

Western Canadian Tidings

"BEHOLD I BRING YOU GOOD TIDINGS"

Vol. 7

Calgary, Alberta, February 28, 1918

No. 5

THE LACOMBE ACADEMY

Lacombe, Alberta, is a town
Not large in size, yet of renown.
"Why is it thus?" I hear you ask,
And it is not much of a task
To satisfy your mind and heart,
If you will listen on your part.

North of this town a "magnate" stands
High on a hill; and it commands
Attention from you and from me:
It is a great Academy.

Three buildings point there to the sky,
One of them just five stories high.
And yet, not structure—estimate
Makes any institution great.

Sound principles and Truth divine
Are cherished here, and they combine
To constitute its strength and power,
Make it a bulwark and a tower.

This magnate draws from east and west,
From north and south of youth the best.
And, flocking here from far and near,
They fill its vestries year by year,
To seek—with this great thought in view—
An education grand and true.

Harvey, N.D.

—F. A. Lorenz.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

The next General Conference will be held in the Exposition Auditorium, San Francisco, California, March 29 to April 14, 1918. The committee, appointed at the Minneapolis Council to make arrangements for the entertainment of delegates and visitors, have been doing some preliminary work, and have the following to report:—

1. Rooms in hotels can be secured at from 50c to \$1.00 per day for each person and from \$3.00 to \$6.00 per week, and up, where two persons occupy the same room, according to location, furnishings, etc. Of course there are hotels in which rooms can be secured as low as 25c per day, but we could not recommend them to our people.

2. Rooms in rooming houses can be secured at from 25c to 50c per day, according to location, furnishings, etc.

3. Furnished apartments, consisting of one or more rooms with kitchenette and bath, may be had at from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per week. These apartments are steam heated and everything is furnished, even to table linen, crockery, silverware, etc. All a person has to do is to purchase and cook what he wants to eat. Cooking is done on a gas range, on which is placed a flat rate of 25c per week.

It is understood that all the *regular delegates* are to send their names and the accommodations they desire to their union conference president, who will

forward them to the committee, through the General Conference, but *visitors* will communicate direct with the secretary of the committee, Elder J. L. McElhany, stating clearly what they desire, as follows:

1. Do you wish a room in a hotel, in a rooming house, or apartments?

2. Do you wish to room alone or do you desire a room mate? The price is usually less when two room together.

3. Do you desire a room with bath and all modern conveniences, or cheaper accommodations? State the limit.

4. Do you want a room near the place of meeting, or would you be satisfied with one several blocks away? Rooms at a distance, say eight or ten blocks, can be had at a lower rate.

5. Give date of arrival as near as possible, and state how long you expect to remain.

No cafeteria will be operated by the Conference this year, but there are many good restaurants and cafeterias near the place of meeting where good meals can be had at a reasonable price.

Oakland is the terminal of all transcontinental roads, except the coast line of the Southern Pacific. At the terminal in Oakland you cross the bay on a ferry boat to San Francisco. The Exposition Auditorium, where the meetings are to be held, is situated just off from Market Street (the main thoroughfare of the city) about two miles from the Ferry Building.

At the ferry landing in San Francisco, take a Hayes Street car (No. 32) direct to the Auditorium, getting off at the corner of Hayes and Larkin Streets. This is at the rear of the Auditorium building. Pass around to the front of the building, and the general reception room will be found on the first floor to the right as you enter. Here persons will be in waiting to direct you to the place to which you have been assigned.

Those coming up the coast line of the Southern Pacific from Los Angeles will land at Third and Townsend Streets. Take either a Third or Fourth Street car, transferring at Market Street to a Hayes Street car (No. 32), getting off at the Auditorium at the corner of Hayes and Larkin Streets.

Check baggage to San Francisco, and keep your checks until you know where you are to be located.

Those wishing the committee to arrange for their accommodations should write at once to Elder J. L. McElhany, 537 25th Street, Oakland, California, stating definitely what accommodations they desire. Reservations will then be made to meet the requirements as nearly as possible.

C. H. JONES,
Chairman Committee of Arrangements.

HALIFAX S.D.A. CHURCH

Dear Tidings Readers:—

Here is a sketch of our little church which was demolished by the terrible explosion on Dec. 6th. It was with some degree of pride that the members informed me my upon arrival in the city last July that it was free from debt, although this was not without considerable effort on their part, as all are people of moderate means and the company consisted mostly of women who have struggled to keep aloft the banner of truth.

It was a neat wooden building and we had but recently given it a fresh coat of paint inside and also on the outside, which added greatly to its inviting appearance. We were much encouraged at the good attendance of outside listeners at our Sunday evening services and were just planning an evangelistic effort to follow the Harvest Ingathering work. We were very sorry to see this comfortable place of worship, which had become so dear to us, destroyed, but since God has permitted this to occur, we believe He has something better in store for us.

All the churches of the city were more or less damaged and they all are receiving help from outside. Here is a city to warn and like other cities must have the message as soon as possible, for the judgments of God are already in the land and we have been told that cities will be destroyed. We certainly have had a touch of the coming destruction.

With kindest regards to all, and God's richest blessing upon you and the offerings, I am,

Yours for the Master,

E. M. CHAPMAN.

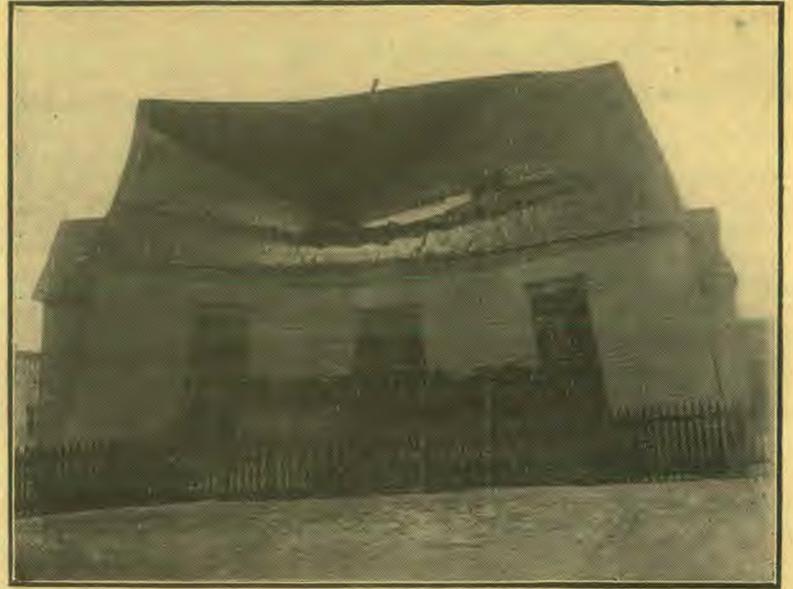
OUR YOUTH AND A CALL TO SERVICE

Both old and young in this denomination are acquainted with the many statements of the Testimonies that call for active service in missionary work. The following statement is well known by all our people:

"With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world."—*Education*, p. 271.

These inspiring statements from the Spirit of Prophecy, finally set us thinking that our youth need a special training to finish the work of this message in this generation. We all know that when this work started out many questioned whether much would be accomplished by our young people. Others thought it would tend to separate the interest of the church, but the last ten years have proven that when the Lord calls for an organization, we do well to heed the call.

The Missionary Volunteers of the Western Canadian Union Conference surely appreciated the blessings of the Lord during 1917. I will give a few items from the annual report which will be of interest to the members of this Union:



No. of Societies.....	27
Total membership.....	454
Young people converted.....	125
Letters written.....	925
Letters received.....	463
Missionary visits.....	1015
Bible readings and cottage meetings.....	327
Subscriptions taken.....	200
Offerings for foreign missions.....	\$3438.67
(This was \$2355.67 more than our goal called for).	
Offerings for home missions.....	2396.63

And we all know that not near all the members were faithful in reporting. We hope that during the year 1918 all will be faithful in sending in their monthly reports to their local secretaries. But now, shall we sit down and say we have reached our goal and have nothing more to do? Indeed not!

We read further: "Will our young men and young women who believe the truth, become living missionaries? Take the promises of God, 'Ask and it shall be given you, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you.' Ask blessings for today; hour by hour, moment by moment, live your prayers for today." What does this mean? It means that as we pray, we are to labor for others.

Again we read: "As we labor for others, the divine power of the Spirit will work upon these souls, for they have been purchased by the blood of the only begotten Son of God. We can be successful in winning souls for whom Christ has died, only as we depend upon the grace and power of God to do the work of convicting and converting the heart. While you are presenting to them the truth of God, unbelief and uncertainty will strive to hold the mind, but let the blessed Word of God expel doubts from your hearts, take God at His word, and work in faith. Satan will come with his suggestions to make you distrust the word of your heavenly Father, but consider, 'Whatsoever is not of faith, is sin.' Press your faith through the dark shadow of Satan and lodge it upon the mercy seat and let not one doubt be entertained.

This is the only way in which you will gain an experience and find the evidence essential for your peace and confidence. As your experience grows, you will have increased ardor of soul and warmer love for the service of God, because you have oneness of purpose with Jesus Christ. Your sympathies are begotten of the Holy Spirit. You wear the yoke with Christ and are laborers together with God." Now here we see that in order to be successful in soul-winning work, doubt must be taken out of our hearts first. As long as there is any doubt in our hearts, how can we expect others to accept by faith the promises of God?

The promise to you is, if you will follow Him, He will make you fishers of men, and if we trust in this promise and step out by faith, we shall surely see great results.

Goal for 1918:

- 113 Young people converted.
- 38 Standard of Attainment certificates.
- 78 Read the Bible through.
- 253 Reading Course certificates.
- 450 Reporting members.
- 250 "Instructor" subscriptions.

\$1460.00 For Missions.

I am confident that if our Society members will take hold and feel that they are personally responsible to God for souls that are still in darkness about them, and will cherish no doubt in their heart, that we will not only reach our goal, but will be able to double it. Surely, with such an army of young people as we have in this Union Conference, we ought to see at least three times this number converted to God and added to the church.

I hope that every society leader will begin to lay plans for a vigorous temperance campaign. The Temperance "Instructor" will be off the press March 26th, and you ought to organize your Society in a systematic way and find out just how many copies of the "Instructor" you will need, so that you can order them at once. Every soldier boy should be presented with a copy of the Temperance "Instructor" before they leave our shores. If the Society is not strong enough to finance this campaign, it will be well for you to take it up with the church and I am sure the church will be glad to co-operate and help you to get as many papers as you will need to work the territory. If you have a large training camp near your Society and you feel the church is not strong enough to finance it, then take it up with your Conference M.V. Secretary, but do not let these dear boys slip away from our shores without presenting them with a copy of this good paper.

Sincerely yours,

—J. J. REISWIG.

A WELCOME LETTER

Dear Brethren and Sisters of the Western Canadian Union Conference:—It is just one year since I left you to come East and take up work in the Maritime Conference. During that time I have thought many times of my old associates in the West and wondered how you are all getting along. When I get the *Tidings* and look over its pages, I cannot express to you the joy that fills my soul as I read the report of those I am acquainted with. I am pleased to notice your success in the increased offerings and tithes Surely the Lord is blessing His people in the West.

Since my coming here my experience has been varied. When I first arrived here I went to the Williamsdale Academy and spent a few months there in teaching Bible, and acting as preceptor. This was a new line of business for me. At first I did not take to it very well, but finally became used to it, and rather enjoyed the work. Last June I was asked to take charge of the Conference. This is a small Conference, having a membership of less than 300, and most all poor as far as this world's goods are concerned, but rich in faith, and very loyal to the cause.

We have been greatly blessed in our efforts during the year that has just closed. Our membership increased 20 per cent; our tithe 65 per cent, while the increase in our offerings to missions was 20 per cent. over 1916. This has been very encouraging to us, for which we thank our heavenly Father. While we have met with this success our field has met with an awful calamity in the visitation of destruction to the city of Halifax. While all of our people have been protected, as far as their lives are concerned, many of them lost all of their earthly possessions.

This destruction to Halifax is so like the description given in the Bible of what will come upon the world during the falling of the Seven Last Plagues and the Coming of the Lord, that we can say, when we speak of what is coming, that, "We have not followed cunningly devised fables."

You will notice by the photo that our little church has been destroyed so much that it is impossible to repair it, and as the company at Halifax is small, and poor, as far as this world's goods are concerned, I feel that it is my duty to ask our people throughout Canada to come to the assistance of this suffering sister church. I assure you, brethren and sisters, any assistance that you can send us will be appreciated. Whatever you give, let it be given through your Conference office.

May the Lord bless you in making your offering to this worthy cause.

Your brother in the Master's service,

J. L. WILSON.

British Columbia Conference

Office Address: 1708 Maple Street, Vancouver, B.C.

President, A. C. Gilbert; Secretary-Treasurer, T. S. Bowett; Religious Liberty Secretary, A. C. Gilbert; Field Secretary, L. A. Philpott; Tract Society Secretary, T. S. Bowett; Educational Secretary, C. W. Degering; Sabbath-School Secretary, Mrs. A. C. Gilbert; Missionary Volunteer Secretary, Miss Lydia Stickle; Home Missionary Secretary, T. S. Bowett; Health and Temperance Secretary, E. R. Potter.

REPORT OF MISSIONARY WORK DONE FOR FOURTH QUARTER—1917

Number reporting	128
Letters written	521
Letters received	118
Missionary Visits	1666
Bible readings or cottage meetings	324
Subscriptions taken	90
Papers sold	2931
Papers mailed, lent or given away	6741
Books sold	644
Books lent or given away	509
Tracts sold	97
Tracts lent or given away	2274
Hours Christian Help work	913
Articles of clothing given away	150
Number of meals provided	332
Treatments given	12
Offerings for home missionary work	\$294.37
Number of conversions	6

It is a pleasure to note such a goodly degree of missionary activity as is seen in this report. It is evidence that the people of God in British Columbia appreciate more fully than ever before the need for persevering, systematic effort for the winning of loved ones, neighbors and friends. By the all-important circulation of literature, assisted by prayer, missionary visits and Bible study, many will yield to the influence of the Spirit of God. I wish to thank all for their co-operation in mailing in reports of work done.

As the year 1918 marches forward towards its close, let each one resolve to be more earnest, and active than ever before. What a world of opportunity for missionary endeavor in all its lines we are facing! The following lines from the Spirit of Prophecy are striking and important to each follower of the Master:

"The great and wonderful work of the last Gospel Message is to be carried on now as it has never been before. The world is to receive the light of Truth through an evangelizing ministry of the Word in our books and periodicals. Our publications are to show that the end of all things is at hand." Test. Vol. 9, p. 61.

May the record of missionary activity on the part of each one for 1918 swell to greater proportions in view of the rapidly approaching end.

—T. S. BOWETT, *Missionary Secy.*

BRITISH COLUMBIA CONFERENCE SABBATH SCHOOL REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING DEC. 31, 1917.

School—	Member-ship	Ave. attend.	12 Sab. Off.	13 Sab. Off.	Total Off.
Armstrong	18	15	\$ 16.79	\$ 15.60	\$ 32.39
Beaver Creek (family)	7	7	7.15	2.30	9.45
Chief Lake (family)	7	7		.70	.70
Chilliwack	18	10	6.16		6.16
Cumberland (family)	10	10	2.00	4.65	6.65
Grand Forks	13	11	14.87	1.25	16.12
Grandview	58	56	64.33	23.10	87.43
Hagensborg	19	13	4.45	7.05	11.50
Kelowna	23	19	15.24	9.36	24.60
Little River (family)	4	4	5.75	1.00	6.75
Lumen-Grandview	70	51	69.91	45.20	115.11
Manson (Pitt Meadows)	21	19	14.06	6.00	20.04
Masset and Sewall	8	8	29.85	3.30	33.15
Midway	7	6	10.97	1.80	12.77
Minto (Cumberland family)	7	7	6.70	2.16	8.86
Mission City (family)	6	6	2.60	1.00	3.60
Mountain View	25	12	5.94	3.64	9.58
Nanaimo	19	16	21.50	25.00	46.50
Nelson	28	29	12.37	4.17	16.54
Penticton	29	23	25.15	6.64	31.79
Read Island (family)	8	7	5.53	1.47	7.00
Silver Creek	12	14	5.04	.45	5.49
Trail (family)	5	5	6.00	5.00	11.00
VanAnda (family)	6	5	2.00	1.50	3.50
Vancouver—					
Maple St.	27	20	40.07	26.60	66.67
42nd Ave.	26	18	7.98	8.73	16.71
Union St.	35	35	46.49	31.62	78.11
South	28	25	54.58	29.09	83.67
Vernon	15	16	12.02	8.00	20.02
Victoria	16	16	10.21	6.08	16.29
Conference Home Dept.	7	7	6.55	3.87	10.42

582 497 \$532.24 \$286.33 \$818.57

Number of schools, 31, of which 8 are family schools.

Perfect Attendance Cards issued—62.

Book Marks for Perfect Attendance for four consecutive quarters—1. 10 of these book marks were secured during 1917.

Names for the Conference Memory Verse Honor Roll—31. 7 of these have appeared on this Honor Roll each quarter of the year.

Certificates issued for the Sabbath School Workers' Training Course to Mrs. A. O. Burrill, 42nd Ave., Vancouver; Mr. J. Sallenback, Salmon Arm (Mountain View School), and Mrs. M.

Clarke and Mrs. S. McN. Jemson, Nanaimo; Mrs. A. E. De Greek. We expect others to be issued later to those who could not finish the course until February. We regret so few have completed the Training Course. Perhaps some have done so who have failed to send in the test required. But do not let last year's failure be a hindrance to any one in taking up the study for 1918. The books, "Thoroughly Furnished" and "Talks with the Training Class" are indeed excellent. The other courses were to train us to be better teachers and workers, the present one is to teach us how to study the pupils that we may better know how to meet and deal with those of the various ages. This is a study very helpful to every parent. The price of the two books together is 60 cents; orders for same will be received at the Tract Society.

Throughout our province we have many isolated families who would find the organized family Sabbath School a real blessing. Where this is not possible, there often being but one member of a family in the message, we again earnestly invite such to connect with our Conference Home Department. Those who are members with us can testify of the blessing they have received by falling into line with this plan of every believer a member of the Sabbath School.

In our last report which appeared in the *Tidings* of Dec. 6, we mentioned that as being the best in the history of the Sabbath School of this Conference, but this is still better as you will see by comparing the two.

Our financial progress during last year will be of interest and encouragement to you, so we herewith append it:

	12th Sab. Offering	13th Sab. Offering	Total Offering
First quarter	\$375.85	\$136.70	\$512.55
Second quarter	461.32	193.79	655.11
Third quarter	512.13	233.77	745.90
Fourth quarter	532.24	286.33	881.57

For 1917..... \$1881.54 \$850.59 \$2732.13

We see by this that we have raised but a little over 11 cents per week per church member, through our Sabbath Schools, counting our church membership at 470, a shortage of nearly 4 cents on this part of our goal. But we have to encourage us the report in the *Tidings* of Jan. 31, showing a giving of 24½ cents per week per member on the twenty-cent-a-week fund for 1917. Our hearts are filled with gratitude as we look over the past year's work and we bless the Lord as we see the progress made. With courage we press on into 1918 for the winning of souls, the building up of the Christian life and the speedy sending of the gospel to the ends of the earth.

(Mrs.) Sadie McN. Jemson.

Acting Sabbath School Secy for the British Columbia Conference

Alberta Conference

Office Address:—Room 304 I.O.O.F. Building, cor. Sixth Ave. and Centre Street West, Calgary, Alberta.

President, H. H. Humann; Secretary-Treasurer, F. L. Hommel; Educational and Missionary Volunteer Secretary, Bertha Gillbank; Field and Missionary Secretary, R. P. Mooney; Sabbath School Secretary, Mrs. H. M. Crothers; Tract Society Secretary, F. L. Hommel; Medical Secretary, Dr. Hans Bonde.

STONY PLAIN

In response to repeated calls from Brother and Sister Arthur Ingle for help in their neighborhood, where they had aroused an interest, we were asked to come to Stony Plain, where we arrived about November 7th. We were glad to find that as a result of their efforts, two families were meeting with them for Sabbath-school each week, and studying the truth. They were anxious to know more, so we began meetings in the Blueberry schoolhouse.

We had fifteen meetings, with an average attendance of about twenty-five. Then the weather became so cold that the people could not come so far to the meetings and they were discontinued, although we did as much house to house work as the weather would permit. About half of those who had attended our meetings regularly were German people who could only understand a little English, so we could not carry them far, although they seemed interested so far as they could understand.

We are glad that Brother Neufeld can be with them now and the message is being given in their own language. While continuing our work with those who were interested in the country, we began a series of meetings in town. We have been meeting with them each Sabbath and visiting them occasionally, while they have attended as many of our meetings in town as possible. We have been made to rejoice to see those two interested families take their stand firmly for the truth. Another lady is also keeping the Sabbath and we hope her husband will soon take the step.

Our attendance in town has not been very large, but regular. Four families and two other ladies have attended regularly and practically all of them have acknowledged the Sabbath truth. But whether they will obey or not is another question. We know that only the power of the Spirit of God, which has been our help and dependence all through, can cause them to do so. We are especially hopeful of one family, who are very favorable. Another lady who was an Adventist until she married out of the truth, reconsecrated herself to the Lord. Especially in this testing time do we need the prayers of our people.

—MR. AND MRS. CALVIN D. SMITH.

SABBATH SCHOOL PICTURE ROLL

We hope it will be a pleasure to read this testimony in regard to the Picture Roll:

"I want to say that the Picture Roll was a great help to me last summer, and was also the means of getting our Sabbath School to start an infants' class and to have the roll for its use. This proved a success from the first, because we have a number of children and some of them cannot understand English, but we can interest with the pictures and so they feel they have some interest in the Sabbath-school, and are able to get some good out of it, too.

—MRS. A. A. WALTER, Loyalist.

The Picture Roll is certainly a great help when used in connection with the children's classes. The children say, "Oh, how beautiful." Let all the schools order one, it would cost the small sum of one dollar, and if you order for the year, a saving of 50 cents, as it would cost you just \$3.50 a year. Do it at once so you will not be disappointed if you should send in your order too late to procure one. Let us have your standing order for the *Picture Roll*.

MRS. M. H. CROTHERS,
Conf. S.S. Secretary.

Saskatchewan Conference

Office Address:—103 Willoughby-Sumner Block, Saskatoon, Sask.

President, J. G. Walker; Secretary-Treasurer, U. Wissner; Religious Liberty Secretary, M. Mackintosh; Sabbath School Secretary, Mrs. R. S. Dexter; Tract Society Secretary, U. Wissner; Home Missionary and Young People Missionary Volunteer Secretary, W. A. Clemenson; Field Secretary, Robert Kitto; Educational Secretary H. W. Clark; Corresponding Home Missionary Secretary, U. Wissner.

NEW EXPERIENCES IN NEW PLACES

After leaving Southey, when I conducted the funeral service for Sister Palmer, I came to the office. I should have been at Battleford the Sabbath before as I had promised, but when I got back to Saskatoon, another matter pressed in for attention. Brother Angus Beaton who had signed up for military service in Regina, wrote me that he was in trouble over the observance of the Sabbath and asked

me to come down and advise with him. He wrote that some of his inferior officers had advised him to make an effort to be relieved from service. This looked discouraging, however, as his case had passed beyond the local tribunal and into the hands of the militia. I thought I ought to go to Regina and do what I could, but when I got there Friday, January 18, I found that he had gone. They had sent him overseas just the day before. We should pray for this young man that he may be able to stand stiffly for the truth while in army service and get the truth to some of his fellows.

I spent the following Sabbath and Sunday at Regina. New officers were elected at this time and the elder, Brother Jackson and Brother Philips as deacon, were qualified to their respective duties.

The work in Regina is looking up a bit and there seems to be some interest. Brother and Sister McGill, of Manitoba, are visiting their daughter, Mrs. O'Neil, just now and he is holding Sunday night meetings as well as doing some Bible work. I presume the truth burns within and he can't rest. We believe Brother McGill loves the truth and welcome all such visits.

My next visit was made at Queen Center, south of Morse about twenty-eight miles. I had sent word that I was coming, but got there before the letter. Of course I surprised them. I rode out with the mail carrier to Hodgeville, and from there with a farmer to within a mile and a half of Brother Peter Block's. Imagine their surprise when I appeared at their door just about the going down of the sun. I found them of good courage in the truth, but Sister Block suffering from asthma. It is remarkable how she keeps up with the care of her children and her house. I enjoyed my visit with them. The next morning I surprised Brother Buhler's family in about the same way. That afternoon, we all went to prayer meeting, a very unusual thing for a country church and I was glad to find the interest. We stayed there until Sunday morning. The usual business meeting was held while we were there and Brother Buhler was appointed elder and Brother Block, Senior, as deacon.

I expected to have Brother Neufeld's help at this time and sent word to have him there, but he was holding meetings about twenty miles west. When he got my word, he and Brother Schlitz drove over. Imagine my surprise to see them at Brother Buhler's at about nine o'clock the next morning. They had come through a blizzard twenty miles to advise with me. Four families had just accepted the truth and others were interested. It was thought best for Brother Neufeld to stay there and develop the interest, not even leaving to attend the Board meeting at Battleford appointed for January 28-30.

Sunday, January 27, Brother Buhler drove me to Morse and I took the train for Saskatoon and on to Battleford to attend the school Board and Conference Committee meeting on the date named. I stayed a week at the school this time and enjoyed, after the business of the committee was over, getting acquainted with some of the students. The Friday night meeting was a pleasure, as it always is. An even one hundred testified that night and all but two or three were students. Beside the public meetings, I enjoyed the privilege of talking to both the young men and young women separately. They seemed to enjoy the effort and I hope that some good was done.

The next week found me at Brother Shearer's home at Carlton. I enjoyed this visit also and was much impressed with the situation. I found a nice little church-school building and a promising company of young folk and children attending the school now taught by Sister Denham. Brother and Sister Shearer and others there are making a great sacrifice to keep this school operating and they need our help and our prayers.

This sketch is long enough for this issue and so I close. I am always glad indeed to find everyone I meet of good courage and hopeful for the success of the message. I have come to believe the folk in Saskatchewan are as good as the people of British Columbia.

—J. G. WALKER.

SASKATCHEWAN COLPORTEURS' INSTITUTE

During the Union Bookmen's Council held in Calgary last December, it was decided to hold an early institute in March. Macrorie has been chosen as the location and March 11-18 as the time.

Some have already planned their work in order to attend. It is possible that there are those in the Conference who feel impressed to enter this all-important branch of the message, and yet have not been given an invitation to come. If you will write me immediately of your plans I will be glad to write you more definitely as to the arrangements. The brethren and sisters of the Macrorie church have expressed their willingness to have the first institute of 1918 held with them. We appreciate this and feel that this eight day meeting will also be a benefit to them.

Brother Manfull, the Union Conference Field Secretary, and a few others connected with this department of the work, are planning to be present. We are anticipating having, by your co-operation, a profitable time. The following statements from the spirit of prophecy show that the canvassing work is an all-important work:

"If there is one work more important than another, it is that of getting our publications before the people, thus leading them to search the Scriptures."—Testimonies, Vol. 4, p. 390.

"Our publications should have a wide circulation, for they are doing a great work."—Vol. 1, p. 600.

"The canvassing work is more important than many have regarded it."—No. 32, p. 61.

"The proper circulation and distribution of our publications is one of the most important branches of the present work. But little can be done without this."—Vol. 1, p. 687.

The question is, "Who will volunteer?" Will you? Please remember the place and the date: Macrorie, March 11-18.

—ROBERT KITTO.

ESTUARY

As some of our brethren near Estuary, who accepted the truth last summer, asked for some meetings to be held in town and had made preparations for the same by securing a school house, we came down here and began our effort Jan. 11th. We have had our meetings every evening and on Sunday afternoon.

From the very first the interest has been good and the attendance increased until some evenings the room was pretty well filled. The Lord blessed the

preaching of His word and watered the seed with His spirit, so already three families have given their heart to the Lord and are willing to walk in the light as far as they have received it. Some others seem to be interested and attend the meetings very regularly. We hope that they also will take their stand for the truth with God's people.

But the enemy of all truth is very active. Some ministers have come to our meetings to see how many of their people attended, and are now doing all they can to keep the people away from that school house. We are of good courage and our hope and trust is in the Lord.

—O. ZIPRICK,
—HENRY BERG.

MY FIRST VISIT TO BATTLEFORD ACADEMY

For some time I had heard interesting reports of the progress of our new academy at Battleford and decided to visit it.

In company with Brother Abraham Smith, we arrived at the school after a long, tiresome journey on account of the delay of trains during the recent stormy weather.

It was certainly a surprise to me when I saw this institution, for I had not expected to find such a busy place, and one thing that impressed me very much was that the word of God is made the leading study; and this should be so in the third angel's message.

I would appeal to all our young people in Saskatchewan to realize the value of a Christian education. Without this God cannot use us in this great movement.

As a lay member of one of our Saskatchewan churches I can say that the careful planning in the kitchen and dining department, and the domestic work assigned to the students, is a valuable help in fitting our youth for usefulness in the cause of God.

I hope that those who are in school might appreciate these precious privileges, and that every student may be consecrated to the giving of the message.

I only regret that I have not been able to attend one of our academies; but I am sure if any brother or sister in the province could visit the Battleford Academy they would feel the importance of a "School of the Prophets" for our young people.

—NICKEL BODRUG.

Manitoba Conference

Office Address:—819-21 Somerset Block, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

President, G. H. Skinner; Secretary-Treasurer, Geo. R. Soper; Sabbath School Secretary, Mrs. G. H. Skinner; Educational Secretary, Geo. R. Soper; Missionary Volunteer Secretary, Mrs. G. H. Skinner; Tract Society and Home Missionary Secretary, Geo. R. Soper; Religious Liberty Secretary, G. H. Skinner.

A CALL TO COLORS

David said, "The Lord gave the word; great was the company that published it."—Ps. 68:11. And Mark declares, "The gospel (must) first be (published) among all nations." Mark 13:10.

Dear Brother and Sister, are you one of that great company publishing the words, "Jesus is Coming Again?" If not, why not? Jesus is depending on you to tell others, and those others are to tell others. You remember how the Lord left Little Scotch Andrew, and a few others down here, as the beginning of the great movement, who were to publish the glad tidings of His second advent, and how they were to hunt them out of the holes and the mountains. You

have a search warrant from the courts above, and you are called to make the search.

It means a special effort on the part of every follower of Christ. Ye must hunt them out, search for those in the prison house of sin. It may mean sacrifice, or giving up of some plan, perhaps. Christ gave all, what have you given in return? Now is your opportunity to let your light shine in a special way. Line up! ye soldiers of the cross. Give of your best to the Master. He is calling today, and who will go and work in His vineyard. Though it be the eleventh hour, there is yet a little time. Let us hasten to prepare for the battle, and then strike an effective blow against the enemy. Let us all work together, and the load will be lighter, I am sure.

We cannot all preach, so let us scatter the printed page like the leaves of autumn, for many are looking for a solution as to what these things that are taking place in the world really mean. You can place a book in the home of the inquiring one, and in the home of the one who is not inquiring. The book will act as a ray of light and they will follow that ray of light into the light of a perfect day.

Can you imagine what it will mean to you? I am sure it will mean souls saved in the kingdom, and many bright stars in your crown.

Our Captain is not drafting, but is asking for volunteers. Will you answer to the call, and show your colors?

I would like to hear from, and become acquainted with, those who are planning to take up this work in the Manitoba Conference.

—G. F. OJALA.

WINNIPEG

Winnipeg is doing quite well this winter. The weather has not been so severe as last year, and on the whole, there has been quite an increase in our attendance. New people are constantly being drawn into our way and are accepting the message. We baptized four persons two weeks ago and took one in on profession of faith.

Our Bible workers' class is doing well and pupils are beginning examinations. We are hoping to graduate three this year. If there are those who could afford to come here and get this instruction, and be getting an experience in soul-winning, it would be time well spent. Those interested should correspond with Elder Skinner or the writer for particulars.

Our Orchestra has made splendid progress. It consists of piano, organ, flute, cornet, cello and four violins. Four or five other instruments are in training.

Financially, we made some improvement. The tithe for 1916 was \$966.43, and for 1917, it was \$2,299.94. We hope we can raise it still more this year.

Let us hope that God will build us up in His favor.

—C. A. HANSEN and WORKERS.

Have you ordered your General Conference Bulletin! Remember the conference begins March 29th. All orders should be in the hands of the publishers early to enable them to have a completed list prior to the opening date. Order of your tract society. Price 50c.

SOMETHING TO PONDER OVER

After reading the following meaningful quotation you will wish to see a copy of the *March Signs Magazine*, for one of its articles goes into the matter in detail:

"The Sectarial Amendment has been heralded far and wide as a treaty of peace. It is merely a scrap of paper. It is easy to talk peace, but there will be no peace until the true Catholics of this country administer the stinging rebuke so well deserved both by the anti-Catholic bigots and the un-Catholic politicians. That rebuke we must prepare from this day to administer."

So said Cardinal O'Connell after the electorate in Massachusetts turned down a proposal to appropriate public funds to private educational institutions. The quotation reflects the purpose of the papacy. Get this magazine into the hands of your neighbors by all means.

"An officer in the navy with whom one of our Norfolk sisters has been corresponding, has taken his stand to keep the Sabbath. He made known his intentions to his commanding officer, and stated that he could not work on the Sabbath. When ordered for duty on the Sabbath, he failed to report. His commanding officer reduced his rank of office, and commanded that he be put in prison, and took up correspondence with Washington. While waiting for the reply, one day the commanding officer came to the prison to visit the brother, and told him that he was troubled. He said:

"My mother died a Seventh-day Adventist, and could she speak, she would disown me for my attitude toward you for your faith. I hope you will be set free. I shall take my stand and keep the Lord's day holy with you."

"When the department replied, they gave orders to restore the brother to his rank of office, and let him worship his God as he pleased. Surely the Lord is doing a great work for the salvation of souls in every walk of life."

THE RETURN OF JESUS

A recent letter from one of our leading brethren in the North American Division Conference, contains the following reference to Elder Haynes' book, entitled, "The Return of Jesus":

"I have enjoyed reading it very much, and I believe we shall see many souls gathered in as a result of the publication of this book in various languages. One thing that has especially impressed me about *The Return of Jesus* is that personal touch with the soul which I think is so essential no matter what doctrine we present in our books. In reading this book I have felt that it has that touch."

According to the reports received, this little book is proving to be a real soul winner. The publishers inform us that but very little advertising has been given this book, and yet its circulation is steadily increasing. Considerably over a hundred thousand were sold last year. It is perhaps one of the best books we have to break down prejudice, and is devoted to a subject in which practically the whole world is interested. The retail prices are 50 cents in the cloth binding and 25 cents for paper covers, postpaid; with 50 per cent. discount in lots of ten or more, transportation extra. Send all orders to your Conference Tract Society.

Western Canadian Tidings

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F. L. HOMMEL - - - - - Editor

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GENERAL CONFERENCE BULLETIN

A number of requests have come to the publishers for the next General Conference Bulletin in bound form. All who wish it thus can secure it, but the order must be placed in advance of issuing the first number. We will bind in cloth only, and just the number that are arranged for. Price postpaid, \$1.75.
—PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING ASSN.

SOME INTERESTING FACTS

In gathering material for my report to the General Conference some facts appeared, which I am sure will be of interest to the readers of the *Tidings*. The membership of the Union has increased 974 during the last four years. The public laborers employed by the conferences in the Union include the following nationalities: English, German, Russian, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, Icelandic, Polish, Finnish.

The annual tithe paid by the members has increased from \$40,254.30 to \$116,588.12. The average per capita has increased from \$21.76 to \$46.57. During the same time, the mission funds (known as twenty-dent-a-week funds) have increased from \$19,151.15 in 1914 to \$45,519.71 in 1917. The average weekly offerings per capita was 20c in 1914 and had increased to 35c in 1917. The total amount of money contributed for home and foreign work during the four years from 1914 to 1917 was \$475,976.68. This does not include the upkeep of church buildings, church schools or the amounts contributed to various local and general charities and relief funds, such as Red Cross, Servian Relief, Belgian Relief, Patriotic, Halifax Relief, Armenian Relief, British and Foreign Bible Society, etc. The Harvest In-gathering amounted to 70c a member in 1914 and \$4.40 a member in 1917. We have broken all records but we have not reached the limit.

The sales of the Calgary Branch of the Pacific Press Publishing Association for the same period have amounted to \$141,757.04. This does not include subscriptions to papers, magazines, etc., such as *Review and Herald*, *Signs of the Times* magazine and *Weekly, Watchman*, etc.

During 1917, our people distributed 22,113 of *World War* and other Current Event Series. The total sales of books for last year in Western Canada was \$50,096.35.

Our denominational schools doing ten grades of work and higher number three: Lacombe, Alberta; Battleford, Saskatchewan; Armstrong, British Columbia. The combined enrollment is 423.

—C. F. McVAGH.

BEARBERRY

I find myself in the tracks of the same colporteur as that of a year ago when assisting Brother Fish. Eternity only will tell the far-reaching results of that extra day or two spent canvassing this valley at the close of the season. Results bear emphatic testimony that there is no higher order of Gospel work. How dare anyone, who can enter this work, hesitate amid the ever-strengthening omen of the world's impending doom? The companionship of Him who has all power is promised. The neglect of known duty will be with fearful consequences. As probation is rapidly shortening, the following law surely holds in the individual spiritual life—"perspire or expire."

I have found some sincere hearts here. The meetings have had fair attendance with the manifest presence of the Spirit. Though some are unmoved, others seem deeply stirred. I have bright hopes of definite results. Those interested are the ones who have nibbled at the colporteur's bait.

Pray for the work here, Brethren, and that I may labor with that humility, wisdom and tact which comes alone from God.
—E. S. STANLEY.

ALBERTA ACADEMY NOTES

Sister U. Wissner and son, from Saskatoon, Sask., have spent most of the past three weeks visiting friends here at the Academy.

One of our former students, Mr. Fred Braunberger, of Beiseker, was here a few days last week, visiting at the home of his uncle, Bro. C. Braunberger.

Professor Dick was in Edmonton last week on a short business trip and was successful in making more satisfactory arrangements for purchasing our school supplies.

We are glad to welcome one of our old students again, Mr. Emery Long, who comes to take work the second semester. He has been working near his home at Garden Head, Sask., since the close of school last year.

Mr. and Mrs. August Hepper and family, of Lodi, Cal., are here, visiting at the home of her parents, Brother and Sister Chris. Braunberger. They have come to take up residence in this country, and plan to leave soon for Beiseker, where they expect to make their home.

Brother Simpson and family, from Drumheller, have just moved here to take up school work. They are living in the "valley," and Brother Simpson expects to begin school the second semester.

We were greatly pleased that the Academy Board at their recent meeting voted \$500 for additional library books. These new volumes are needed very much, and we shall appreciate the help they will furnish to the work of the school. The library committee are adding more shelf room and other improvements. The library is a busy place, and we are glad to see these necessary additions made to this important department of the Academy.

Brother Warren Mabley and wife, of Claresholm, were recent visitors, returning from a trip to Vermilion and Battleford.

The first semester closes February 16, and we are now "enjoying" the final examinations for the first half of the year.

The latest student to enroll is Miss Alice C. Chappell, of Chesterwold, making our total number to date 218. A number of other students are planning to be here for the second semester.

Elder Fred Johnston just stepped in on his way south from Edmonton and made his call even more pleasant by saying that two of his children plan to be with us for the last semester.

All who plan to attend General Conference should study the article in this issue entitled "The General conference." C. H. Jones, Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements, has answered nearly all the questions that you will ask. No special railroad rates have been secured.
—C. F. McVAGH.

Many of the readers will esteem it a privilege to help rebuild the church in Halifax. Let all who desire bring in a special offering March 9th and forward it to the Conference office marked Halifax Relief and it will be forwarded through the regular channels.

—C. F. McVAGH.