

GENERAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.

Fifteenth Meeting, April 12, 11 A. M.

Elder G. A. Irwin in the Chair. No. 775 was the opening hymn.

After a moment of silent prayer, Elder Irwin led in audible prayer.

The Chair: As it was stated before the intermission, we will continue the line of thought of the forenoon. The subject under consideration is very important one,--that is not only the sale of the book, "Christ's Object Lessons" in the interest of the schools, but the change of the Battle Creek College, getting it out into the country, where it will be away from the many temptations and allurements that are met with in a place like this. And so, I want to repeat the thought that it is a very important matter that we have under consideration. And as this will be the only time, perhaps, that it will come up for consideration, it was thought best to continue it.

Now, there are a number of persons in the congregation who have a rich experience in the sale of the book, "Christ's Object Lessons;" and a recital of those experiences, I am sure, would do us all good and inspire courage in our hearts to continue in the work, or, if we have not taken it up hitherto, to engage in it.

As you heard from the report, and from what Sister White said, a good beginning has been made, and she was pleased ^{already} ~~that~~ it had accomplished even more than she had hoped, but that only a beginning has been made, and if we receive the full blessing from this enterprise that God designs we should receive from it, we must continue it with not only the same energy, but with renewed energy and zeal.

I want to say, while I am on my feet,--I beg your indulgence,--that there never has been a plan inaugurated by the people of God, never has been a plan given us that seemed to meet the mind of the people so gener-

ally as this plan. And there ~~is~~ no wonder, because the plan is not earth-born, it is heaven-born; in fact, it is God's plan. And there are more promises connected with cooperating in this plan than anything else that we have ever had brought to our attention. So I have felt very anxious that we as individuals, and as a collective body, do not deprive ourselves of the blessing that may come to us as individuals and ~~may come~~ ~~as~~ as a cause at large, by slacking the effort and letting it stop with the little effort that we have made.

Now, I believe that there are possibilities in this plan, if carried forward with vigor and energy to successful completion, that will raise us to a place where we can sing the song of jubilee, the song of freedom from debt. And I am sure that that is a song in which every one of us hopes to participate ~~in~~. Brethren, ~~as do~~ ^{it} ~~not~~ ^{be} need ^{any} very distant date in the future, if we will take hold of it with a will.

I, for one, am heartily in favor of this plan, and have done some little to help carry it into effect. But I do not want to speak for myself along this line. I know that there are a number in the congregation who have had a rich experience, and we would like to hear them. We will not confine any one simply to this one thought. If persons have burdens to speak along the line of the changing of the College,--and I have no doubt there are some here who would,--be perfectly free to speak ~~along that line~~. It may be that there are some here that would like to lead out on that part of it and let the others come in later.

S. N. Haskell: I am very much ~~in~~ in sympathy with this move, I every other Seventh-day Adventist. We are in sympathy with it, because it is in it; and from the time that I first heard of it, I felt heartily in sympathy with it, from the fact that it brought ~~us~~ back a sacrificial spirit in the truth, beginning with the one that furnished the matter for the book, and carries it down to the one that sells the book. That is,

Sister White gave the manuscript, and in the second place, the publishing houses gave the work to prepare the book; in the third place, the material for making the book has been donated. And then the tract societies made a donation of their time in handling the book and giving it to those who were pledged to take the book. These have been ~~taking the book and~~ selling it, and turning the proceeds back to the schools. So it is a sacrifice from beginning to end. I believe that is what God wants in the present truth.

When The definition of a saint that is given in the Bible is one that sacrifices, as given in the 50th Psalm. So I believe that if we can all feel in sympathy with it, so as to act a part in it, in these lines of sacrifice, **it** will revive in the heart the Spirit of God that we have not had in the past, and we will find God's blessing in a large measure attending it.

But there was a other ^{thing} ~~thought~~ that I thought I would like to speak of a few moments, and that is the location of the school. I remember the time when this plat was selected for the location of the College here in Battle Creek. I remember also what Sister White then said. She said to her husband, "Why do you not go up here and buy the fire ground?" The fire ground at that time, if I remember aright, contained fifty acres. An old house stood in fifty acres of ground. Brother White said, "We have not the money." There was a meeting appointed, and he was to visit the leading men in the city of Battle Creek and see what they would do. He made certain propositions to them. One feature was, I think, that they would invest as much in the school buildings as the city would give them for the land. But for some cause, they did not receive the donation ~~that they tried to receive~~, and so afterwards the school was located where it is. But when they talked that matter over with Sister White, she would always say, "Get it on some land outside of the thickly-settled city, ~~on~~ ~~land outside~~, where the students can work on the land. That was at the be-

beginning. That was the first college built by Seventh-day Adventists. I thought I would say that, in view of the fact that Sister White made a statement of that kind in her remarks; and as I was here at the time, I knew about the circumstances under which the building was erected in the beginning.

Now, for advancement in this. The future of this work in entering new fields depends largely upon the students that will go from our schools. They are to go to the different portions of the world and there give the truth to others. The moulds that they receive here they will carry to others. And it is proper, right, and consistent, and it would be inconsistent to have it otherwise but what they should have a mould, as far as it lies in our power, cooperating with the Lord, ^{that} they may adopt themselves to the people in the different countries of the world.

So, a school back in the country, away from the city and the customs and ways of the city, is better adapted for this purpose than one right in connection with the customs of the city.

I know this from my own experience. We were in Australia three years, and connected with the Avondale School two years. While there, we became accustomed to their style of architecture. ~~Every circumstance~~ As we were in the woods, our surroundings were peculiar, and were influenced accordingly. When we returned to this country, the architecture of the buildings, the houses which surrounded the school, and the general aspect of things were not pleasing to our tastes. Our tastes had changed on account of our surroundings.

You may say, We can train our students in cities, and give them manual labor, and then let them adapt themselves to their fields to which they are sent later. But this is not best. They get a false idea of things. It is a fact that there is no place in the world, no nation or people, who have so much sham as those who live in America have. It is shown in our architecture, in business, in everything; and when we spend some time in foreign countries, we will find it out. We are not much over a hundred years old in this country. In many foreign lands things have been established for hundreds of years, and many things are of a more substantial character. If we become educated in these artificial things connected with city life, we are liable to find that our ideas and manners will prove to be barriers to the reception of the truths we may present in foreign lands. For this reason, God would have us establish our schools in the country, where we may behold the beauties of nature, the trees, the fields of grain, the orchards of fruit, the birds in the air; and as we see these ~~things, and learn from them the~~ objects around us on every side, and learn from them the lessons God would have us learn, we will imperceptibly receive a divine mold upon our characters, and we will be fitted to adapt ourselves to conditions as we may find them upon entering upon our work for the salvation of souls in these foreign lands where the customs are so different.

S.H.Lane: The report of ~~the conference~~ Professor Magan shows that thousands ~~and~~ upon thousands of "Christ's Object Lessons," have already been sold. It ~~was~~ was seen when the books were issued, that if every Seventh-day Adventist would sell to his merchant, blacksmith, tailor, and all parties with whom he dealt, the 300,000 copies would be disposed of. This work has been entered upon to some extent, and the results are wonderful. The Review and Herald Office and the Sanitarium have been selling the book to drummers of wholesale firms who come here to solicit orders for supplies. ~~Brother Sisley and Brother~~ ^{W H.} ~~W H.~~ Hall, of the Sanitarium, has had some rich experiences in this work, and has sold scores and scores of books in this way, but unfortunately he has just gone to Florida, and will not be here to tell us of this work. However, Brother W.C.Sisley, superintendent of the manufacturing department of the Review and Herald Office, is here, and we would be glad to hear from him.

~~the conference~~

W.C.Sisley: I have had a real blessed experience in selling these books. I was very deeply ~~interested~~ interested in the plan when I first heard of it, but not as much so as I was when I studied it a little while. Every time I studied it, I could see more and more in it, until I became satisfied that it was the best plan that ~~was~~ was ever introduced ~~among~~ among out people for doing good. I became interested to have a part in it. I studied to think how we could put it into practical use, so that all our people could sell books. As I was leader of the Battle Creek missionary society, it seemed to me I would have to sell some of the books myself. I had never sold books, but had urged others to do so many times. I tried to persuade myself that I was too busy to sell books; that it was too small business for me; but I could not get away from the impression to sell them myself.

The very first man I ~~met~~ spoke to about it was a gentleman with

whom I was talking over the telephone. He was thirty miles away. I told him of the plan, and he said, "Certainly, I will buy one, and I will sell some for you, too." That surprised me. I thought if men who had charge of large business enterprises, and who were not religiously inclined, were willing to sell these books, I certainly ought to sell some. I commenced and have continued. It would take half an hour to tell the experiences I have had. I have been greatly blessed, and the work has given me a great deal of courage, faith, and hope. I can see that the paying of the college debts is really the smallest part of the blessing in this work. It is good to get rid of this debt, but a better thing to get all our people at work; for we are dying for the sake of something to do. We all need more work than we have been doing along the line of saving souls.

The people of this old, dark world need such a book as that. Such a precious book as that ought to have a sale of three hundred thousand copies in a short time. When selling the book, I told them the condition we were in, of our debt and how that we were going to do as they did in the days of Nehemiah- that each one of us was to help and we wanted them to do something. Now, after these men would buy books of me, they would come around and ask me how I was succeeding. I would tell them that in a few months we hoped to get our debts all paid, that then we were going to sing the song of jubilee and I invited them to sing with us, and that I would let them know about it. I have been able to tell them that by the help of the Lord I have sold about three hundred books, and that has been quite a surprise to them. But I was in hopes that by this time we could tell them that we had sold three hundred thousand copies. It seems to me we ought not to take years to sell these books. ~~zzzzz~~ Yet it is no easy task, but it is easier than for a man to tell others how to sell these books when he has not sold any himself.

~~xx~~

Chas. Thompson: I had laid plans to start out and sell the book for some time, but when the time came something else would hinder and I would make an excuse that I could not go. But finally I resolved to go out on a certain morning. That morning came and I sought the Lord earnestly for help and guidance. I put the book in my overcoat pocket so that it could not be seen. I walked around the street until noon that day before I had the courage to take the book out of my pocket. I really did not know what to say. I had never canvassed for a book in my life. But I started in and went down to one of the schools the first thing, inasmuch as the book was for the advancement of the educational work. I went to the headquarters and canvassed for the books and was refused. I felt discouraged then sure enough.

I next went to the primary teacher and canvassed her/ and she very reluctantly took one. I got about as much consolation in her taking one as I did the other one refusing, but that made me think I might possibly have some success, so I went from there to the president of the school board and he gave me his order, and from there I went to another member of the school board who also gave me his order. That gave me ^{on} courage to go ~~xxx~~ so I kept on until I had canvassed all the business men there. While a great many of them did not buy, yet many of them did and I can say that I got a great deal of the blessing of the Lord.

Now, I did not have any set form of experience to make, but I had to invent something for every man. When talking to a man interested in school work I talked to him on education, and when canvassing a minister, I talked to him of religion. When I met a man who was interested in secret societies, I would talk along that line, and when I met a man who was not interested in any of these, I had to invent something else, but I hardly ever canvassed a man who did not have a family, and I always talked to him about the obligation he owed his family to provide them with good literature upon which to feed their minds. I have succeed in selling forty-three copies of the book.

While on my way to the General Conference I stopped at a town in Indiana and held four meetings in the United Brethren church. I sought an interview with the principal of the school, whom I had seen in each of the meetings. I talked to him about our work, and canvassed him for this book. He very gladly bought one.

R. F. Andrews: I am interested, brethren and sisters, in the matters that have been presented this morning.

Now if we circulate three hundred thousand copies of this book among the people, and do you think they will think we are Saturdayers? I do not think they will. If we could only sense the precious truths that are in that book, and get them before the people, it would do more good in melting down the prejudices against this people than any one thing I ever heard of.

It has so enthused my mind that it made me think we were on the very eve of the loud cry to its full extent. It looks like it to me.

But there is another thing to my mind that has grown out of the circulation of these books. There are some people among us that think it is not very hard to get into debt a little. I believe we ought to study to be quiet, and to do our own business, and to work with our own hands, that we may have to give to him that needs. I think the Lord wants us to pay our debts, and to live within our means. When we as a people feel loaded down until our honest obligations are met, I believe the principle of paying our debts will take hold of us a little stronger.

There is another very important thing that is going to grow out of this thought of scattering our books among the people; it will teach our brethren everywhere that we ought to owe no man anything, but to love one another.

So far as selling the book is concerned, there is no trouble in selling these books. You can not have a set canvass that you will give to everybody, like a parrot or a bird singing one note over and over again. The contingencies with which you are surrounded you will have to take into consideration. In my own town where I spent three hours in taking orders for the book, I secured eighteen; and I spent a good deal more time with about half a dozen people that did not take the book than with those to whom I sold. And when I came to deliver the books, I spent about one hour, and sold five more, making a total of 23 books sold and delivered in ^{four} ~~xxx~~ hours.

I also went to Gibson City, a place where I was not known, and in three hours I sold 18 books. The selling of these books has given me scores of opportunities to tell the people about the truth. The sale of this book brings three blessings: first, it will do ^{much good to} the individual that engages in the sale; ~~much good~~ second, it will help the one who buys the book, for he can not read it without being benefited; and, third, it will help to pay the debt. Every time you get one of these books out, you give more than sixty sermons to the people. I believe it is doing God's service, and advancing the message, to sell this book.

I remember of selling one man a book, and I met him a few days afterward on the street, and he told me it was a grand book, and wanted to know if he could get more of that author's work. I told him where he could get them, and all about our publications, and that man is now reading the Review and Herald as the result of that book.

L.V. Finster: I come from the Southern part of Wyoming, where nothing grows but sage-brush and sin, they say. I guess it is quite well designated. When this plan was suggested, I thought I could not sell those books in the West. It is peculiar out there. People care nothing for religion of any kind. But I started out to sell the book, and I was surprised to find that people took it as they did. I was holding meetings in a place at the time. I was quite well acquainted with a great many there; but I found, in selling these books, and going around from house to house, that there were many interested in the work, and it was only a means of helping me get acquainted with those that were searching for truth. I visited from place to place, and held meetings in the evenings, and I sold a great many books in different places. I sold in all four hundred in that country. I believe if our people would take hold of this work, they can sell the books anywhere.

HMJRichards: I have learned one lesson that is most encouraging to me, and that is that we are one people, and that we can work together. In the State of Colorado we desire to be in harmony with every interest of God's cause that we love. There are five or six of our workers in Colorado who have sold one hundred books or more each. I believe God will bless us still more in this work. I could occupy the whole day in telling experiences of how God has worked in selling the book.

M.G.Huffman: In the first place, I have no sympathy with the debts. I have gone from Conference to Conference, and everywhere I went, I found a great big debt, and they were calling for help. I would try to help one Conference, and then I would go to another and find the same thing. I am tired of paying other people's debts. When God spoke to us and said so plainly that with this book, he was trying his people and wanted them to help, I said, all right, for I am a firm believer in the Almighty God, and believe God is speaking to us. I started out and took orders for fifty-one books and delivered them, all in five days. I never experienced such wonderful blessings as I did in canvassing for that book. I found people who had been reading our literature, and were very much interested in it; especially in Mrs. White's writings, and they would all be glad to take the book.

A.O.Burrill: My first opportunity came while I was waiting for a train in Maine. I spent part of two days canvassing in Maine, and out of twenty books I had with me, I disposed of seventeen during those two days. I sold quite a number of the books at Adams Center New York, during the week of prayer. These were sold largely to our own people. In January, I had a good experience in Syracuse, N. Y., where I live. That city has, perhaps 125,000 inhabitants. I could canvass there only a part of each day; but I started out to educate the brethren and sisters---mostly sisters---how to canvass for this book. It was hard work to get volunteers to introduce me to families,

or to canvass for the book. We finally succeeded, however, in getting quite a number of the sisters to sell "Christ's Object Lessons." They would almost invariably sell from one to four books, after they once started out. In all, about 150 books have been sold there as a result of this effort. It is reviving the spirits of our people there. I would like nothing better than to spend all my time in going out from house to house among our people, and trying to educate old ladies and old gentlemen to go out and sell these books.

Geo. F. Watson: Colorado has six ordained ministers who have sold more than 100 books apiece. We have one Bible worker in Leadville, who sold 100 books in one month. One brother in a mining camp tried it, and was completely discouraged with the book, and could not sell it. I wrote him that I believed with all my heart that "Object Lessons" is a gift from God, not to keep, but to sell. When I wrote him a good letter. He got it on Sabbath, and spent most of Sabbath afternoon praying. After sundown, he went out and sold five books in the first thirty minutes. During the evening, he sold six. We thank God that the books are selling in Colorado.

At this point A. T. Jones ~~spoke as follows~~, as President of the S.D. Educational Society, spoke as follows:

"You heard the word directly, and needs no explanation, and no support, that we should get the College out of Battle Creek, and that we could sell the institution just as soon as possible."

Elder Jones then called for all the stockholders of the S.D.A. Educational Association who were present and favored the carrying out of the instruction that had been given, to rise to their feet. There was a hearty response; and when a negative vote was called for, no one responded.

Then an expression on the part of the delegates of the General Conference was called for, and the vote to carry out the instruction was unanimous. Then a third expression was called for, from the

congregation. These who composed the congregation expressed a unanimous desire, by rising to their feet, that the proposed steps with reference to the College should be taken, as suggested.

Chair ~~G.A. Irwin~~: The Committee on Organization has another partial report to bring in.

W. C. White: [Reading:]

11. That the General Conference Committee of twenty-five, as soon as elected, nominate the members to constitute the corporate membership of the Foreign Mission Board. Said members to be elected by the Conference.

12. That the administration of the Foreign Mission work be under the supervision of the General Conference *Executive* Committee.

13. That it be left to the General Conference Committee to decide how long the corporate life of the Foreign Mission Board be continued.

W.C.White: There is another matter which the Committee wish to bring before you as a matter of information---regarding it as a matter of information and counsel to the Executive Committee when it shall be prepared to

- 1. That the General Conference Committee of twenty-five, as soon as elected, nominate the members to constitute the corporate membership of the Foreign Mission Board. Said members to be elected by the Conference.
- 2. That the administration of the Foreign Mission work be under the supervision of the General Conference Committee.
- 3. That it be left to the General Conference Committee to decide how long the corporate life of the Foreign Mission Board be continued.

Executive

W.C.White: There is another matter which the Committee wish to bring before you as a matter of information---regarding it as a matter of information and counsel to the Executive Committee when it shall be prepared to organize. [Reading:]

Suggestive Plans for the General Conference Committee

The Committee on organization suggest the following working plans for the General Conference Committee:—

As soon as consistent after its election the Executive Committee of the General Conference shall organize by choosing a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Auditor, whose duties shall be such as usually pertain to their respective offices. It shall also elect departmental committees, and appoint departmental secretaries and agents for the supervision of the Home and Foreign mission, the Sabbath-school, Tract Society, and Religious Liberty work; and also,

1. A pastoral committee, which shall act as a committee of reference and advice in supplying General Conference help to various parts of the field, and especially at the biennial sessions of the Union Conferences, at the larger camp-meetings, and in the large cities.

2. A finance committee, which shall act as a committee of reference and advice in financial matters.

3. An educational committee, which shall give special attention to the development of the educational work, and the perfection of our educational literature.

4. A committee on literature, to labor for the improvement and wider circulation of our literature in all languages, for the co-operation of our publishing associations on aggressive missionary lines and for the education and training of evangelistic canvassers

requesting that they be provided for reference by the Executive Committee when it is ready to organize

A Delegate: Is it designed for the committee to be confined to the twenty-five, or do they go outside of that?

W. C. White: The thought of the committee was that these departmental committees would be made up partly from members of the General Conference Executive Committee, and partly from Conference persons outside.

The Chair: The slips will be passed out to the delegates, and you will have time to read them between now and the afternoon session. What is the pleasure of the Conference?

N. W. Allee: I move that we adjourn.

O. A. Olsen: I second the motion.

The question was called for and carried, and meeting adjourned until 3 P. M.

The benediction was pronounced by Elder J. O. Corliss.

G. A. Irwin, Chairman,
L. A. Hoopes, Secretary.

GENERAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.

Sixteenth Meeting, April 12, 3 P. M.

Elder G. A. Irwin in the chair. After the opening hymn, No. 628, Elder W. T. Knox offered prayer.

The Chair: When the Conference adjourned this morning, the Committee on Organization had just read the report that was submitted in printed form and was passed out. Now, we have a report from the Committee on Education printed in the BULLETIN, and if we took things in regular order it would take the precedence of this. But, as some members will be absent to-morrow and expect to leave before the Conference closes, this afternoon it was requested that we take up the matter that was presented to us just at the close of the Conference. What is your pleasure with this?

W. T. Knox: I move that the recommendations submitted this morning be made the order of business that afternoon.

Delegate: I second the motion.

The question was called, and carried.

The Chair: Now what is your pleasure in regard to the recommendations? There was no motion to adopt.

E. E. Miles: I move the adoption of the recommendations.

A. G. Daniells: I second the motion.

The Chair: It has been moved and seconded that the recommendations be adopted. It is now open for remarks.

A. G. Daniells: Read the recommendations, please.

The Chair: The Secretary will read the recommendations.

Secretary
H. A. Heeper: You will notice on the little slip that they are numbered, "1," "2" and "3." They should be "11," "12," and "13." (Reading):

"11. That the General Conference Committee of twenty-five, as soon as

selected, nominate the members to constitute the corporate membership of the Foreign Mission Board. Said members to be elected by the Conference."

Delegate: Is that all of the recommendations?

The Chair: I think the whole thing is connected, and should perhaps be spoken of together, really as one. The secretary will read ~~all~~ three.

secretary
G. A. Hoopes (reading):

"12. That the administration of the Foreign Mission work be under the supervision of the General Conference Executive Committee.

"13. That it be left to the General Conference Committee to decide how long the corporate life of the Foreign Mission Board be continued."

The Chair: It is open for remarks.

C. P. Bollman: I move the substitution, for No. 11, instruction to the Committee on Nomination elected by this body, to place the nomination to this body members of the Foreign Mission Board.

W. W. Prescott: Before we begin to amend, would it not be wise to let the Committee explain what this means?

The Chair: I think so. The Committee has that privilege. I supposed that they would do that at the proper time.

I. H. Evans: I have been asked by the Committee to offer a word of explanation to this, so that all suspicions may be allayed, and we may all look at it as it is. It is evident, as we read these recommendations, that the desire of the Committee is to change the administration of the foreign mission work from a separate and distinct Board to the supervision of the General Conference Committee. What is quite liable to arouse our fears and suspicions, unless we have confidence; so we will consider just the bearings and relations of this.

We have already selected,--or said we would select,-- a large Committee which should have the general supervision of all our work every-

where. We have already said that we would group **under the management** of this larger Committee, the various departments of our work. That was a foundation of what we desire **in** each one of these various branches, such as the Sabbath-school work, the religious liberty work, the tract society work, and the foreign mission work, if thought best.

This committee of twenty-five will have a general supervision of the work everywhere throughout the world. But you will notice that it will have no specific work, no locality to operate in, unless the Foreign Mission Board should give it its territory. We have organized all the territory in the United States and Canada; we have already organized the work in Australasia; we have already organized the General Conference **in** the European field. If the Foreign Mission Board holds all unorganized territory, and we have Union Conferences in all organized territory, what has our large committee of twenty-five to do with territory? You see, they really would be without a specific field.

Then, besides, if we group all other branches of the work under the management and direction of this large committee, it would be rather lonesome business for the Foreign Mission Board to stand all alone and endeavor to operate. The General Conference Committee would have supervision of all other lines, while this one Board would be trying to secure funds in organized territory, and would perhaps never have the hearty cooperation of this general committee, as it would have if the work were directly under their supervision.

Having studied the thing from all standpoints, Your Committee on Reorganization thought advisable to recommend that the foreign mission work become a department of the General Conference Committee. They would then organize it as they thought best, making it a department of the General Conference work, appointing one or more secretaries, as to them seemed

best, appointing from this number as many of the committee as they thought advisable to advise and counsel and study this work in connection with their department secretaries; and yet the whole work, in all of its various phases and every advance move, would come under the general committee of twenty-five, for advice and counsel.

I think, as long as we have

~~Each~~ started out on this plan of placing the whole work on this large committee, it would hardly be proper that the Foreign Mission Board should endeavor to operate independently; not independently without sympathy, but I mean to give it a continued existence. The Foreign Mission Board is what is known as a "membership corporation." The General Conference elects its members.

That membership constitutes a constituency, and the members become electors. These members, or electors, ~~can~~ ^{the members} elect a board. That board is an operating or managing board, and ~~thereby~~ ^{the members} are called in the constitution trustees. The reason why this ~~motion~~ resolution was framed to ask that the twenty-five name the membership of this board, was that there might not be any friction by getting on men who would be independent and want to run the organization and continue their work as an operating board. I think you can see the wisdom of that provision. It would be folly for us to say the General Conference Committee is to have the management of the foreign mission work, and then go to work and elect a board who would make it hard for them to operate. The board would be a legal body, and they would legally have the power to do what they pleased. It was therefore thought best that as soon as the General Conference Committee were elected, they shall turn around and nominate nine men (I suppose they will generally be of their own number), and they shall constitute the membership of this board. Then these nine members will turn around and elect themselves as an operating board, if they wish to, or at least will elect themselves as the Board and become the legal holders of the property. The only reason why we continue the corporate feature of the Board is that we have property, and must be responsible for this until it can be shifted to the General Conference Association, or some other disposition is made of it.

J.H.Morrison: Do we understand that you are compelled to stay inside of the limits of your own number, twenty-five?

I.H.Evans: No, we are not compelled to, but we thought it would be the safest and wisest thing to do.

F.M.Wilcox: Several years ago it was found necessary to organize several legal organizations outside of the General Conference

Association to hold denominational property, because the General Conference Association had ~~it~~ possession as much ~~more~~ property as their charter would permit them to carry, I believe. An interesting question comes up to me at this time: What would be done by the property now held by the Foreign Mission Board, in case the legal corporation died? Would it revert again to the General Conference Association? If so, is the General Conference Association in a position to carry it?

I.H.Evans: As far as their charter is concerned, they are in a good condition to hold it. They need a good deal more. Whether it would be wise for them to do that or not, is left for this Committee to consider. I think probably we will find that the future management will prefer to delegate ^{to} the Union Conferences and foreign mission fields the supervision of all property in their territory as soon as they become organized so that they can hold it, and in that way they will place the responsibility of the management of these institutions, upon ~~them~~ those who are in the field and on the ground, which will be ^a much wiser policy than to try to hold them by a corporation many thousands of miles away.

W.H.Thurston: At what time does the membership of this corporate board expire?

I.H.Evans: The constitution provides that we elect these members at each session of our General Conference.

G.B.Thompson: With your knowledge of the foreign field, do you believe this is ~~them~~ for the best interests of the foreign work?

I.H.Evans: I do not see how we can continue our work ~~successfully~~ successfully under any other regime than this. When we start out on a system, we generally have to follow it. We have got now a great general Committee that is to superintend the work, and we have specified they shall have supervision in all parts of the field, and there is no reason they can not carry the work, as far as I know, as well as a specific board.

J.W. Westphal: There are some questions that arise in my mind in connection with this. A few years ago the General Conference had a deficit of several thousand dollars each year; and during the past two years it has been about fifteen thousand dollars. When we organize Union Conference, naturally it seems as though that would increase the expenses in all parts of the field. A few days ago we voted that our Conferences pay a second tithe. At the time, at least, I got the impression that that second tithe was to go to support the work in foreign fields. With the Foreign Mission Board, it would go into their hands, but with the blotting out of the Board and operating the foreign work through this Committee, that means would go into the hands of the General Conference Committee. Does that mean that that second tithe is to be employed in the home field in making up these deficits, and thus our efforts to extend the work in the foreign fields prove of no avail? This question comes to me mind. I would like to understand it.

W.W. Prescott: I think it is quite proper that this question should be clearly understood. As I understand the whole drift and sentiment of this Conference, it is that we shall recognize this truth, that the only thing that this body exists for is to give this message to all the world just as quickly as possible, and that therefore we shall not, as it were, tolerate the idea that we are to tread around in this same ring and spend our means within a limited circle, but that we are expecting, and are now breaking these bands, and taking in the idea that there is only one field, and that field is the world. If that idea is held to and acted upon, as it must be, ---there is no other way, ---it will wipe out all this question as to whether we are going to hold any of the money in the home field. We are going to have just one field, and have our eyes ~~set~~ especially on destitute and barren fields, and they are to have the preference. Instead of limiting or narrowing down in any way the work of

CCC

G.C. Pedgs. --64--

extending this message to all the world, this whole idea is to organize in reference to one thing, and that is to do mission work in all fields. Therefore if we are to word it in any way, it seems to me instead of saying that we are going to absorb the Foreign Mission Board into the home field, it is that we are just turning the whole home field into one Mission Board, and it is to take up that work in vigor in every part of the world. That, I think, is the feeling and purpose of the Committee in making this recommendation.

C.P. Bollman: This may be the very best plan that could possibly be adopted, but there are certain limitations placed upon human beings by their very nature. It seems to me that we have run up against one of them. Up until four years ago, it was ~~unconceived~~ supposed--- thought, at least, and the Conference acted upon the supposition at that time---that the foreign mission work was not getting its due proportion of the funds. Why? ~~the~~ Because the General Conference Committee who had charge of that work up until that time, was not friendly toward foreign missions? No; it was not that, but it was simply because they knew more about the work that lay right close to them than they did about work away off in some fields, and so put ^{more} money into that work. The brethren said that in order to obviate that difficulty, and give more funds to the foreign mission work, we will have a board who will be interested in that, and be informed in regard to it, so that they will use those funds in the proper way.

We are now creating a great committee, the greater number of ~~members~~ whom will be in the home field, the United States. They will be presidents of Union Conferences; they are situated here, and will be interested in the work that is right close to them; seeing the necessities of that, more funds will probably be devoted to the things that come under the eyes of those men than will go into the needy fields. The theory is all right, but I am afraid it will not work out in practice.

I was very much interested in the statement Elder Haskell made yesterday morning in regard to the providences of God pointing out what should be done. It seems to me that wonderful prosperity has attended the work of the Foreign Mission Board during the last two years. Are we going to improve it any and make the situation and conditions any better, to turn all this matter over into the hands of this large Committee?

I was also interested in the statement that Brother Evans made in regard to the reasons for this. It occurs to me that in boiling it all down, getting the last analysis of it, ^{it is that} we have got this large Committee, and we are afraid that they will be so jealous that they will become jealous of the Foreign Mission Board, and they will withhold ~~them~~ not only their money, but their influence. If that is the kind of a Committee we are going to have, then we had better not have any. If we are not going to have a Committee who will just open the door and say to the Foreign Mission Board, "We will do all that is in your heart, and cooperate with you," then we are not getting the Committee we want. We want a Committee who will do as the Conferences have done in the past two years--- work in harmony with the members of the Foreign Mission Board, and say to the people, "This is a worthy cause, and just give all that is in your heart to give to it." That has been done, and I believe it should be done in the two years to come. It seems to me that it is making a mistake, and that the providences of God clearly indicate that the Foreign Mission Board should be perpetuated and continue the work that it has been carrying on.

M.C. Wilcox: I would like to ask a question, because I am sure it will help to rectify the wrong impression that is in the mind of the last speaker. The idea is carried that so many, or at least the majority of the proposed new Committee will be in the home field, and therefore will not have the time to give the thought that ought to *be given*

to the foreign mission work. How many of the Foreign Mission Board that exists at the present time gave their whole attention to foreign mission work? and how many of them were engaged in work in the home field which really demanded all their energies? I think the information will help us very materially in this respect.

The Chair: I think there were only three of the nine who devoted their entire time to the foreign work.

A.G.Daniells: May I supplement that question with another: How many of the Foreign Mission Board were located in foreign fields, or had spent any considerable time working in what we call foreign fields outside of the United States?

The Chair: I think only one of them.

O.A.Olsen: There seems to be a misapprehension in some measure with reference to this. It was stated by one speaker that the reason for the change four years ago was that so few had ~~been~~ been sent abroad, and so much attention had been given to the home field. The facts are these. If you look up the records, you will find that more had been sent abroad the years before than the records show since that time. During one term of two years---1895--1897---quite a large number, if I remember correctly, ^{one hundred and forty,} ~~fourteen~~ were sent abroad to foreign missions.

The Chair: One hundred and fifty-three.

O.A.Olsen: The facts do not show that they were doing less than they have since done. If you look up the records, and find when there was the greatest activity in spreading and entering new fields, you will learn that it was before this change came in. As has been referred to, we have been much stirred by the earnest appeals with reference to the foreign missionary work, as we call it, in this Conference.

The fact is that each Seventh-Day Adventist has but one field, ("Amen.") and that field is the world, and our business is to send the truth where it has not as yet been proclaimed and to send workers where they have not as yet set their feet. And I say that in a united effort on the part of those who are representing the various branches of the work the greatest success can be attained. And this is the purpose and burden of the conference and the committee that have this matter under consideration.

W. W. Prescott.--Four years ago we were dividing up the responsibilities; now we are centralizing responsibilities. Four years ago we divided the responsibilities in such a way as to disintegrate the work. Now we are trying to divide the responsibilities in such a way as to unite the work.

J. W. Westphal.--My question has not yet been answered to my mind. It was said that during the last four years there had not been as many missionaries sent out as in the previous years. I think this is true, but there is something in there that I want to call attention to. I believe that during the last four years the Foreign Mission Board had to pay the indebtedness that was incurred before, and because of that it was unable to do as much as it would have liked to have done. Now in the General Conference it was recommended to pay a certain tithe. The General Conference the last ~~tax~~^{two} years has run behind \$15,200. With the organization of these districts there may be more expense attached to the work in the home fields. Does this mean that this extra tithe that it has been voted here that our conference should pay should now be taken to pay the General Conference debts, and in that way the work again be hindered, as it seems to me it has been before? That is the question that is in my mind.

Apr 12, 3pm

G. A. Irwin.--I would rise to explain one thing. The reason the tithe of the General Conference has run behind is because of returned foreign missionaries. Under the present mode of operation there is the State Conference, the General Conference, and the Foreign Mission Board. When calls are made for individuals to go to foreign fields they are usually taken out of the State Conference. And when they get sick in the foreign fields, or anything occurs that they return to the United States as occurs very frequently,--the Foreign Mission Board has no territory distinctively its own in the United States; the State Conference from which the laborer was called in the first place has filled the place of that individual~~s~~ and they think that they have about all the laborers that they can carry. Consequently when a person returns from a foreign field the General Conference has to take up that individual and assign him some place to labor. Consequently they have taken on more laborers than their tithes would warrant. I can see that this would be averted in this plan because the Board is operating all over the world, and when a person returns they are simply returning to the Board that sent them out.

F. M. Wilcox.--These were the difficulties four years ago, I do not know how it is now. The Foreign Mission Board had to work through the General Conference Association, --they had to come to the General Conference Committee, and then work through the Medical Missionary Board in order to get a physician or a nurse to fill a place, in a foreign field. The Foreign Mission Board had to really work through these three organizations in order to do its work. It complicated things greatly, and added to the expense, and caused delay. I can readily see when the committee of 25 is organized it will be able to handle the work in foreign fields much better than it has ever been done before, and it seems to me they will be brought into closer and more direct touch with the foreign work than any previous Board has ever been able to do, and I believe they will be in a position to carry forward the work with less expense, and less

friction than any committee which has ever had charge of the work in the past.

The Chair.--The question is called for. The motion is on all three of these that have been discussed here. The motion was to adopt the recommendation.

C. W. Flaiz.--If this recommendation is passed, will the Medical Missionary Work, the Tract Society, etc., all be merged together in the General Conference Committee, and be under the direction of the General Conference Committee and the whole be taken out of the hands of the people and placed in the hands of the General Conference Committee, and they elect all the officers?

A. G. Daniells.--The plan of organization of the General Conference is simply an enlargement of the plan for the organization of state conference and the Union conference. It seems that itx we ought to simplifyour machinery for transacting our business. It seems to many that we have multiplied organizations and Boards and institutions until the talent of this denomination is practically withdrawn from the field and placed over the machinery to keep it running. There are many people who have the idea that multiplying boards where two or three or four men are put in to run the particular lines does not necessarily or naturally increase the efficiency of the work. Our study has been to have as few wheels in the machinery as possible. To have as few cranks to place men at to turn as possible. The thought is to get just as many laborers of this denomination out in personal contact with the masses, preaching the gospel as we possibly can. In Australasia we cut out the State and Union Sabbath School Associations. We cut out the State and Union Tract Society organization. We cut out the State and Union and International Religious Liberty Associations, and we had in the state but one organization, the State Conference. And that conference did not do away with the work of those different lines, but appointed secretaries to look after

Apr 12, 3 pm

those lines of work and to report ~~their~~ ^{these} work to the State Conference Committee, and at the annual meeting, to the Conference. We found that worked splendidly and gave us good satisfaction, and one Board was able to do the work along all those lines, by the aid of committees and secretaries, that three or four boards had done before.

When we formed our Union Conference we carried the same idea into that, but simply expanded the thing, making the same organization cover all Australia instead of but one colony or one State, and the Union Conference appointed its Sabbath-school Association; the Union conference committee selected its Sabbath-school secretary, Mrs. Farnsworth; it selected its missionary secretary, Mrs. Hindson, who was formerly Miss Anna L. Ingalls, of California. The Committee also appointed religious liberty secretaries as well, and so we have but one organization; and further, it appointed its medical missionary secretary and superintendent, so that we have but the one organization in Australasia. One board does it all, with the aid of these secretaries, who report to it, and I want to tell you that after our experiences, we would not go back and multiply boards to do that gospel work under any consideration. We would not do it, and we have ^{had} instruction from Sister White all the way along at every step we have taken to form that sort of simple organization that has made us believe, as we said before the experience came, that we were on right lines, and the experience that we have received has fully justified our feelings and our confidence in the course of instruction that came to us. Now, we have tried to counsel with her; we have tried to follow instructions here, and we have tried to step from the ~~Union~~ Union Conference to the General Conference of old, and simply expand the idea, simply step up from the Union Conference to the General Conference, the world's Conference. So this number of members of the Committee has been doubled, just about doubled- it was thirteen before, and now it is twenty-five.

The idea is to have their general boards out in the field.

Heretofore there have been three ~~boards~~ boards, - the General Conference Committee, the Foreign Mission Board, and the Medical Missionary Board., all working on missionary lines. It seemed to observers that this was

unfortunate that it was so; that ~~xxxxxxx~~ we ought not to have three in the territory boards going here and there ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ for workers and for money to do pretty nearly the same work, so it seemed that there should be but one board. If it should be the General Conference Committee, let that go and let the Foreign Mission Board spread out and take the field and have free hand. If that were the way to do- and personally ~~xxxxxx~~ it would make no difference to me, only, brethren, let us simply establish this so that it will run with the aid of the smallest number of men. I hope the time will come when the medical missionary Association operating on missionary lines, will drop into this and let the one board do for the field, and I believe that day will come. I believe the day is near, when only one grand, evangelical missionary board will occupy the field.

You talk about the General Conference. My friends, what is a General Conference? We have never had a General Conference yet. We have had a North American General Conference, or a North American Union Conference, but we have no world's General Conference, yet, as somebody spoke here to-day, in this arrangement, to my mind, it is clear that we have the broadest, the most efficient, and the most workable and practical arrangement to-day to represent the General Conference that this denomination has ever had. Somebody spoke about this Conference being here in America and being wrapped up in the affairs of America. Now, if these Union Conferences are organized, that will take a thousand details from the General Conference Committee and place them in the local fields in the hands of the local men to be transacted just where these details belong. They do not ~~xxxxxxxx~~ belong to the General Conference. I trust that the day is passed when the General Conference will have its eyes centered upon the affairs of the United States. I believe the day has come for the General Conference Committee

to turn its eyes all outward and look at the great wide world and to study it and plan for it and work for its evangelization.

That is the thought, and I would not for one single minute, Brother Westphal, ever favor the idea that this second tithe would be swallowed up here in the affairs of America. No! No!! Why, my friends, unless God helps us to break up this condition and work as men as we never have before, do you know that it will take a millenium to carry this message to the world. We have not begun yet with the great nations of the world. Have not begun.

My idea is that the General Conference Committee should leave all the details and the plans and the affairs of America in the hands of the Union conferences. And they should only deal with the conferences that are general and that refer to the whole world. And of course, America is a part of it, a little bit of it, and must have a little attention from this General conference, but the world must have the attention of this ~~xxxx~~ conference Committee. And so it seems to me that that this Committee of twenty-five, representing all the districts or the Union Conferences of the United States, the Medical missionary Association, the publishing interests, the educational interests that cover all the lines of this denomination that are being carried on to-day, that this committee should be permitted to appoint its secretaries. It may not be best for the secretary that this conference should elect here to-day should hold the office for two or four or even three years. The conference Committee may see best to change these secretaries and the treasurer as well, and so it seemed that it would be best for so large a representative board, taking in the interests of the world, that they should be permitted to do what the Union Conference is permitted to do, make these lines of work departments, select the secretaries, and then work to the very best possible advantage. And with this and the ~~xxxxxx~~ board having the entire field to look for laborers, to look

minds and to plan, there will be no friction, no one will be hampered because the whole field is open and the General Conference Committee should throw its whole weight into this matter to get men and money, as we have never before been able, to send abroad to nations that are in darkness. N

That is the idea; I do not know that I have made the idea plain in all these words I have used, but to my mind it is simply, but so comprehensive.

I suppose that there will be men on this Committee who will be in foreign fields. I believe that our general men who attempt to run the affairs or deal with the affairs in foreign fields ought to visit those fields and spend a large portion of their time in them. Then the General conference Committee could send a man to South America as a representative, authorizing him to meet all the workers, study the needs of the field, outline a policy and agree on it with those workers, and then stand by that decision that is going to furnish both men and means and organize a local committee in the field to run the affairs on the lines with which these representatives agree with them on. while he is in the field with them. I believe the same ought to be true in the West Indies, in South Africa, and in Japan, and I do not believe that we should trot the globe, just to run about and spend a few weeks. I believe we should select the best men we can get, a man full of the Holy Ghost and of zeal and good sense, these should go to these fields and join ^{these foreign} ~~xxxxxxx~~ workers in studying the situation on the ground and coming to decisions, outlining policies, and the General Conference Committee ought to stand by the decisions that are come to.

I do not have one bit of faith in the idea of the board being composed of men, none of whom ~~xxxxx~~ ever shuffled air outside the United States. I presume I ought not to say that; but none of whom are acquainted with the situation in foreign fields. I have not a particle of

confidence in these men gathering in an upper room here in Battle Creek to settle the affairs of these people in distant fields. It is not natural; it is not sensible, my friends. You cannot do it. I was in one of these meetings when I came back from abroad; in one very stirring meeting to me, and one member of the board slept all through it. When it was over, I spoke to him about it. "How could you sleep when that interesting meeting was going on?" Said he, "I think that is one of the most sensible things I ~~xxx~~ could do under the circumstances. I do not know the field. I do not know the conditions; I do not know the men; I do not know how much better it will be off. I cannot do better than to sleep."

Let me tell you we are working wrongly on these things, and our poor, weak, drivelling population for twenty-five years stands up against us to-day. Poor France and poor England and many other countries that we have been fumbling about for twenty-five years! Oh, it is a pitiful situation. And I tell you God has spoken to us on this if he has ever spoken to us that we must have these affairs managed by men in the field and by men who are in this country, gathering recruits and means must get into these fields and see the situation and work for dear life here to meet the conditions there.

That is the way I felt regarding this, and if I thought that there was anything wrong, or that this would hurt the foreign fields, God knows I would smite it as hard as ever I could. For I tell you, brethren, these foreign fields must have our attention, or the ~~xxxxx~~ curse of God will be upon us. And it is upon us; for God has told us that the prosperity of our work at home will be in proportion to the degree with which we prosecute the work abroad. Our policy abroad has been feeble; it has been weak; it has not been in harmony with the great profession we have made. And we are having that reflex ^{influence} all through the United States.

I can see it. We are in some respects a weaker people than we were fifteen years ago. I do not have to tell it; it has been stated before by others. But what is the reason? ---One reason is because of our weak, tremulous, inefficient policy regarding the foreign lands.

"Foreign lands"---I hope that word will be lost before many years.

It does not belong to us as a people. The field is the world. I tell, you, when a man comes from great centers of population, like Europe, and Africa, and India, and comes to this little bit of a country here with a little bit of a population, and then hear people talking ~~about~~ all the time about the foreign missions, it does not sound right to the ear at all.

And I hope we will drop out of our vocabulary that word when we talk about missions. It is missionary work. God occupies the center. All places are equally distant to him? Ah, all places are equally near to him.

The question called for.

The Chair: The question is called for. As many as favor the adoption of the report will say Aye; opposed, No. It is carried.

The Chair: I understand that what is on the larger slip is simply suggestive, and all it will need will be a little explanation perhaps on the part of the committee that put it in, because yesterday you voted that the General Conference Committee be empowered to organize itself, and to appoint all necessary agents and committees for the conduct of the work. This is simply suggestive or how this may be organized. It does not require any action of the Conference, as I understand, but a little explanation.

W.W.Prescott: It seems to me that a very little explanation is required after what has been stated in a general way, as these matters have been before us; and I merely wish to say, unless there be some special question, that the Committee on Organization felt that it would be of general interest to the delegation to have information upon this matter, that they might understand the general drift and purpose of the plan. Therefore, while it is not within the province of the Committee on Organization to direct this large Executive Committee as to what they shall do, they did make these suggestions, in order that the Executive Committee might understand the general purpose of this whole plan; and in order that the delegation might have the same information, they thought it desirable to have these suggestions printed in the BULLETIN, and given into the hands of the delegates, and opportunity offered to ask any questions that might suggest themselves to the brethren. I hardly think there is anything necessary further, unless there be some questions. The committee did not ask this body to act upon these suggestions, as they

did not wish to instruct directly this committee, but only to make such suggestions as would be in harmony with the general plan which the committee has brought before the Conference.

C.W.Flaiz: I would like to inquire what the scope is to be of the finance committee, what their field of operations?

W.W.Prescott: I suppose this committee would be, as stated, a committee of reference and advice in reference to such financial affairs as come under the general advice of the General Conference as a whole.

Eugene Leland: Will this finance committee be composed of members of the Conference Committee?

W.W.Prescott: If I understand the feeling of the Committee on Organization, it has been that this Executive Committee should be left free to invite in other helpers in special lines, if it so desires.

A.G.Daniells: If you take the opposite. The first committee is pastoral committee, and you see what its work is. Just the opposite from that, the spiritual work, here comes in the business. It seems that some men whose minds are specially good and strong in that, should give special attention to the finances, so that they will be kept where they ought to be, and bring the matter before the general body.

C.W.Flaiz: That is the reason I raised the question. The pastoral committee provides for and takes charge of furnishing the laborers to the local conferences, that is to the camp-meetings, I judge, and such work as that. Inasmuch as they take charge of that work, and this other committee immediately follows, does it follow from that that this financial committee takes charge of affairs in, for instance, a Union Conference or local Conference, where enterprises are started, that there is no appeal from that. Do they have charge of that?

W.W.Prescott: It is expected that all these committees will act under the advice and counsel of the large committee, and that no absolute power will be delegates to any committee to direct a special

department; but that it will be in counsel, and according to the policy, established by the large committee.

The Chair: Are there are further questions on these suggestions? What is the further pleasure of the Conference?

W.T.Knox: May I ask for a word of explanation in regard to No. 4.

W.W.Prescott: Those who were in the Publishers' Convention held a week or more previous to the assembling of the Conference will remember that this matter was very fully considered there, the need of some means of unifying our publishing interests in all parts of the world; and the Publishers' Convention appointed a committee representing the publishing houses in the different parts of the world to consider some of these matters, and report. I suppose it was the mind of the committee that this committee recommended in paragraph 4 would be a permanent committee in that line.

The Chair: What is the further pleasure of the Conference? Do you wish now to take up the report of the Committee on Education?

C.W.Flaiz: That last recommendation, No. 4, the latter portion of it---"Missionary lines, and for the education and training of evangelist canvassers." Are they to take charge, then, of the canvassers schools, for instance, that are held in local Conferences, provide for them? or is it just in connection with the educational work? Some of the States have schools for canvassers, and keep them up three months each year. Does this provide that they have anything to do with that?

W.W.Prescott: Mr. Chairman, I do not understand that it has at any time been the province of any general board or committee to do what we might call meddling, but rather, if anybody anywhere is doing anything for the furtherance of this work, encourage and strengthen and help it all they can. I understand that is the same idea in this, that it is not a meddling committee, to interfere with somebody, but a committee to develop, to encourage, and to strengthen the hands of every

individual and every organization anywhere that is doing anything; and then to open up the same work in fields where nothing is being done.

The Chair: Well, what is your pleasure. Do not let the time run to waste. Shall we take up the consideration of the report of the Committee on Education now?

M.C.Wilcox: Has the report been printed?

The Chair: Yes; it is found on page 207 of the BULLETIN.

C.C.Lewis: Brother Chairman,---

The Chair: I understand there has been no motion to adopt the report of the Committee on Education. What is your pleasure with it? It is before you.

R.D.Hottel: I move the adoption of the report.

Wm. Woodford: I second the motion.

C.C.Lewis: The Committee on Education desire to avoid any unnecessary discussion; and hence, after the remarks that were made yesterday, they revised their report, and it has been re-written almost entirely, and the revision appears as a part of the minutes in the BULLETIN.

I might say for the Committee that we are novices in this kind of work, so to speak. Nearly all of the Committee were teachers, but we have not had experience in General Conference work; but we are willing to learn, willing to sit at the feet of Gamaliel, so to speak, and learn how to do these things right, if possible.

So we have taken pains to inquire concerning the objections that were offered to the wording of the resolutions yesterday, and there were four criticisms offered: first, in these resolutions it was not desired that there should be any reference to the word of the Lord; the resolution should contain no exhortation; they should contain no argument; and no setting forth or enjoining upon us, of specific duties.

And so with these criticisms in mind, we have tried to change the resolutions, or word them in harmony with these suggestions. We

got along very well with reference to the first three points, thinking that the exhortation and the argument might more properly be introduced in the discussion of the resolutions; but we did not success quite so well in trying to eliminate all reference to duty from the resolutions. It seemed to us as though a very large part of that which has been done by this Conference, or which shall be done, pertains to our duty. Duty is that which ought to be done, and it does seem as though we have been deciding here from day to day, and shall continue to decide, what we ought to do. And we have not succeeded perhaps in eliminating the element of duty from the resolutions; but we hope that you who have had more experience in these matters will be able to do so, if it is desired to eliminate that element from the resolutions. Having done the best we could, we leave the matter of the elimination of duty, and present them as printed here in the BULLETIN.

Professor Lewis then read the recommendations as found on page 207 of the BULLETIN.

The Chair: The matter is before you. Are there any remarks upon No. 1?

At the request of the Chair, the Secretary read recommendations Nos. 1, 2, and 3, the question being called, without any discussion on each one as read. Recommendation No. 3 elicited some talk, as follows:

F.D.Starr: Does the word "or" in the third line indicate if that the Union Conference has such a superintendent, the State Conference does not need to, or vice versa? How is that to be understood?

C.C.Lewis: It was designed that that would be optional. It was thought that perhaps some of the Union Conferences would want a Church School Superintendent. Some of the State Conferences would not need a special superintendent. It is designed to leave it so that either the Union or State Conferences could have one or not just as they choose.

The question was then called on No. 3.

The Secretary proceeded to read No. 4.

F. M. Wilcox: It does seem to me that there ought to be a little agitation upon the consideration of the passage of these resolutions today. It strikes me that no matter is of more importance than the church schools, and it has seemed to me there has been a tendency during the last few months for the interest of our people to lag upon the church schools. Perhaps this has come about from the fact that their mind has been directed so sharply and so emphatically to the sale of "Christ's Object Lessons" but even though they give their force to that work, I do not believe they should relax their efforts in the matter of establishing a church school. I have felt in regard to the church schools, that the Lord today calls his people out of Babylon, and we ask the people to leave their church organizations and come into a separate organization; but it does not seem to me we are out of Babylon even though we have drawn ourselves apart from the church organizations, until we have taken our children out of the public schools, where State influences surround them as they do in the

public schools; and I believe an earnest effort ought to be put forth on the part of our people generally for the establishment of church schools. I know that difficulties attend the work. In Boulder, Colo., we have been carrying on a church school for the last three years, and while we have had many difficulties to surmount, the Lord has blessed abundantly in the work, and we have seen children brought to the Lord through the agency of the school that perhaps would not have come to him otherwise, and I would like to see a more general agitation from the denomination with reference to this important line of work.

Luther Warren: Since coming to this Conference, the people that I represent have been writing to me, and this is one of the special points that they are watching, and about which they desire information. I am sure, unless some special attention is given to this, that many of our people will be disappointed as they read the BULLETIN, and as they read the reports from this Conference. Those who have had experience, as I presume all have in trying to establish church schools, have met many questions that some of us, at least, feel ought to be settled, so that we shall act in harmony. I would not like to take the time now when so many are weary, to spring these questions, but to give a sample of them:

Some of our laborers, ministers and Conference officers, are advising our people to leave their children in the public schools until some settled plan can be arranged for taking them out and establishing proper church schools. Others are urging that children be taken from the public schools at once. To some, it seems as though the messages that had come to us demanded that. We desire to be in harmony with the word of the Lord, and with our brethren. I am sure that unless some information shall come from this Conference that will help us, that many of our brethren are going to be disappointed.

F.D. Starr: It says, "these who are appointed on these school

boards shall be persons who can efficiently represent the various lines of work taught in these schools." ~~DE XXXXX~~ Does that mean that such persons must be well educated themselves, and that they must thoroughly understand Grammar and the other studies that will be taught in the school?

C. C. Lewis: Not necessarily. I don't think the resolution had reference to particular subjects that are taught in the school, such as Arithmetic, Grammar, and Geography; but broader lines of work. It is general in its nature, and not designed to be specific. It is simply to emphasize the importance of taking all the pains possible to select men for school boards who will do efficient work.

~~EEE~~ E. E. Gardner: There is a question in my mind on the same point, as to whether this refers to school boards in local churches or in the larger central training schools.

C.C.Lewis: I think it had reference especially, to the boards of our larger schools; but the principle would apply to the boards of the smaller schools.

R.C.Porter: I am interested in this. I believe these church schools ought to be worked according to the recommendations we have before us for them, from the fact that ~~the people~~ I believe unless we make advanced moves along these lines, we will find in a little while, our smaller churches will be largely broken up by those who are interested in this movement, moving to a place where they are established. I find the query coming from all over our Conference every little while, Are you going to have a church school established in our church? If not, can you tell me where they are going to have one. I believe the people are ready for church schools all over our Conferences where it is at all practical. We are a little behind the times because we have not prepared teachers yet, so that we can arrange for all these calls, and perhaps we are not prepared to meet them at once; but I am

sure the people are ready for them. If Conference officers take an interest in the advancement of the message in this line, which I am sure is highly important---more important than many of us realise, from the fact that our children in the very earliest stages of education are prepared to take in truths that are ~~prepared~~ to govern them in all their studies, and they make a deep impression at that time. If they receive this mold from the public schools, that of course, is the mold in which their minds are cast, and afterwards they will have to unlearn it and start again; hence, I believe the recommendations that we have before us are in the order of God's providence. I believe we should keep pace with the light which the Lord has given us concerning this part of the work, as in any other line of work, and I trust this Conference ~~ix~~ will not pass these ~~ix~~ without feeling that this is a very important move in the advancement of the work of the message at this time.

C. McReynolds: I would like to inquire if this is to be considered a final report of the Committee; or is it simply a partial report?

G.C.Lewis: It is but a partial report of the Committee.

C. McReynolds: I am very anxious the Committee on Education may bring in some suggestions or recommendations concerning the best method of importing church school teachers for church schools.

S.M. Butler: It seems to me this is too important a question to pass by lightly, and I am sure we can not give it that this afternoon; so I would move that we adjourn.

Wm. Covert: I second the motion.

G.A. Irwin: It has been moved and seconded that we now adjourn. I think perhaps it is wise to do so, as it is getting along towards the Sabbath. This is a question that so vitally affects our future life, as a people, and the destiny of our children, that I

should hate to see it passed lightly over by this Conference. I think the people are looking to this Conference to speak quite definitely upon this subject.

The ~~XXXXX~~ motion to adjourn carried unanimously.

After singing the Doxology, the benediction was pronounced by R. M. Kilgore.

G. A. Irwin, Chairman.

L. A. Hoopes, Secretary.