public school. The buses bring the children to the Catholic school which is the public school.

In New Mexico the Green River Ordinance has been declared constitutional by the State Supreme Court. In Raton we cannot, at present, do colporteur work. A similar ordinance was passed in Borger, Texas. Gradually our liberties are being withdrawn.

Home Missionary Work

Briefly we will call your attention to a few items having to do with the home missionary work. In the last sixty months scores of believers have been going from home to home opening the word of God to earnest listeners. They gave 17,977 Bible readings, paid 52,040 missionary visits, gave away 32,660 articles of clothing, and distributed 460,201 books, tracts, and periodicals. Out of all

this work by the laity, 264 dear souls were won to this blessed truth.

Missionary Volunteer Work

At present there are 26 organized M. V. societies, having a membership of 408. In the year 1941, 449 reading course certificates were issued: 605 Bible readings were given, and 82 young people united with the church. The young people have been a real help in the Harvest Ingathering work and other phases of missionary activity.

Medical Work

"The medical work is the right arm of the message." We have a number of splendid doctors in our field. Their services have proved to be helpful not only in their profession, but in the church work. We are in need of more good doctors.

Finances

According to our treasurer's records, in the past five years \$146,672.74 has been received in the tithe. At the same time \$71,787.58 has been given for the support of the denominational mission program. We have had a healthy growth in tithe in the Texico Conference. An appeal was made for the Week of Sacrifice in 1941 and our members responded with \$1065.25.

Being mainly a rural membership, a period of prosperity is not readily felt. All the churches are practically free from debt. No money is being loaned to churches. The statement that has been made, "shun debt as the leprosy," is still a good program to live and work by. This conference has lived within its budget and is solvent. Under the blessing of the Lord we are very happy to report that the Texico Conference has been able to add sufficient funds to its working capital to have the full amount as recommended by the General Conference.

Membership

The Texico Conference has had growing pains for the past ten years which is a most encouraging sign. In 1932 there were nineteen churches with a membership of 721. At the close of 1941 there were 37 churches with a membership of 1582. There has been an increase of 861 members, or a net increase of 119 per cent—an average net increase for the ten-year period of 11.9 per cent per year. From 1937 to 1941, 1522 members were added to the church list. From

ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA

1215 Marshall St., Little Rock, Ark.
 PRESIDENT, I. C. POUND
 SEC'Y-TREAS., T. R. GARDNER

News Notes

Brother Charles R. Beeler, leader of District No. 8, has just returned from Washington where he attended the spring term of the Theological Seminary. Brother Beeler reports a very interesting time spent in study and research, and he feels himself much better equipped and qualified to help finish the work in this section of the vineyard.

Brother Woodrow Larson, who attended school at Emmanuel Missionary College during this past school year, has just returned to his home in Louisiana and has been selected to assist Brother C. L. Grandon in the colporteur work during the summer months. As most of our readers may know, Brother Grandon was successful in lining up a number of students for summer work, and it does require an assistant to keep this phase of the work functioning while the students are in the field. We are very happy that Brother Larson can be with us again this summer. He has assisted during the past two summers.

While the Ingathering campaign is just getting under way, and few reports have been received as yet, we know that this important phase of the work is being given much thought and attention throughout the field. A few reports have come in signifying that the Lord has greatly blessed in the gathering in of funds to be used in finishing His work. This year we are striving to keep the Ingathering campaign within six weeks, and with the cooperation of the entire field, we believe that such can be done. To date we have received no reports indicating that we are to experience any particular difficulty since the campaign was moved up so much earlier in the year than has been customary heretofore in this territory. We earnestly solicit the prayers and support of each member in helping us to put over the campaign in the stipulated six weeks.

Miss Grace Bell, one of our office secretaries, has just returned to Little Rock, after having spent one week visiting her friends and relatives in

New Orleans. Miss Bell reports a very pleasant vacation.

We understand Elder M. R. Garrett of New Orleans is to conduct a second baptismal service on the 13th, resulting from the recent effort held in that city. Brother Garrett has already baptized 20, and we rejoice with him and the New Orleans church in the good work which has been done in that city.

Elder M. L. Wilson is laying plans to conduct a six weeks' effort in Natchitoches, Louisiana. Elder Wilson held a similar effort there last summer, but since then Miss Julia Inabinet has been doing Bible work and developing the interest created, and there seems to be a great demand for another effort. We are very happy that Elder Wilson has found it possible to hold this series of meetings, and let us join in prayer that a number might take their stand for the truth.

Again we take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the faithfulness of God's people in returning to His treasury the tithe and also offerings for supporting the work. For May we received the largest tithe in the history of this conference, and for this we are very thankful. In these days of increased costs, it requires considerably more to operate a conference than in years gone by. We want the constituency of this field to know that an aggressive work is being carried on, and with the blessings of God, we have every reason to believe that the records achieved this year will be the best that we have ever established. We earnestly pray that God's people might be faithful and that we might all work together to accomplish the task that is before us, —then receive the reward.

OKLAHOMA

Box 528, Oklahoma City, Okla.
 PRESIDENT, J. L. MCCONAUGHEY
 SEC'Y-TREAS., J. O. HANSON

News from Oklahoma

The Conference office staff sponsored a farewell "get-to-gether" for Brother and Sister Hanson and family and Brother and Sister Brown-ing and family in Elder Whitsett's reception room in the Shrine build-

1932 to 1936, 1176 new members were added. Even with more additions during the last five years, the net increase in membership was less than the period of 1932-36.

There has been a very healthy growth in the Spanish work. At the end of 1936 there were 153 members. At the end of 1941 there were 356 members, or a gain of 32 per cent in the five years. An increase in membership naturally calls for new church organizations and houses of worship. Eleven new churches have been organized since the last union conference session, and thirteen new places of worship have been established. In addition to the above number, two more church buildings are now under construction; one being almost completed. Plans have been formulated for the erection of others.

Recruits for Mission Fields

Three couples have answered calls from this conference to give their services to the mission fields of Cuba, India, and Inter-America.

Conclusion

We fail not to give our heavenly Father due praise for all His mercies and kindnesses, toward us. His love and guiding hand have been felt. The lives of all our workers have been spared for which our hearts are filled with deep gratitude. The workers and members of the Texico Conference are filled with courage and determination to help finish the work quickly so that King Jesus may come. To this end we dedicate our lives and all that we have to a speedy completion of the work.

At least a dozen efforts will be held in the conference during 1942. We are sure that our vision must be broadened and our efforts must be greater and our pace must be quickened so that God's work will go to every kindred, tongue, and nation. Victory, victory, fellow workers, will soon be ours under the banner of Prince Emmanuel, "Lift up your heads and know that your redemption draweth nigh." Our marching orders are "Go ye."

May God's tender mercies and love abide and rest with each until the consummation of all hopes has been realized—the privilege of reigning with the great "I Am" in glory.

V. A. LAGRONE.

ing last Monday evening. Brethren Hanson and Browning's transfer to other fields of labor remind us again that we are connected with a great "movement!"

Elder Bresee and Brother Niswonger, with their wives, were office visitors one day last week. They report a continued interest in their meetings in Bartlesville, and this coming Sunday night will launch another campaign. They took back with them a large assortment of our good literature for distribution.

Brother Truesdell, who recently closed his series of meetings in Tulsa, reported the following in a letter to the president:

"As the result of our meetings held in the Tulsa church, we have baptized twenty-seven and a goodly number still preparing for baptism. The success of these meetings is largely due to the hearty cooperation of the church members. They have stood by in a good way."

Elder Truesdell, assisted by Brother and Sister O'Brien, are in their second week of meetings in Sapulpa and reported a "full house" last Sunday night. The subject was "Why Hitler Cannot Win!"

Elder Kiesz reports a continued interest in his meetings at Hooker. Because of harvest starting it will be necessary for him to close his meetings on the night of the 14th.

Elders Marshall, Smith and Brother Hampton are busy with the Ingathering work in their various districts. Elder Eckman has been busy in the field assisting these workers and our people in these districts. Let us push the Ingathering with speed and earnestness. Oklahoma City launched their campaign last week.

TEXAS

2838 Hemphill St., Ft. Worth, Texas
 PRESIDENT, F. D. WELLS
 SEC'Y-TREAS., G. T. BURGESS

Special Notice

ALL of the members and friends of the San Antonio, English district, will be interested to learn that we are holding a rededicatory service for the San Antonio church on Sabbath, June 20, 1942. Elder J. W. Turner, our Union Conference president, will deliver the dedicatory address in the

morning. It will be our plan to conduct a service in the afternoon, so we invite all those who come from a distance to bring their lunches and enjoy a full day with us.

We rejoice over the fact that the old San Antonio church debt has been entirely wiped out, and through the energetic leadership of Brother Sandefur, with his church board, the church has been redecoreated in a way that we are sure will meet the approval of God. Come and let us make June 20 a high day for the San Antonio district!

F. D. WELLS.

TEXICO

419 Rencher St., Clovis, New Mexico
 PRESIDENT, V. A. LAGRONE
 SEC'Y-TREAS., O. J. BELL

Texico News Items

Things are astir at Albuquerque this week. Brother O'fill has been there for several days assisting with the Ingathering work. The first day they were out they raised a sixth, approximately, of the entire Ingathering goal for the English church. They expect to have at least seventy-five per cent of the goal by the end of the week.

Brother Mireles, who has been located at Santa Fe, New Mexico, was taken suddenly ill last Friday. If the doctor verifies what he thinks the trouble is, Brother Mireles will be bedfast for from thirty to sixty days, and will need several months' rest, unless the Lord sees fit to heal him directly. We ask an interest in the prayers of our believers in behalf of Brother Mireles. He has been doing a good work in Santa Fe. The Lord has been with him in gathering out the dear souls there to unite with His cause.

The meeting in Odessa is making good progress. A certain organization there sent for a preacher to come from Abilene to start a big meeting to counteract the good work that is being done there by Brother and Sister Dittberner. We feel sure that the Lord will give ultimate victory, and that a number of people will take a definite stand with the remnant people.

Sister Esther Romero reports that the Reserve church has its full In-

gathering goal. They raised this in a couple of days.

There are a number of our people who already are entitled to "Minute Man" buttons for having raised at least \$12.30 or more. This is good news. We hope that there will be a large number of others who will soon reach their "Minute Man" goal.

The Big Week returns thus far reported amounted to over five hundred dollars. This is a nice gain over 1941.

Brother Harold Williams, our field secretary, has just returned to the office, after having spent several days assisting a number of the students. He reports good success. The Lord needs more laborers for His vineyard. If the Holy Spirit is leading you to take up this line of service, will you not please write to Brother Williams and tell him your conviction to enter the army for the colporteur ministry.

Two more efforts will be under way when you receive the RECORD; one at Abilene, Texas, headed by Elder R. E. Delafield; and one at Roswell, headed by Elder Coopwood, the union colored evangelist. Let us keep these efforts before the Lord in our prayers daily, that souls may be convicted of sin and take their stand for His message.

The senior and youth's camp will be held July 13 to 20, in the Sandia Mountains, near Albuquerque, New Mexico. We are inviting all of our senior and junior young people to attend this camp. Write to Brother Lee Carter for particulars.

At El Paso, we learn from Elder Walgren, several families are being studied with each week, and we hope that there will be a goodly number who will take their stand for God's truth. They fully expect to have half of their Ingathering goal on June 13.

The Ingathering papers for our Spanish work have been unavoidably delayed. We learn that they will be in the field the latter part of this month.

Why not make this coming Thirteenth Sabbath offering the largest ever for God's growing work? We can do something out of the ordinary in these extraordinary times for God's cause. Our conference church members will be faithful to the Lord in their gifts also.

SOUTHWESTERN JR. COLLEGE

PRESIDENT, H. H. HAMILTON
TREASURER, H. L. SHULL

News Notes

Repair work about the institution has begun. The rock work planned for the dining room is well under way. Mrs. Judge, the matron, is the head mason and is doing her share of the work along with Professor Foster, Miss Ambs, and some of the students. Even those who at first were skeptical are now enthusiastic over the attractiveness of the wall.

The maintenance department is repairing the outer wall of the administration building. Some new mortar between the bricks will help keep out the moisture that we would rather see on the outside during our frequent rains.

Mrs. W. R. French of Pacific Union College spent several days last week with her mother, Mrs. J. C. Mosley.

Miss Pearl Hall, instructor in romance languages at Union College, is visiting her brother, Professor A. E. Hall and his wife. She is enroute to Mexico where she will spend a few weeks in further study of the Spanish language.

Elder Barclay, just home from a term at the Theological Seminary at Washington, D. C., preached in the Keene church Sabbath. He told of providential deliverances of our missionaries during the present war.

Mrs. Maymie Harper-Butler of Bakersfield, California, for several years the school nurse at the college, is visiting relatives in Keene.

Among former students seen recently in Keene were Vernice and Essie Stevens Moddrell of Dalworth Park, Ruth Lovan Knapp of Clovis, New Mexico, and Irma Dean Prater Eubanks of Dallas.

SUNSET CALENDAR

For Friday, June 19, 1942

Amarillo, Texas	8:03
Brownsville, Texas	8:33
Dallas, Texas	8:43
El Paso, Texas	8:09
Galveston, Texas	8:22
Little Rock, Arkansas	8:25
Muskogee, Oklahoma	8:38
New Orleans, Louisiana	8:03
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	8:46
San Antonio, Texas	8:29
Santa Fe, New Mexico	8:20
Shreveport, Louisiana	8:31



Assignments for Twenty-Sixth Week,
June 21 to 27

VOLUME: "The Desire of Ages"

"A Doomed People"

"The Temple Cleansed Again"

June 21	580-582
June 22	582-584
June 23	584-588
June 24	589-592
June 25	592-595
June 26	595-598
June 27	598-600

Gem Thought

In every age there is given to men their day of light and privilege, a probationary time in which they may become reconciled to God. But there is a limit to this grace. Mercy may plead for years and be slighted and rejected; but there comes a time when mercy makes her last plea. The heart becomes so hardened that it ceases to respond to the Spirit of God. Then the sweet, winning voice entreats the sinner no longer, and reproofs and warnings cease.—D. A. 487.

Advertisements

FOR SALE—16 acres of good land within 200 yards of Ketchum church school. If interested, write D. M. Clouse, Route 2, Vinita, Oklahoma.

WANTED—A-1 Broom maker and sorter for high grade brooms. Steady work and good pay. Preference given draft exempt applicants. Address: Vixie Broom Works, Berrien Springs, Michigan.

WANTED—First-class Adventist barber. Real job for right man. Write W. A. Baker, 501 Ninth Street, Galveston, Texas.

WANTED: A job in or near our schools. Have had experience in the following trades—office, work, ten years selling, general farming, including poultry, dairying, and fruit, carpentry, mill work, truck driving. Consider anything that would enable me to keep my two children in church school. Write A. J. Lawson, Green Forest, Arkansas.

HEALTH FOOD CENTER

214 N. St. Paul Street
DALLAS, TEXAS

Let our Mail Order Department supply you with all your Health Food requirements. Write for price list. All orders carefully and promptly filled with fresh, wholesome products.

OUR COLPORTEUR EVANGELISTS
EMANUEL REMSEN, *Union Field Secretary*

Week Ending June 6, 1942

Bk. Hrs. Orders Del.

ARK.-LA., C. L. GRANDON, Sec.			
Fred Schultz*	BR	66	118.00
M. L. Castine	BR	57	116.00 37.50
Clarence Morgan	GF	56	249.30 .25
Harry Vought	BR	55	91.50 91.50
Hubert Morgan*	BR	55	50.75 2.50
David Killion	GF	55	190.45
Edwin Lanz	BR	53	121.25
Bernard Elder	BR	52	88.50
Bruce Wickwire	BR	51	145.50 51.25
Jeff Young	BR	50	70.45 50.00
Joseph Greene	BR	48	155.25 127.75
Bill Dunn	BR	46	79.00
W. H. Johnson	BR	43	35.75 1.25
Mrs. M. A. Gillon	Mes.	41	20.00 20.00
Mrs. R. Holloway	Mes.	40	17.30 17.30
Glenn Cox	BR	30	44.50 97.00
Clarence Barton	BR	25	24.50 5.50
J. W. Bressie	BR	23	23.25 40.75
Kate Pope	GC	18	82.50 56.50
Waybern Elder	BR	14	32.00
Ben Gardner	BR	13	48.50
Birdie McCluster	Mes.	25	12.00 12.00
Total		916	1816.25 611.05

OKLAHOMA, O. S. PLUE, Sec.

Aletha M. Schilt	BTS	20	10.75
Lottie Bray	BR	13	22.50 .50
Lillian Chrispens	BR	25	33.45 1.95
H. F. Corrie	BR	34	16.50 11.00
O. S. Plue	BR	4	23.00 23.00
M. J. Qualls	BR	30	73.50
Mrs. M. L. Schilt	BR	25	20.80 4.30
W. H. Shaw	BR	34	14.00 27.50
M. C. Graves	GF	43	16.35
James Woods	GF	40	58.30 11.00
S. B. Skaggs	QT	88	47.60 21.85
Lottie Bray	Mag.	15	2.00 2.00
Total		371	338.75 103.10

TEXAS, A. E. VAN NOTY, Sec.

Coble, R. R.	CM	51	167.10 107.25
Cervillia, Jorge	CM	25	112.75
Brown, Marion	BR	42	110.50 35.50
Riggs, J. W. Jr.	BR	30	107.15 80.85
Underdown, Plez	BR	52	101.52 100.00
Tidwell, Florence	BTS	42	70.75 4.75
Kent, Lenoa	BTS	40	68.00 9.95
Eaton, Mary Lee	BTS	41	61.00 2.25
Bowers, Jack	BR	40	57.00 .75
Thompson, L. H.	BR	24	53.00 17.50
Whitley, S. Jr.	BR	24	53.00 17.50
Youngberg, Stephen	CM	12	50.00
Wilson, Harold	GF	32	49.65 .25
Burnett, Eddie	BR	16	36.25 .25
Lilliard Imer	Misc.	29	43.40 43.40
Spalding, A. W.	BR	23	33.25 .25
Cadenhead, Alva	Mag.	28	25.80 13.75
Brewick, Ellen	BR	36	21.95 27.45
Jorgenson, G. M.		20	12.55 12.55

Home Workers:

Cone, Mrs. C. W.	Mag.	9	11.30 11.30
La Lone, Mrs.	Mag.	10	3.50 3.50
Smith, L. B.	Misc.	33	3.00 1.50
Total		664	1252.15 474.25
Grand Total		1951	3407.15 1188.40

*More than one week.